



Scholars Mini-Project Guidelines

Accepted Scholars in the Scholars and Guides Program are encouraged to complete a mini-project during the program. These projects are a wonderful way to showcase your skills, work projects, passions, community service efforts, etc. to a broader and wider audience with the huge support of Ruby Central and the Ruby and Rails Communities. Please read the mini-project details, requirements, and check out examples of previous mini-project presentations below.

Mini-Project Goal

To allow the Scholar to share their work, experiences, or interests with the community and let others know who they are.

RubyConf 2026 Mini-Project Theme

For each conference we choose a theme for scholars' mini-projects. The upcoming conference's theme is: **Ruby for funsies: using Ruby and rails to enhance a hobby**

***If this theme is not sparking inspiration, you can create your own theme for your project with guidance from the assigned Guide or Scholarship Committee.*

Project planning

- Projects are meant to be short and concise (about 5 minutes max).
- Projects on average take approximately 10-15 hours to complete (*according to previous Scholars*).
- Completing and sharing your work with an audience should be done by the conference's final day.
- Communicate your ideas for topics to your assigned Guide, who will provide mentorship, valuable expertise, and guidance throughout the project.
- Establish regular meetings, either weekly or bi-weekly, with your Guide to discuss your progress.
- Determine an effective presentation style that suits both you and your chosen topic most effectively.
- Points of contact for help or advice are the scholarship committee and your Guide.



Scholars Mini-Project Guidelines

How to Present Work

Several options are available for Scholars to present their mini-projects. *Please inform your Guide and/or the Scholarship Committee how you'd like to present your work.*

- Create a blog post
- Design a webpage
- Share a video presentation or slides
- Present in front of an audience at the conference (i.e.) Lightning Talks

***There is no mandatory requirement for public speaking. Please choose an outlet that fits your needs.*

Previous Mini-projects

Check out previous mini-projects from past Scholars for inspiration:

- Various Scholars at [RubyConf 2024 Lightning Talks](#)
- Erica McDevitt - [Algorithm for Most Popular Pages](#)
- Anna Lopukhina - [Metaprogramming in Ruby](#)
- Salomón Charabati - [Contributing to a Gem I love & The Power of Community](#)
- Jade Stewart - [Bridging the Gap Between Technology & Creativity](#)
- Amanda Vikdal - [How to Debug Your Body: A Rubyists Guide to Wellness & Self-Care](#)
- Jarrod Reyes - [Simple Scripts with Ruby: Automate Boring Tasks to Spark Joy](#)
- Seong-Heon Jung - [Imagining a Fully Ruby Frontend with RERB](#)
- Joshua Maurer - [Resilience Under Fire: Sticking with the Job Search Especially When It's Hard](#)
- Heather Roulston - [The Opportunity of Failure](#)