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The No Starch Press Foundation Receives Major Gift from Top Security Expert

Michal Zalewski lends high-profile support to hacker-focused nonprofit

SAN FRANCISCO, May 18, 2021—The No Starch Press Foundation (NSPF) announced today that it has received a generous charitable contribution in the amount of \$100,000 from internationally renowned security researcher Michal Zalewski. This donation will further the nonprofit's 2021 goals to strengthen the global hacking community through direct grants and financial support of STEM education programs, research projects and scholarships.

Zalewski is the current VP of Security & Privacy at Snap Inc. and the former director of Information Security Engineering at Google. One of the world's most highly regarded computer security experts, Zalewski was awarded the prestigious lifetime achievement Pwnie Award (2018). He is credited with discovering hundreds of high-impact vulnerabilities in popular software, and advancing the field with seminal tools such as the American Fuzzy Lop. In addition to his prolific output of cutting-edge research, he's also the author of widely acclaimed books such as *The Tangled Web* and *Silence on the Wire*.

"Having grown up in relative poverty in an Eastern Bloc country emerging from totalitarian rule, I keep going back to how fortunate I've been -- and how much I owe to the kindness of strangers who decided to take chance on an awkward kid who liked electronics and computers and was trying to figure out his path in life," Zalewski said. "Many others find themselves at the same crossroads today. The Foundation is unique in its desire to reach out to young hackers of all walks of life, and to help them pursue their dreams at a moment when it matters the most."

Zalewski's commitment to NSPF follows a considerable expansion of its Board of Directors, which has brought on nearly half a dozen tech luminaries in recent months to further the Foundation's philanthropic goals.

"Our continued growth as the preeminent charitable organization for hackers relies upon the generosity of major donors like Michal," said NSPF Chair of the Board, Bill Pollock. "His gift not only increases our ability to provide grants and fund STEM initiatives, it shows that he believes in the importance of our mission – hackers supporting the global hacking community."

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The No Starch Press Foundation is an IRS 501(c)3 tax-exempt public not-for-profit corporation created to support and strengthen the global hacker community by contributing to the collective knowledge, research, and educational initiatives that drive it. NSPF supports hackers of all types and levels of experience, who have a hacking mindset and wish to make a difference in the world. For more information please contact media@nostarchfoundation.org