

The Open Source AI Ecosystem: From the Big Picture to Today's Tools

- **Speaker:** Rhys Faler
- **Room:** CC 236
- **Time:** Sun 10:25 am – 10:55 am
- **Format:** Lecture (30 Min + Q&A)
- **Difficulty:** Introductory
- **Track:** AI / ML
- **Presenter Location:** In-person
- **Experience:** several-th time speaking
- **At:** at lfnw

Description:

Is it possible to have state-of-the-art Artificial Intelligence without giving up privacy or relying on a corporate cloud? In 2026, the answer is **yes** — thanks to the rapid rise of the **Open Source AI ecosystem**. This session provides a high-level tour of the global landscape, highlighting how different innovation hubs contribute to the movement:

- **China** — Efficiency
- **Europe** — Sovereignty
- **Abu Dhabi** — New Architectures
- **Seattle** — Transparency

Rhys will then explore some of the strongest open-source AI tools available today, covering both **horizontal (general-purpose)** and **vertical (specialized)** solutions. Attendees will gain a clear understanding of how open-source AI has become competitive with proprietary systems — while remaining fully under user control.

Whether you're integrating AI into your workflow or simply concerned about privacy in a rapidly evolving field, this talk offers essential context for navigating the world of Open Source AI.

Target Audience:

- Activists
- Developers
- Users

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