Mining Fintech dApps: Devs grow the Blockstack economy

The development of coinage and banking were pivotal in the growth of ancient economies. We here at Blockstack think we are going to be seeing, with the proliferation of new fintech applications from the App Mining program, a similar apogee realized as the Blockstack ecosystem grows. Now, Blockstack may not be the Kingdom of Lydia — yet. However, for blockchain enthusiasts who may fancy themselves as a modern-day *kollybistės* we think this may be a much anticipated development especially when privacy and security are a concern.

There have been several dApp developers who have participated in the App Mining program that want to cater to these concerns. These developers realize that digital trust is the cornerstone to building Blockstack into a thriving digital society and economy. All these developers are building dApps for Blockstack in order to utilize the ecosystem's <u>security and data storage features</u> created through our decentralized architecture. These features include <u>encryption</u>, <u>distributed end-user authorization</u>, <u>and ownership and control of data storage</u> making the platform ideal for hosting fintech applications.

These are designed to help individuals, businesses, and communities keep track of their money and time, and govern how it's used. We want to show you some of them.

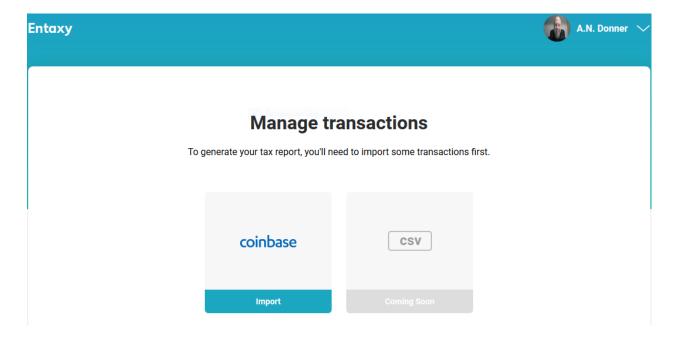
Entaxy

The word *entaxy*, an antonym of the word *entropy*, means, "to bring order to chaos." Entaxy seemed a befitting name for the application's developer <u>Jack Neto</u>, a senior partner, and senior software engineer at <u>The Working Group</u>. Jack and his team decided originally to develop Entaxy as an application to narrow the knowledge gap in financial literacy and help people manage their finances.

Then, Blockstack came to Jack and his team and asked them if they would take over the development of Blocktax, a tax preparation application. To Jack, combining their original endeavor with Blockstax seemed like a no brainer since they could combine the two applications' functionality and give users the security and privacy of having control over their financial data through Blockstack's architecture.

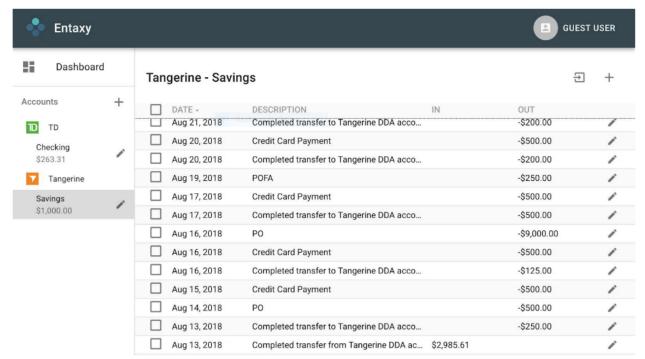


In Entaxy's current stage of development, the team has completed the original functionality started with the Blocktax application, importing transaction records and calculating capital gains for tax purposes.



In the next couple of months, Jack and his team plan to release the following functionality:

- New Login Option: Allow users to try out Entaxy without logging in
- Saving data to Blockstack
- Adding/deleting accounts
- Importing and mapping transaction data using CSV files
- Tagging transactions to identify spending patterns
- Data visualization and transaction filtering
- Basic aggregate visualizations



After the above listed is implemented, the Entaxy's project road map includes adding investment management features, retirement investing projections, estate planning, and insurance product management. Entaxy is proudly open-source. Jack and his team welcome any developers who would like to contribute to Entaxy's GitHub repository.

Misthos

Any venture that involves sharing the custodianship of money can benefit from the <u>multisig</u> wallet dApp <u>Misthos</u>. Justin Carter, the brainchild behind Misthos, derived the dApp's name from an ancient word meaning, "reward" or "compensation for labor". The wallet was one of the first enterprise-level applications developed for the Blockstack ecosystem.

Setting up a new Misthos venture takes no time at all. After naming a new venture, a user can click on the Additional Configuration Options menu to customize the application to their needs.



Set up a new Venture with yourself as the initial Partner. You can add and remove Partners once the Venture is created. But first, let's start with a name	
	WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A VENTURE?
VENTURE NAME	 Your Venture contains a multisig bitcoin wallet that you can share access to by adding and removing Partners
Give Me Shinies!	 As a team, you and your Partners can receive income and distribute payouts
Additional configuration options	 All decisions within a Venture are executed when a sufficient team consensus has been achieved

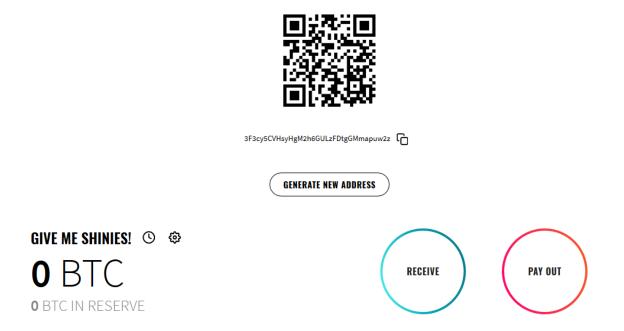
This is where a user can get their first interaction with Misthos' powerful yet simple governance and wallet configuration functionality. Users can set up endorsement policies for payouts, and for adding and removing partners. Tweaking the multisig settings to secure a new venture, a functionality seen in many analog and digital banking systems, allows users to adjust the number of endorsements required out of the total number of venture partners to approve a transaction.

Required Signatures

Select the number of signatures your Venture will require for transactions, depending on the number of Partners:

NUMBER OF PARTNERS	REQUIRED SIGNATURES
2	1-of-2 ▼
3	2-of-3 ▼
4	2-of-4 🔻

The multisig functionality is at the heart of what makes Misthos so powerful. The dApp enables frictionless and transitory ownership that mimics the ever-changing needs and organizational structures of decentralized business ventures. Coupled with the wallet layer, the dApp's configurable governance provides users shared ownership of funds, scalable accounting, and partitioned income streams. A group can create multiple ventures with partitioned income streams for each venture.



Receiving and sending tokens works like most other wallet applications. With a touch of a button, users can get an address for sending and receiving funds with confidence knowing it will be secure and anonymous with <u>Blockstack's architecture</u>.

As the mechanics of money, commerce, and the internet are being altered with dApps like Misthos, so are our the basic ideas about how people organize around work. Carter developed Misthos based off of the hypothesis that the way work is currently organized is inefficient. His design goals for Misthos are to create a dApp that: Decentralizes work and business structures, contributes to the further development of decentralized economies, an provides the right tools to do so.

As Carter has stated in a recent online demo, "If people have the right tools, they will think about using them, and that will over time contribute to changing the current hierarchical business structures." From his team's current work, we think he's on the right path.

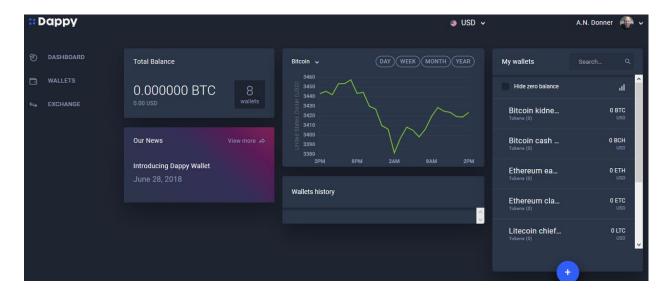
Dappy Wallet

Dappy wallet was designed and developed by the <u>bcnet</u> software development team, a distributed team of cryptocurrency enthusiasts based across the EU and Russia. Bcnet wanted to build an open source cryptocurrency software application that supported <u>ERC20</u> and <u>Ominlayer standards</u>. This allows the wallet to interface with the Etherium network and perform advanced financial transactions utilizing the Omnilayer on Blockstack's blockchain.

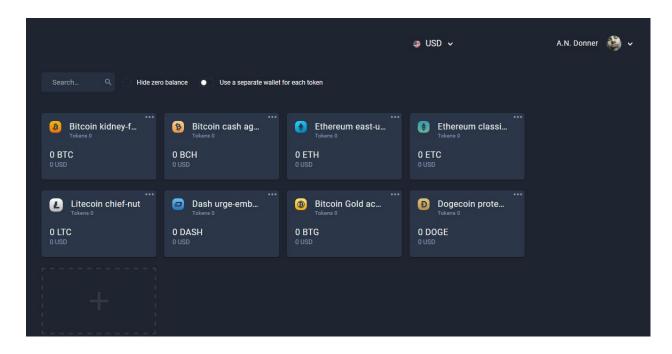
Dappy Wallet provides the following transaction functionality for users:

- Currency transactions
- Balance, history, and transactions details
- In-app cryptocurrency excannge powered by the ShapeShift API
- Importation of private keys
- Smart contract transactions
- Transactions between private addresses

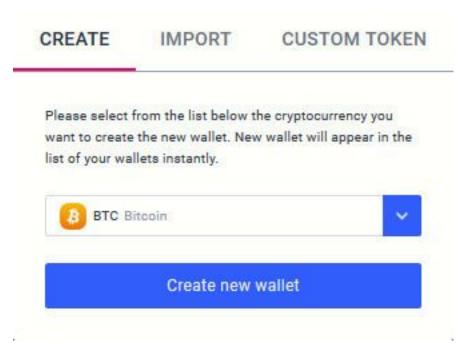
The main Dappy Wallet dashboard displays: Total Balance, Currency Performance, My Wallets (individual wallet balances), Wallet History, and News tiles. The fiat currency menu provides a selection of 15 fiat currencies for users to choose from for their wallet's reference currency. All the majors are available, plus: RUB Russian ruble, BRL Brazilian Real, CNY Chinese Yuan, IDR Indonesian Rupiah, INR Indian Rupee, KRW Korean Won, and MXN Mexican Peso.



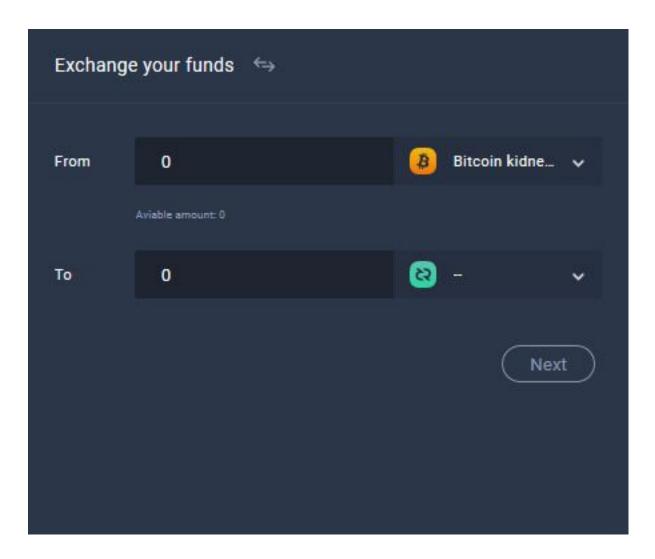
Dappy Wallet is really a wallet of wallets. Each cryptocurrency stored in the dApp has its own wallet. Dappy Wallet displays on the Wallet screen balances for each cryptocurrency the user stores in the dApp. Clicking on the 3-dot glyph on the right-hand corner of each tile will let users rename, delete, and generate the address for that cryptocurrency wallet.



Clicking on the new tile icon in the bottom left of the screen will display a window where users can create or import tokens.



Dappy Wallets currency exchange functionality is powered by the non-custodial cryptocurrency exchange Shapeshift.



As bcnet's Eugene Ives laid out in the dApp's release announcement, the bcnet team's project ideals for Dappy Wallet were to make the dApp:

- **Open Source** The bcnet team believed that in order to make Dappy Wallet successful they would have to have community support. In bcnet's view, the only way to do that was to make the project open source.
- Trustworthy Gaining and maintaining users' trust was the reason benet built the dApp
 off of Blockstack. They wanted to instill trust in the mechanics of the wallet. Blockstack's
 user authorization, secure data storage, and data encryption are all part of the structure
 of Blockstack.
- **Intuitive** Dappy Wallet's user interface is straight forward. The development team wanted to use traditional digital wallet GUI design patterns.

- Private Making the Dappy Wallet non-custodial allowed the design team to respect its
 users' privacy. Dappy Wallet also does not adhere to invasive banking regulations like
 KYC regulations.
- **Autonomous** No one at bcnet has access to users' keys, accounts, or transaction information. Blockstack encrypts all user data and only the user has control over it.

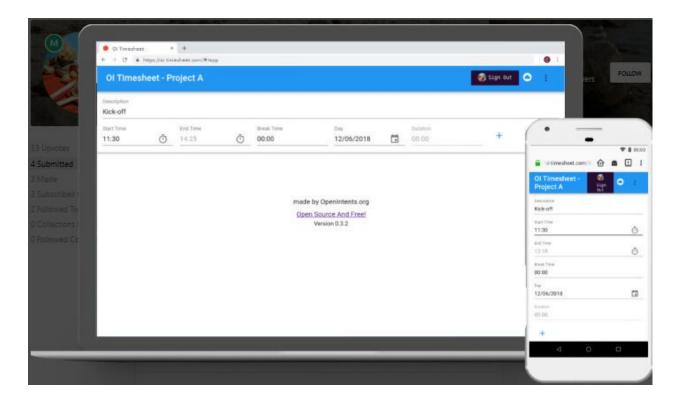
"The App Mining program from has allowed us to move the Dappy Wallet project forward," said Alex Stupek, one of bcnet's developers. Bcnet plans to complete the following project goals for Dappy Wallet by the end of 2019:

- The addition of more coins such as: ZEC, DCR, XRP
- Blockstack contact list
- Support private keys in different formats
- Multi-language support
- Different UI themes
- Ledger and Trezor integration
- In-app marketplace or DApp browser

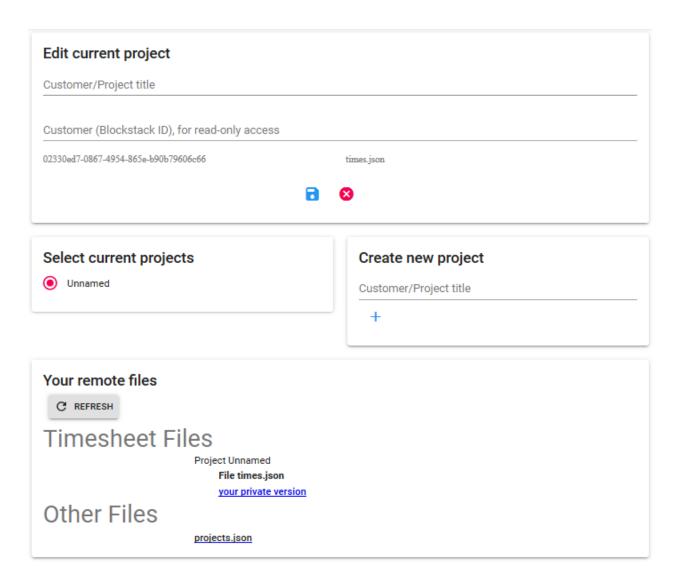
2019 will be a very big year for Dappy Wallet and once these functionalities are added the dApp will be a fully mature solution for Blockstack community members.

OI Timesheet

The OI Timesheet dApp may not technically be a fintech application, but it can sure help users keep track of their time if you are working and get them paid. The application itself is pretty straight forward. The dApp's main page provides a row of fields for entering the timesheet description, Start Time, End Time, Break, Date, and displays the duration of your billable hours. Then, the user can add those hours to list of completed hours to their project.



OITimesheet's Project page lets users edit their timesheets and give their customers read-only access. From the Project page, users can also create new timesheets, access older timesheets from their archive, and refresh saved timesheet data.



<u>Friedger Müffke</u>, one of Blockstack's own Engineering Partners developed OI timesheet. He is a German software developer and Android enthusiast with work completed in a gaggle of submissions on <u>Product Hunt</u>. He's also known for hosting user meet ups and conferences throughout Europe.

The "OI" in OITimesheet stands for <u>Open Intents</u>, the open source android application development firm Müffke runs. OI Timesheet is one of four applications he has entered into the Blockstack App Mining program. The other three: <u>OI ConversionCSV</u>, <u>OI Calendar</u>, and <u>OI Chat</u> are Android compatible as well.

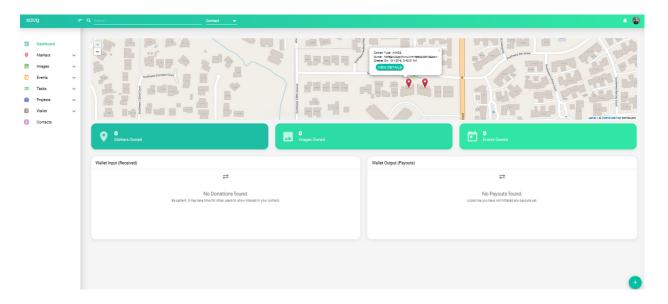
Friedger created the dApp building upon a previous android app concept he had created along with the work on another developer. Besides wanting to ensure the security of user's data, he also wanted to develop a decentralized android app that was accessible across multiple platforms. Blockstack's architecture provided this option for him.

Müffke's next development goal with OI Timesheet is to get the Android dApp to synchronize with <u>Gaia</u>. He plans to complete this stage of development by the end of February 2019. He said the Blockstack App Mining program, "keeps me motivated to complete my work" and he is hoping that "my efforts pay off with higher rankings."

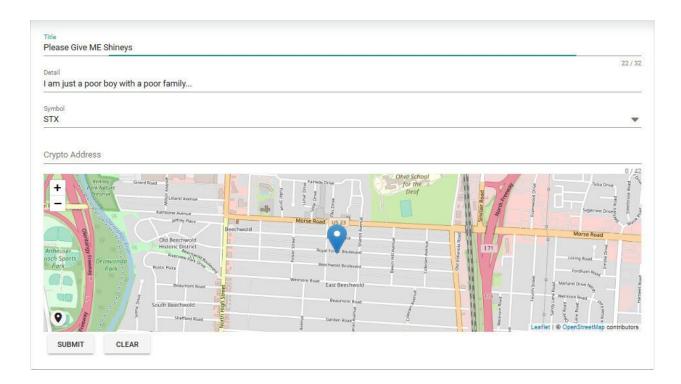
Souq

The Word "Souq" means "marketplace". The cryptocurrency — based crowd founding dApp is the decentralized spawn of <u>Ty George</u>, founder of <u>Cryptocracy</u>, a software company which he started in 2015. Ty's main goals for developing Souq were to create a permissionless and non-custodial crowdfunding dApp, an antithesis to crowdfunding services like GoFUndMe or Kickstarter, with a lower service fee of .05 - 1% per transaction.

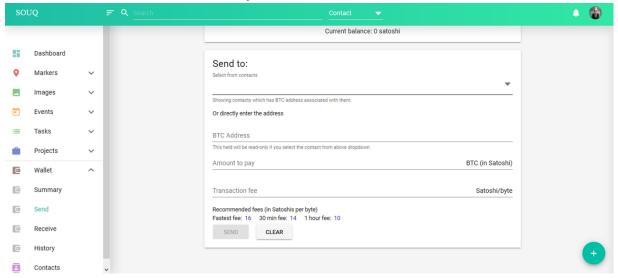
The Cryptocracy team picked the Flame of Liberty to be Souq's logo in order to shed light on non-violent decentralized economic models that are conducive to not just financial prosperity, but also individual liberty.



The dApp features a dashboard with an interactive map and panels showing the user's Souq BTC wallet activity. The <u>interactive map</u> provides a geographical awareness of crowdfunding requests. Souq offers several content objects that can be created to list or fund opportunities indicated in its global map and the user's contact list. These include markers, images, events, tasks, projects.



Users can send and receive BTC directly to other users in their contacts and to wallet addresses.



At the time of this writing, Souq is going through its next set of updates. There are also plans to change the name of the dApp from Souq to Cryptocracy. Ty stated in a recent Slack message their upcoming development goals.

•

"We are going to be adding the Tasks component so users can set specific financial objectives for specific actions. We also plan to roll out a Quorum component where users will have the ability to up or down vote other users' content. This will affect the page ranking of that content (up or down in) on our newly added Quorum page. Once the Quorum and Task components are done we will move onto the finishing touches of the Project and Reward features. Finally, we will move onto other objectives not yet fully revealed to the public. Here's a hint though, it has to do with auto funding preferred initiatives listed in the application."

Part of Souq's appeal is the dApp also acts as a social network. Users can post pictures and status updates, and send and receive tokens to one another directly. Souq is a medium for users to create decentralized cryptocurrency funding networks all over the world.

According to Ty, the Cryptocracy's participation in the App Mining program has been helpful. The program has provided user insights and feedback on ways to improve the dApp. He also noted a correlation between achieving a higher rank in the program and seeing an increase in funding for development milestones. The Cryptocracy team's hope is that in the upcoming App Mining rounds users will have a better sense of the dApp's potential and start to endorse it more, so they can afford to bring more developers on board. For a while, Cryptocracy only had 3 developers actively working on the dApp. They just brought on 2 more recently because of their success in the App Mining program.

Digital trust is the proverbial auger from which digital ecosystems and commerce grow or die, and this trust is measured in user experiences and outcomes. Through better design, the developers who are participating in the App Mining program are instilling that trust in the design of the ecosystem's new services and applications.

We seek to build the trust of Blockstack users so they feel confident when making those instantaneous decisions every moment while using these new applications in the Blockstack ecosystem. The applications presented in this article are the first to be cultivated from our development efforts. We are excited to see what will come next.