Courtney Thurston

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Education

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach   August 2015 – May 2019
Honors Program, Presidential Scholar, 18 Other College Scholarships
Bachelor of Science in **Computer Engineering**

Commonwealth Connections Academy   September 2011 – June 2015
Valedictorian (1/925), 4.41/4.0 CGPA, 31 Other Awards & Honors
High School Diploma with High Honors

Work Experience

Space Exploration Technologies (SpaceX) – Hawthorne, CA   Summer 2015
Intern – Propulsion & Structures/Vehicle Engineering

Northrop Grumman Corporation – Rancho Bernardo, CA   Spring 2015
Intern – High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) Unmanned Systems
- Worked to evaluate program success and as a systems engineer on the High Altitude Long Endurance suite of unmanned systems.

Near Earth Autonomy, Carnegie Mellon University – Pittsburgh, PA   Summer 2014
Intern – General Robotics Systems
Autonomous Aerial Cargo/Utility System (Office of Naval Research, Aurora Flight Sciences)
- Modeled mounting positions for a LiDAR sensor on a light military helicopter using Solidworks.
- Performed occlusion studies and compiled a report for future internal research purposes and/or for use in future contract presentations.
Intelligent Autonomous Aerial Vehicles in the National Airspace (NASA Langley)
- Charted project requirements using FreeMind and performed verification and validation tests under the Systems Engineering team lead.

Technical Skills

Programming: Intermediate working knowledge of Java, MATLAB, and C
Applications: Solidworks, FreeMind, Mathematica, PTC Creo Parametric, PTC Mathcad

Leadership and Involvement

European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)   October 2014 – November 2014
- Developed a tracking & demarcation system for dogs used in rescue and de-mining operations using Arduino and Raspberry Pi as the only high school student in attendance.

FIRST Robotics Competition – **Rules Lead, Public Relations Lead**   September 2013 – Present
- Managed the rules team to ensure quality control and ongoing competition eligibility. 2014 Lenape-Seneca District Event Champions.

Real World Design Challenge (RWDC) – **Team Lead**   September 2011 – Present
- Led a team of 7 to design a light sport aircraft for cross-country flight, an unmanned aerial system for search & rescue, and a UAS for applications in precision agriculture.

Membership

Member of NCWIT, SWE, WAI, IEEE, AUVSI, AIA, AIAA, NOGLSTP, and Lime Connect.

Scholarships

AXA Achiever
Brad Feld Scholar
Burger King Scholar
Coca-Cola Scholar
Cooke Scholar
EAA Scholar
Eaton Scholar
Elks Scholar
FIRST Scholar
GE-Reagan Scholar
Presidential Scholar
SanDisk Scholar
Space Club Scholar
UPromise Scholar
VIP WIT Scholar
Web Summit Scholar
Woman of Excellence
2x ABI GHC Grant
Facebook GHC Grant
Taser Intl GHC Grant
2x Google SWE Grant
Keds Grant

Awards

'15 Presidential Volunteer Service Award (Gold)

'15 Prudential Spirit Distinguished Finalist

'15 Patriot News' Best and Brightest

'12-15 RWDC State Champion, '12-13 National Finalist

'12-15 NCWIT AiC Winner

'14 United Way Leader of Tomorrow

'14 World Maker Faire Speaker

'14 Code.org SOTW

'13 Discus Finalist