

816 Flintlock Ridge Road  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

**COURTNEY THURSTON**  
COURTNEYTHURSTON.COM

(717) 319-1148  
thurscon@gmail.com

## EXPERIENCE

**General Robotics Systems Intern      Near Earth Autonomy      Summer 2014**

Autonomous Aerial Cargo/Utility System Program

- Primarily working on the mechanical and systems engineering teams to develop autonomous cargo delivery systems for the Navy, with the long run goal of enabling autonomous casualty evacuation.
- Developing and testing high quality sensor suites to enable partial or complete automation of aircraft.

**Rules & Public Relations Lead      FIRST Robotics Competition      Sept 2013 – Present**

- Engineering ground robots with Normality Zero as a competitor in the FIRST Robotics Competition. 2014 Lenepe-Seneca District Event Champions.

**Team Lead      Real World Design Challenge      Sept 2011 – Present**

- Engineering small unmanned aerial systems for applications in precision agriculture. Previously developed a sUAS for search and rescue, and a light sport aircraft for cross-country flight.
- 2012 State Champions, 2012 National Runner-Up, AIAA National Award Recipient; 2013 State Champions, 2013 National Runner-Up, AUVSI National Award Recipient; 2014 State Champions, National results pending.

**Team Lead      FIRST Lego League      Sept 2010 – Jan 2013**

- Engineered ground robots with Robotron Robotics as a competitor in the FIRST Lego League.
- Body Forward Teamwork and Collaboration, Innovative Solution Award recipient; Food Factor Team Lead, Research Award recipient; Senior Solutions Team and Programming Lead, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place All-Around Award recipient.

## Additional Experience

Accessible Technology Volunteering

- Project contributor to OpenHatch, a non-profit in the free open source software space; Interned for Miyagi, an educational mathematics software start-up; Volunteer at Assemble Pittsburgh, an educational maker and hackerspace for artists and technologists; Longtime contributor to Wikipedia.

Women in Science Volunteering

- National Center for Women and Information Technology official Aspirations in Computing Award Social Media Contributor; The Scientista Foundation Online Community Manager; executive on ProjectCSGIRLS; co-founder and Chief Operating Officer of the tech start-up Magikstra.

## EDUCATION

**Harrisburg, PA      Commonwealth Connections Academy      Fall 2011 – Present**

- 4.42 weighted CGPA, 3.987 unweighted CGPA, 3.986 unweighted CGPA (core only), class rank: 1/848
- AP coursework: Physics B, Computer Science, Calculus BC, Statistics, Biology, Government, US History, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Psychology, English Composition, English Literature, Art History

## ADDITIONAL HONORS

- 2014 Grace Hopper Celebration Scholar; 2014 United Way Leader of Tomorrow Award Winner; 2014 Keds Brave Career Grant Recipient; 2014 NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Award National Winner; 2013 NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Award Pennsylvania Affiliate Winner; 2013 Discus Awards National Finalist; AP Scholar; Distinguished Honor Roll.