# Hershel Thomas

heshelthomas@gmail.com | +972 53-523-8577 | Herzliya, Israel | GitHub Profile: https://github.com/HeshelT

**About Me:** Competitive Rubik's Cube Speed Solver brings an algorithmic, yet colorful, approach to programming and logic solving. Currently, I am a first year Computer Science student at Reichman University, with real tech work experience.

**Objective:** To find a job that compliments my educational pursuit in Computer Science.

## Education

Reichman University (University): Sep 2023 - present | B.S Computer Science (exp. Jul '26) | Academic Scholarship | Herzliya, Israel

Torah Tech (Gap Year Program): Sep 2022 - May 2023 | Tel-Aviv, Israel

Ida Crown Jewish Academy (High School): Graduated June 2022 | GPA – 4.43/4.00; ACT – 34/36 | Skokie, IL, USA

## Relevant Coursework

*Classroom*

- University: Calculus 1 & 2, Linear-Algebra 1 & 2, Discrete Math, Logic & Set Theory, Intro to Programming, Data Structures, Programming with C
- High School: AP Computer Science A, Java
  - Scored 5/5 on AP Exam
- Other: Java SE 8 Adult Certification Class
  - Adult class to change career paths, but joined as Sophomore to delve deeper into Java/programming

*Self-Taught*

- Swift Programming (IOS/Apple Development)
  - Programmed and designed a fully functional War Card Game iOS App. Equipped with a User Interface, Classes, Structs, and Functions
- Python
  - Project - Creating a graphics engine API that displays in the systems terminal. Utilized 2d arrays and ASCII values to display RGB values in each coordinate and create a buffer to display graphics without flicker.
  - Example usage of repository (https://github.com/HeshelT/ConnectFour)
  - Working on a large text-based, open-world, role-playing game, utilizing advanced methods like Classes, Hash Maps, Dictionaries, and multiple files (https://github.com/HeshelT/TerminalDungeon)
  - Developed a system for the text-based engine to understand Natural language conversation as if talking to a person

## Tech Skills

- Coding: Java (Medium-level), Python (Medium), HTML/CSS (Beginner)
- Mechanical: Basic servo, motor, gear, and camera programming in C++ for robotics
- Other: GitHub repository building, Datadog, Docker

## Work Experience

**Watchful.ai** | Intern (in conjunction with gap year program at Torah Tech) | Tel-Aviv, Israel | October '22 - May '23

- Lead QA (Quality Assurance) Manager
  - Ensured new features, prior to launch, were thoroughly tested for potential defects or customer experience flow issues
  - Provided feedback to Product and Engineering teams to inform new product feature design
  - Developed automated testing processes to reduce testing time and overhead, freeing up my time to learn new skills in Website design (HTML and CSS), Python (Flask)
- Collaborated with Sales & Marketing teams to provide competitive insights to our clients on their marketing campaigns
  - Received kudos from large tech company ($25B market cap) for insights I provided them

**Yagilu Wilderness Camp** | Youth Counselor | Pennsylvania | Summer '22

- Served as a counselor to 13 campers during a month-long overnight wilderness camp
- Created and supervised activities, guided overnight hikes, and taught survival skills
- Assisted kids in dealing with social/emotional challenges; directed relationship-building exercises

## High School Accomplishments, Awards, Honors & Activities

- Illinois State Scholar (awarded to top 10% of students in the state)
- National Honor Society
- AP Scholar with Distinction (average at least 3.5 out of 5 on all AP exams)
- Chesed Society Award (awarded to students at ICJA with 250+ community service hours)
- Dr. and Mrs. Abe L. Aaronson Science Award (recognizes a graduate's accomplishments in the field of science)
- Robotics Team, Captain
  - Responsible for the many steps and processes along the way in creating a fully autonomous robot
  - Gained leadership and management experience by leading the planning committee for the robot's design and functionality and teaching fellow students how to program the robot in C++
  - Programmed the robot's camera in C++ to locate objects in space and react according to its color and distance
- Math Team (Mathletes), Captain
  - Throughout the year, I led team meetings to boost morale, using humor to diffuse tension (such as math puns)
  - I learned it was not only important to teach higher-level math to my teammates, but also the value of teamwork
  - By increasing the team's spirit and skills, I led our ICJA Math Team to a first-place victory in a competition vs. other schools

## Interests

- Table Tennis, Competitive Rubik's Cube, Skiing, Hiking