

Alvaro J. Meléndez
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I'm a sophomore currently studying Mechanical Engineering with a concentration in Electrical Engineering at MIT. I'm interested in electric vehicles, robotics, manufacturing and design. In my free time I enjoy sailing, playing soccer and making things.

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology - Cambridge, MA Sep 2015 – Present
Undergraduate
Class of 2019 - Mayor: Course 2A-6 (Mechanical Engineering with Electrical Engineering)

Academia Británica Cuscatleca - Santa Tecla, El Salvador Graduate June 2015
High School - IB Diploma Program

EXPERIENCE

MIT FORMULA SAE Battery Pack - Cambridge, MA Aug 2016 – Present

- HV electronics and packing for accumulator
- Bus bar and accumulator box design for HV electronics
- Adhesive and bus bar insert testing for accumulator

ATIEVA USA, INC Powertrain Intern - Menlo Park, CA Jun 2016 – Aug 2016

- Designed fixtures for battery pack testing using Siemens NX
- Prepared thermal tests for both cell level and subunit testing
- Managed mechanical and adhesive testing for both cell level and subunit testing
- Served as a technician by helping assemble the 2nd ever Atieva powertrain

MIT Electric Vehicle Team Mechanical Engineer - Cambridge, MA Sep 2015 – May 2016

- Worked on converting a gas Opel GT into a street-legal fully electrical car
- Worked with the battery sub-team designing the frame of the car that along with the belly-pan of the car will hold the batteries
- Used FEA in SolidWorks simulation to analyze the structure to ensure that it won't fail
- Designed and created different parts (spacers, motor controller) for the vehicle using SolidWorks

MIT Edgerton Center Outreach Volunteer - Cambridge, MA Sep 2015 – Present

- Teach and introduce younger students into the idea of engineering, art and science
- Provide assistance to students on their personal projects
- Designed a night-light to teach over 100 students about basic electronics, art and science in Beijing, China

MakerLodge Mentor – Cambridge, MA Sep 2016 - Present

- Train freshmen on using basic makerspace tools like laser cutters, 3D printers and hand tools
- Will eventually teach students higher tier machines such as lathes and mills

Engineering Design Workshop Participant - Cambridge, MA Jul 2014

- Built an electric longboard over the course of a month, using Arduino, motors and motor controllers
- Learned how to ideate, design, prototype and test the skateboard by going through an engineering design process

LEADERSHIP

MakerSpace Founder Santa Tecla, El Salvador

- Started the first ever MakerSpace at my high-school to promote hands-on-learning.
- Installed Raspberry Pi's and Arduinos and taught students how to use them.

Electronics Club Organizer Santa Tecla, El Salvador

- Organized and lead an electronics club intended to teach younger students about basic electronics, soldering and designing PCBs.

SKILLS

Hardware: Electronics, Laser Cutter, 3D Printing, Basic fabrication

Software: SolidWorks, MATLAB, Blender, Java, Arduino, Python, Office

Language: English (Fluent), Spanish (Fluent)

INTERESTS

Electric Vehicles, Robotics, Designing and Building, Sailing, Soccer, Modelling and 3D Printing