

LOYOLA BLAKEFIELD CYBER SECURITY

FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER



Foreword

Our students have been hard at work this summer and are excited to kick off the new school year! From certifications and internships to guest speakers and social media presentations, we are proud to share what we have been working on and our plans for the year!

Summer Events

Over the summer, our students have participated in internships, obtained industry certifications, and prepared for the coming year.

Certifications

Eight members of LBCSI earned industry level certifications this summer!

Matthew Johnson '24, Aidan Sachs '24, and Will Pipkin '24 received CompTIA's Security Plus Certification; Kieran Ellis '24 and Ben Fredrick '24 earned Microsoft's SC-900 Cert; Jack Anderson '24 earned CompTIA's XK0-005 Linux Plus Certification. These certifications are challenging to obtain, requiring hours of studying and a strong grasp of computer science. We're very happy with our Dons' accomplishments and look forward to more certifications.



Comptia Linux+ and Security+ Logos (www.comptia.org) Microsoft Logo (www.learn.microsoft.com)

Summer Internships

This summer, a record 7 members held internships, learning about cybersecurity in the workplace and getting paid for their hard work! Casey Nazelrod '25, Dylan Keller '24 and Henry Craig '24 worked for Carolina777 testing software for bugs that will be used by the government and army. Teddy Marine '24 worked at T. Rowe Price, a cornerstone partner of LBCSI, constructing a sitemap of their website to optimize security assessments. Jack Wachter '24 and Ben Scholtes '23, worked at Avid

Practice, learning about cybersecurity in the workplace, exploiting relevant Windows vulnerabilities, and balancing cybersecurity with usability. Jack Anderson '24 worked at the John's Hopkins Applied Physical Laboratory configuring networking equipment and conducting Red Team exercises on both Linux and Windows based machines.

Summer Camp

In June, we hosted our fifth annual Cybersecurity Camp. Consisting of two groups aged 11 to 16, campers learned the basics of cybersecurity such as different operating systems, HTML, cryptography, and OSINT (Open Source Intelligence). Run by Mr. Morrill, James Keller '24, and Henry Craig '24, the program seeks to raise cyber awareness for young people and inspire them to learn about computer science on their own. The week culminated in a scavenger hunt constructed by James challenging campers to complete a series of tasks relating to topics that they had learned throughout the camp. The camp was a great success and we look forward to doing it again next year.



Plans for the Year

As we return to school, we are very excited to share LBCSI's plans for the year!

LBC2

LBCSI is happy to announce that LBC2 is returning for its 7th edition on Saturday, March 23rd 2023! LBC2, or the Loyola Blakefield Cyber Challenge, is an annual cybersecurity competition hosted by LBCSI. LBC2 serves to educate and introduce students to the world of cyber science through a completely free, beginner level competition while also creating a challenging and competitive environment for experienced competitors. Our dedicated Product Developers, Henry Craig '24 and Ryan Wachter '26 have started work already, planning for CTF, Image-based, and IOT-based challenges. Capture the Flag challenges consist of a briefing and clues that competitors use to produce an answer, or flag. Image-based challenges teach competitors to secure and navigate unfamiliar operating systems, such as Linux. Finally, IOT-based challenges demonstrate how devices such as smart cameras and industrial control equipment can be exploited by bad actors. If you or someone you know is interested in competing this year, please head to LBC2.org for additional information!



First Training Days

Despite a busy start to the school year, our members were eager to hit the ground running! With round one of AFA's CyberPatriot just over a month away, our training leads Ben Fredrick '24, Jack Anderson '24, and James Keller '24 wasted no time preparing our Dons. Along with our returning members, we also held an informational meeting for new and interested students, introducing 41 prospective members to the club! If you or someone you know is interested in joining or attending a meeting, feel free to reach out to Mr. Morrill (smorrill@loyolablakefield.org)!



Open House

On October 22nd, Loyola Blakefield is hosting its annual Open House, which exhibits to prospective students the classes, clubs, and activities that set Loyola apart from other schools. LBCSI will be presenting in the Ignatius Hall Cyber Lab to interested students and parents. Returning for its second year, IOT City will return, headed by product developer Ryan Wachter '26. IOT, or internet of things, refers to how different appliances and services, such as traffic lights, billboards, and industrial control systems communicate and are controlled. The IOT City is a miniature city used to demonstrate real-world cyberattacks in a way that new and interested students can understand and appreciate. We are looking forward to the Open House and talking to interested students!



Guest Speaker Series

LBCSI is looking forward to hosting several guest speakers for its members this year. Kicking off our speaker series is Bill Nelson, Chair of the Global Resilience Federation. Mr. Nelson will speak with LBCSI on October 17th at 3:10pm about his experiences in the field of cyber security and the changing career opportunities in the field. Mr. Nelson's discussion will be followed by several directors of the NSA's Centers of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity (CAE) program, in late October. LBCSI will then gather in mid November to hear from members of the United States Secret Service on the recent cyber fraud scams known as pig butchering cases.

Social Media Presentations

During Loyola Blakefield's orientation in August, Mr. Morrill and Will Pipkin '24 kicked off the social media presentation circuit by speaking to our 10th graders. Our presentations consisted of speaking and workshops with the students, discussing safety online and covering proper internet etiquette. Topics discussed include cyberbullying, Instagram and Snapchat and even smart toasters! Looking towards the year, we are excited to present at Riderwood Elementary in October and many more schools! If you know of a school that would benefit from a digital awareness presentation (virtual or in-person), please reach out to Mr. Stephen Morrill or our Field Operations Leads (Teddy Marine '24, EJMarine2024@loyolablakefield.org and Jack Wachter '24, JMWachter2024@loyolablakefield.org). We would love to visit new schools and meet new students!

Cyber Battle of Nordic-Baltics 2023

In October of last year, LBCSI had the privilege to send a team consisting of students and alumni to participate in the Cyber Battle of Estonia. The Cyber Battle of Estonia and the Cyber Battle of Nordic-Baltics are annual Capture The Flag competitions hosted by Estonia, bringing together college and high school level cybersecurity enthusiasts from around the world. With the Cyber Battle of Nordic-Baltics 2023 date set for November 11th, LBCSI is eager to return to the competition. This year, the Loyola Blakefield USA team consists of Jack Wachter '24, Teddy Marine '24, Casey Nazelrod '25, Anshul Chelapurath '23, and Cody Smith '21. The team has qualified and secured a return trip to Tartu, Estonia, for a second consecutive year.



Special Thank You to Dr. William Hicken

LBCSI is grateful for the support of Dr. William Hicken, Loyola class of 1950. Dr. Hicken and his late wife Nancy have been philanthropically supporting Loyola for several years. This academic year Dr. Hicken will be directly supporting LBCSI and the Speech and Debate Team. We had the distinct honor of meeting with Dr. Hicken and two of his daughters when they announced their generous support. Dr. Hicken shared a few of his favorite stories of his time at Loyola with our current students and how well the Jesuits prepared him for life. All of us agreed that Loyola continues its mission to form students as men for others. Thank you Dr. Hicken for your support!



Thank You Sponsors

Thank You to our sponsors on behalf of the entire LBCSI program. We would like to thank all of our partners who graciously invest their resources in LBCSI. We are grateful for your continued support and guidance over the past eleven years. We want to specifically thank our presenting partner: The Edward St. John Foundation and cornerstone partner T. Rowe Price. A special thank you goes out to the Edward St. John Foundation President, Ms. Sharon Akers. We appreciate the continued interest in the development of our cyber students, and we look forward to continuing our work with these sponsors in the future.



Thank you all for taking the time to read this year's Fall Newsletter! We are very excited to see what this year has in store for LBCSI! This is a very exciting time for the program and we are determined to continue our momentum! As always, Roll Dons.

We hope you are all doing well and staying healthy.

Thanks again,

Teddy Marine '24,

Jack Wachter '24,

Mr. Stephen Morrill,

The entirety of Loyola Blakefield's Cyber Science Initiative

