

LOYOLA BLAKEFIELD CYBER SECURITY

FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER



Foreword

LBCSI has had a very busy summer and an exciting start to the new school-year. We have used momentum gained over the summer to kick start our activities such as Cyber Patriot, our school presentation roadmap, and our Guest Speaker Series. We are very excited to share more below!

Summer Events

LBCSI's members have been hard at work getting prepared for the academic year. Here's what they've accomplished.

Certifications

We're happy to share that nine members have received industry certifications this summer. Charlie Hale '23, Brendan McLaughlin '23, Andrew Hill '23, Teddy Marine '24, James Keller '24, and Henry Craig '24 received CompTIA's N10-008 Network Plus Certification, Benjamin Scholtes '23 received Microsoft's AZ-800 Certification, and Nicholas Jacob '23 received Cisco's 200-301 CCNA Certification. Certifications such as these are industry standard metrics for skill in cyber security; in fact, most internships and employers only accept certified applicants. Certifications are challenging to obtain, requiring many hours of study and a strong grasp on cybersecurity. We're very proud of our Dons' accomplishments and look forward to future certifications.

Summer Internships

LBCSI's Jack Wachter '24 and Anshul Chelapurath '23 have been working this summer participating in internships. Jack worked at T. Rowe Price, a cornerstone partner of LBCSI, learning about product testing and quality control, and Anshul worked at the NSA's thinktank Dreamport, reverse engineering smart devices and developing intrusion detection software. DreamPort is a cyber innovation, collaboration, and prototyping facility made by the United States Cyber Command to help develop the United States' cybersecurity programs.

Camps

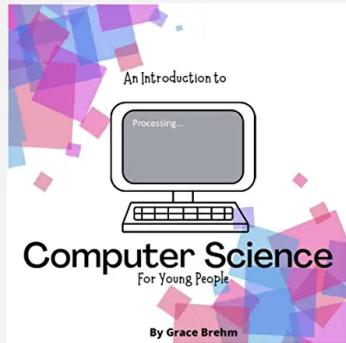
This summer, we hosted our fourth Cybersecurity Camp. Consisting of two groups aged 10 to 15 and having 40 campers, this year's cyber camp was a blast. Campers learned the basics of cybersecurity and gained a better appreciation for the technology around them. Mr. Morrill, with help from James Keller '24, Teddy Marine '24 and Casey Nazelrod '25, taught topics including learning about operating systems, HTML, SSH, and Open Source Intelligence. At the end of the week, the camp culminated in a cybersecurity scavenger hunt, which tested the skills they learned throughout the camp. We run this camp to increase interest in cyber security and inspire students to work hard. We are very happy with how it turned out and excited to do it again next year.



Student Spotlight: Grace Brehm

Grace Brehm is a senior at Notre Dame Prep currently participating in LBCSI. This summer, she wrote *An Introduction to Computer Science for Young People*, a book giving a simple overview of Computer Science to make the field more accessible to students, such as physical networks, algorithms, the Internet, and number systems.

We're proud of what she has accomplished and if you are a young person interested in computer science, or if you simply want an overview of the field, this book is certainly a good option. A story done by WBAL on her can be found [here](#); additionally, if you are interested in purchasing it, her book can be found [here](#).



Alumni Spotlight

With 11 years of LBCSI graduates, we pride ourselves on the achievements of our alums. Defcon is a hacking and computer science convention bringing in over 30,000 attendees every year; this summer, we were pleased to see LBCSI's own Chris Rodriguez '13 and Jeremy Krach '13 win Defcon's OSINT Capture the Flag competition. OSINT, or Open Source Intelligence, is a particularly difficult part of cybersecurity; it requires competitors to scour the web for exceedingly obscure and difficult-to-find answers.

Chris and Jeremy are two of LBCSI's original members, having helped start and grow



the club. Their contributions to Loyola Blakefield Cyber are immeasurable and we are happy to see their continued success.

First Training Days

As the opening month of school begins, we have been excited to welcome our back our Cyber Dons to the labs! Our returning members brought a renewed energy and immediately picked up where we left off last school year. We also welcomed 40 new Cyber Dons to the ranks! The energy at the first meeting has been a positive sign and has shown that these young men desire to learn new skills. The eagerness of our new students was able to be quantified with the formation of a new CyberPatriot team on the first day!

Additionally, we are thrilled that students from Notre Dame Prep will be joining us to train this academic year. They will use similar techniques to us to help grow the Cyber Security Club at NDP.



Social Media Presentations

During the months of August and September, LBCSI's leadership team and Mr. Morrill had the opportunity to speak with a wide variety of people about social media awareness and raising their cyber IQ. The presentations began with three days of speaking and building workshops with our returning freshmen class. The topics ranged from sending a tweet from a smart fridge, to discussing appropriate actions online, and understanding how reputation can be built and destroyed online.

Recently, Charlie Hale '23, Noah Morraye '23, and Mr. Morrill had an opportunity to hold a fireside chat with the parents of our middle school about online presence and phone usage. The chat was a resounding success with

parents and presenting members actively discussing problems and the best course of action.

Looking towards the future, we will have the distinct pleasure of traveling to The Harford Day School and St. Stephen Cathloic School. These opportunities allow our presenting team to help educate the young minds of so many students on how to be safe and secure online.

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 Leaders (Teddy Marine '24, EJMarine2024@loyolablakefield.org and Charlie Hale '23, CMHale2023@loyolablakefield.org). We would love to visit new schools and meet new students!

Guest Speaker Series

Our leadership team has been hard at work this summer scheduling our guest speaker list for the year! We are pleased to announce that to begin our talks, Phillip Niedermair (Managing Director of Alliances & Development Ward & Barry PLLC) and Kim Menzel (Cybersecurity & Aerospace Program Manager at the Maryland Department of Commerce) will be joining us on October 12th.

Cyber Battle of Estonia

This year, LBCSI has been presented with a unique opportunity. Through the NSA's civilian organization Dreamport, five of our top members and alumni aged 15-24 have been invited to represent the United States and compete in the annual Cyber Battle of Estonia in October. The Cyber Battle of Estonia is a Capture the Flag based competition that sets teams from around Europe against each other in the spirit of growing interest for cyber security in young people. We are proud to announce that our team is as follows: Anshul Chelapurath '23, Jack Wachter '24, Matthew Fleshner '21, Teddy Marine '24, and Jake Sanft '19. The team will be making stops in Tallinn and Tartu to meet with educators, dignitaries, and other students. We would like to express our gratitude to Dreamport and Armando Seay for making this all possible. More information on the competition can be found [here](#).



The winning teams on stage with the Estonian president, Alar Karis, at the Cyber Battle of Estonia 2021. Photo by Gabriela Urm.

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 partners T. Rowe Price, and Point3. 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 have had a busy and exciting start to the new school year. Our team has been working hard bringing new and exciting opportunities, and we are excited to show you what we have in store for the rest of the school year.

We hope you are all doing well and staying healthy.

Thanks again,

Charlie Hale '23,

Teddy Marine '24

Mr. Stephen Morrill,

The entirety of Loyola Blakefield's Cyber Science Initiative

