ERKIN POLAT

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Education

Minerva Schools at KGI   San Francisco, CA

Candidate for Bachelors of Art & Sciences - Currently majoring in computer science and data science   Expected 2021

- Education model of the 21st century, embraces multidimensional thinking & global immersion.
- Highly selective - 1.9% acceptance rate
- Taken the four multidisciplinary cornerstone courses in the freshman year - Formal Analyses, Empirical Analyses, Multimodal Communications, Complex Systems
- Relevant Courses Taken
  Computer Science: 'Information Based Decisions', 'Continuous Mathematical Systems', 'Computation: Solving Problems with Algorithms', 'Discrete Mathematical Systems', 'Computability and Complexity', 'Machine Learning for Science and Profit', 'Modern Computational Statistics', 'Modeling, Simulation, and Decision Making', 'Software Development: Building Powerful Applications', 'Harnessing Artificial Intelligence Algorithms'
  Social Sciences: 'Perception, Cognition and Reality', 'Boom, Bust and Bubbles: Free Enterprise System'

High School Name   Kocaeli, Turkey

Inanc High School   2017

- Cumulative GPA of 93.26   .
- A multidisciplinary curriculum with an emphasis on subjects related to STEM and Arts.

Experience

Analythinx at Komtas   Istanbul, Turkey

Machine Learning Intern   2019

- First attended a two week training bootcamp
- Worked on a project for extracting data from Twitter using Hadoop tools
- Worked on an NLP project for extracting data from newspapers and categorizing them.

Minerva Schools   San Francisco, CA

Teaching Assistant   2021

- Teaching assistant for the Capstone class of the juniors in Minerva Schools.
- Providing assistance and guidance on projects in STEM based on my experience and area of expertise..
- Hold office hours and do grading.

Minerva Project   San Francisco, CA

Office Assistant   2017 – 2018

- Assisted day to day operations of Minerva HQ
- Was responsible for administrative support throughout the employee life-cycle

- Assisted space maintenance, food & supply inventory, event set up

Minerva Project   Korea & India
Freelancer   2018 - 2019
- Worked on multiple short and long term projects including a Wellness Website, Outreach, preparation of the bulletin.

Middle East Technical University - Biochemistry Lab   Ankara, Turkey
Lab Assistant   July– August 2014
- Helped to conduct research regarding the development of a vaccine for yellow rust
- Worked on simpler side projects to gain have an understanding of key concepts of genetics
- Received lessons from professors on the subjects

Istanbul Technical University - Aerospace Lab   Istanbul, Turkey

Research Assistant   July 2016
- Assisted the research process of the thesis studies of an undergraduate senior in the supervision of a professor
- Participated in data collection and observation processes
- Engaged with and gained information about the professional hardware used in aerospace laboratories

Civic Project with SF Opera   San Francisco, CA
Researcher - Analyzer   2018
- Worked on a project with SF Opera's Artistic Planning Manager to redesign the buildings' interiors to create a more productive workspace for the employees that would encourage creativity.

Leadership and Accomplishments

- Won third place nationwide in the research project competition of the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey
- Played in the finals of the nationwide high school music competition that Vodafone organized in Turkey
- Initiated weekly movie nights in the residence hall
- Represented Inanc High School in the National Philosophy Olympiads
- Organized a year-long social service project involving giving rhythm lessons to the children in Metin Sabancı Center for Kids with Cerebral Palsy
- Was the co-president of my high school's MUN club. Besides the administrative position, raised fund for the club.
- Written in different in-school publication including the school's newspaper Nota Bene and social sciences magazine Parantez

Skills and Interests

- Proficiency in programming with Python
- Proficiency in programming with R
- Intermediate Java
- SQL
- Music
  - Played the guitar for 8 years
  - Played the piano for 13 years (3 years at a conservatory level)
  - Sang for 5 years
  - Played in several bands/projects on numerous events
- Languages:
  - Turkish - Native Speaker
  - English - Proficient
  - German - B1 Level
  - French - Beginner/A1 Level
- Chess - Amateur Level
- Participated in numerous MUN conferences in Turkey and one in Slovakia
- An enthusiast for movies and photography & getting involved in an amateur level