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Maria Lai

Harvard College
Cambridge, MA
Relevant Coursework: Abstraction & Design in Computation, Interactive Visualization
Herbert Hoover High School
Des Moines, IA

Graduation Class: 2017
Neurobiology & Computer Science
Graduation Class: 2013
Ranked 1 of 280

EXPERIENCE

CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

(Managing Editor of Peer Review)

(Design Head Editor & Tech Chair)
The Harvard Undergraduate Research Journal (thurj)
Sept. 2013 - present

OPEN SOURCE CONTRIBUTOR
Mozilla Firefox
March 2016 - present

WRITER, ILLUSTRATOR, OUTREACH
Harvard Stories for Orphans
Sept. 2015 - present

PROGRAMMING CO-DIRECTOR
SIEPSI International Exchange Program for Social Innovation
Sept. 2014 - Jan. 2015

TERM-TIME PROJECTS DIRECTOR
Harvard Developers for Development
Feb. 2014 - Dec. 2014

- Managed an executive board of 9 people and an organization of 60 people. Strategized plans for production and growth.
- Managed all aspects of submissions and peer review: 6 editors, 25 reviewers, 26 submissions, manuscript selection, revisions, quality check. Taught peer review to new members.
- Directed all aspects of the journal's layout and design; distributed and managed tasks for 20 staff members. Taught design, photoshop, indesign, and website management to 29 new members. Managed online journal and the organization's online presence.

Improving user experience of Firefox Accounts. Worked in Ubuntu environment with Node.js with npm, Python, Redis, libgmp, graphicsmagick.

Authored, illustrated, and produced children picture books for orphaned children. Built and maintained relationships with orphanages.

Coordinated all aspects of the programming of the 5-day program for 27 participants (Harvard + international students): set the theme, developed the schedule, invited and coordinated 25 speakers and workshop leaders, created the programming booklet, supervised on-day operations.

Coordinated all aspects of 11 semester-long tech project collaborations between Harvard students and social impact organizations, including building relationships with nonprofits and social enterprises, recruiting students to work on projects, and project management. Spring '14: 4 teams, 15 fellows. Fall '14: 7 teams, 27 fellows, 15 mentors and contacts from partners. Organized a projects showcase at the end of each term.

AWARDS

Harvard College Research Program (2015): Received funding for original research in neuroscience.
Harvard Medical School & Brigham and Women's Hospital Summer Research Program Scholar (2014): Received support in housing and stipend for conducting original research in nephrology.
National AP Scholar (2012 & 2013) | Mediacom World Class Scholar (2013) | IA Grand Lodge Masonic Scholarship (2013) | Iowa Brain Bee's First Place Winner (2013) | Iowa Asian Foundation for Higher Education & Excellence Scholarship (2013)

LANGUAGES

ENGLISH

VIETNAMESE

JAPANESE (elementary)

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

PHOTOSHOP

ILLUSTRATOR

INDESIGN

EXL, PPT, STATA

C, JAVA, OCAML

PYTHON

WEB DEV

ENTHUSIASM

