

CAHSI Scholars Essay

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Past Efforts

I have only participated in one CAHSI-sponsored opportunity: the Great Minds in STEM conference in 2022. Throughout this conference, I was exposed to many different possibilities in STEM and the influence that CAHSI has on the community of Hispanic students. Having participated in the various workshops, I began to understand the importance of diversity in computing and beyond. Through this experience, I became even more dedicated to providing additional support for students that may be under-represented or lacking in financial means.

The primary method with which I directed my efforts was through our Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Student Chapter. As president of the organization in the 2022-2023 academic year, I worked to do a post-COVID resuscitation. Through our efforts to provide additional resources for our students, we were able to bring our active member count essentially from 0 to over 100. My careful planning of various weekly workshops (IDE setup and usage, Git, GitHub, LeetCode, etc.) allowed us to provide students with skills that are not generally taught formally in school and create a community for students of all backgrounds.

Outside of ACM, I also participated in the Supplemental Instruction program as a Facilitator, where I taught companion courses that paired with foundational introductory courses in Mathematics and Computer Science. Each lesson I created was designed to deliver a deeper understanding of difficult concepts. These lessons were presented by a mini-lecture followed by exercises meant to challenge students and prepare them for subsequent subjects. These courses were especially valuable for students that may not have had the luxury of being exposed to such advanced studies. I also found myself