Kendrea Beers

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Summary

College student fascinated by the intersection of computer science, philosophy, and mathematics. Seeking a position in computing ethics to make sure that computers work for us, not against us.

Education

Oregon State University (OSU)
Honors B.S., Graduating December 2021, GPA 3.98
Applied Computer Science and Philosophy with Minor in Mathematics
Courses include: Honors Social and Ethical Issues in Computer Science; Discrete Mathematics; Data Structures; Physics of Contemporary Challenges; Numerical Analysis; Ethics; Buddhism, Nonviolence, and Social Justice

Employment History

Teaching Assistant, Honors Energy IQ, OSU
January 2019 - March 2019
Assisting Dr. Skip Rochefort with course design, co-leading class discussions, grading assignments, sharing student feedback

Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Intern, Data-Intensive Scientific Computing, University of Notre Dame Complex Networks Lab
May 2018 - July 2018
With Dr. Tijana Milenkovic, improving the accuracy and performance of heterogeneous network alignment software by implementing exhaustive heterogeneous graphlet counting and designing a new homogeneous graphlet counting algorithm up to 10 times more efficient than the original (C++, GNU/Linux); completing a graduate-level Data-Intensive Scientific Computing course; attending computer science trainings, meetings, and other REU program events

Undergraduate Researcher, OSU mLab and SIMLab
June 2017 - March 2018
With Dr. Yiğit Mengüç and Dr. Matthew Johnston, creating hardware and software systems for electrical characterization of liquid metal (MATLAB, Arduino, Python, Fritzing); designing, manufacturing, and documenting sensors for soft robotics (Autodesk Fusion 360)

Apprenticeships in Science and Engineering Intern, OSU mLab
June 2016 - August 2016
With Dr. Yiğit Mengüç, designing and conducting experiments to optimize the durability of 3D-printed soft robots with material gradients (MATLAB, Autodesk Fusion 360)

Choir 2 Student Director, Heart of the Valley Children's Choir
September 2013 - June 2017
Instructing and supporting 5th-8th grade singers

Achievements

- Matchette Award for Undergraduate Essay of the Year in Philosophy from OSU School of History, Philosophy and Religion, 2019
- National REU Symposium, Washington, D.C., 2018 (approximately 1/10 applicants receive REU positions; 1/10 REU participants are nominated for the symposium; 1/3 nominees are chosen to attend)
- OSU Honor Roll and College of Engineering Dean's List, 2017-2019
- Effective Altruism Global Conference, San Francisco, 2017
- U.S. Presidential Scholar Candidate, White House Commission on Presidential Scholars, 2017 (1 of 70 nominees from Oregon)
- OSU Presidential Scholar, 2017 (most prestigious scholarship)
- Heart of the Valley Children's Choir Beth Powell Scholar, 2017 (most prestigious scholarship given every year)
- AP Scholar with Distinction, 2017
- National Merit Commended Scholar, 2017
- Three-week exchange trip to Germany, speaking exclusively German with host family, 2015
- Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Conference Oregon, 2015
- Kiwanis Club Community Leaders Workshop, 2015
- National Honor Society, 2015 and 2016
- Franklin Founders' Teal Award for Excellence in Academics, Athletics, and Leadership, 2013

References

Tijana Milenkovic, Ph.D., REU Mentor, University of Notre Dame
tijana.milenkovic.1@nd.edu

Douglas Thain, Ph.D., REU Site Program Director, University of Notre Dame
dthain@nd.edu

Willie "Skip" Rochefort, Ph.D., Professor, OSU
skip.rochefort@oregonstate.edu