###### LINK: [https://stanford.zoom.us/j/2248663653?pwd%3DcnFPK2ZxbTVjdWJqWi9mWDVEdmlVQT09&sa=D&source=calendar&usd=2&usg=AOvVaw1f\_tyJTUFMhZToBKAp3SDc](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://stanford.zoom.us/j/2248663653?pwd%3DcnFPK2ZxbTVjdWJqWi9mWDVEdmlVQT09&sa=D&source=calendar&usd=2&usg=AOvVaw1f_tyJTUFMhZToBKAp3SDc)

## **08/02/2023 Week 1 Planning**

**School**

* School starts tomorrow - 08/03
* Regular history -> APUSH
* Registering for AP classes
* Starts at 8:30, ends at 3:45pm
* 4 APs

**Personalized Junior Yearly Schedule:**  
  
Total time assessment:

168 hours in a week

8 hours per week sleeping -> 56 hours (112 hours remaining)

7.5 hours per week in school -> 37.5 hours (74.5 hours remaining)

30 \* 5 + 2 -> 4.5 in transportation (70 hours remaining)

21 hours misc. -> 49 hours remaining

2 hours Sunday School volunteering -> 47 hours remaining

1 hours \* 7 -> 7 hours on social media -> 40 hours remaining

2 hours \* 7 -> 14 hours -> 26 hours remaining

Time allocation for Club::

VFX Club -> 2 hours/week

Women in AI Club -> 3 hours/week

Developing the game -> 7 hours/week

School Broadcast -> 0 hours/week

Sunday School volunteering -> 0 hours/week

Video project -> 7 hours/week

* Muslim-owned

Youtube

-> 4 hours/week

* Beginner friendly videos

Youth Action Committee -> 0 hours/week

Time allocation for Application::

Applications -> 2 hours/week

Time allocation for Application::

SAT -> 5 hours/week

**Involvement in STEM, Journalism/Broadcast, Women in STEM Advocacy, AI ethics advocacy, cultural involvement (muslim community)**

- > MSA Club -> 0 hours/week

**Specific Machine Learning National Clubs to Apply**

1. Women in AI Club
2. CS for social good
3. Develop for Good
4. [Encode Justice Club](https://encodejustice.org/)

**Strategies for homework:**

* Do all your reading at the beginning of the week
* Don’t write everything down
* Do your homework during class

**Action Item**

* ~~Send Jenny course schedule~~
* Machine Learning Club/Women in AI Club
* Talk to MSA people
* Learn about student council/leadership (student board/district board/Youth Action Committee)
* ~~List of all involvements~~
* ~~Set screen time~~

**First Day of School Strategies for LOR –**

* Raise your hand and speak once in every single class
* Talk to your teacher and introduce yourself after class (“Hi, I’m Huda, nice to meet you, I’m interested in x and I can’t wait to learn more about x. I’m excited to be in your class this year)
* Make new friends! Talk to the people around you in each class
* Set up a meeting with your counselor within the first week of school

## **08/05/2023 Week 1 Check In**

First Week of School

* Same teacher for CS
* Secured news anchor again
* VFX club– figured out the rest of the officers

SAT Check-In

* 1360 current
* 1550+ SAT, 1500+ PSAT

USA Code Training

* LeetCode

Tactical Tasks/ Plan

* ~~Set up meeting with counselor (email)~~
  + I am meeting her 14-Aug
* ~~Send Jenny complete list of activities~~
* Film and post one video on Youtube – tips on studying for HUG exam
  + Done editing
* ~~Solidify name for the project - Folklift~~
  + Name folklift
* ~~Design website on Figma~~
  + Done
* ~~Draft an email message to small business~~
* ~~Finish classification model for this week~~

# **08/08/2023**

Breaking down the website:

* Figma- cut down time from video game or make time otherwise

Framing this summer:

* Building the video game
* Youtube Channel
* Self-Learning
* AI learning

Framing next summer:

* Publish game on STEAM
* Freelance web design
* Youtube Channel
* Participate in a hackathon

**How to send cold email for leadership position**

**Email to Counselor**

Dear Ms. Alexandria,

Introduction: My name is Huda and I’m a junior at Mountain House High School and I’m one of your students.

Personal Details: At MHHS, I’m involved in \_\_\_\_\_, and I’m interested in \_\_\_\_\_\_. I’m involved in \_\_\_\_\_, and I’m interested in \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Ask: I’d love to set up a brief meeting with you sometime in the next few weeks to check in and discuss my junior year \_\_\_\_\_.

Conclude: Thank you so much, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Huda

**NCWiT AiC Questions**

**Please describe what sparked your interest in computing and technology and how has that interest furthered your experience in computing and technology? (500 words)**

* Robot
* Bay Area founders
* Wanting to amaze the world with code
* Wanting to do it regardless
* Lack of leadership/initiative

**Tell us what you have been doing with technology and be sure to give us specific details on your technology skills and activities. (500 words Words)**

**Please describe how you would like computing and technology to be a part of your career goals. (500 words words)**

**Please describe how you would solve a problem you care about using technology (this could be a social problem, a technical problem, a local problem, a world problem, etc.). (500 words)**

**(OPTIONAL) If you have examples demonstrating your efforts and experience that you would like to share with us - such as a personal website, portfolio of Tech work, or video demonstration, provide link(s) to the content. (URLs only; no uploads permitted)**

# **08/12/2023**

* Dropping Speech and Debate Club
* New AI Ethics Club
  + Having trouble finding mentor
  + Talk to Media Arts teacher
* Go straight into APCSA
  + Self-study APCSA
  + Self-study APCSP
* YouTube
  + Video is filmed
  + Editing in progress

Tasks

* ~~Sign up for APCSP~~
* Sign up for CC classes
* ~~Talk to Media Arts teacher about AI ethics club~~
* Identify and send 10 emails
* ~~Pitch to 3 small business owners~~
* Finish editing and upload video
* Start learning backend
* Start developing Forklift
* Check in with counselor IRL
* Figma Mockup for personal website
  + Freelance Web Dev (link to previous projects/figma)
    - Include contact form
  + AI ethics/tech equity/etc advocate
  + High School Student
  + Link to Forklift project once website is up
* Look into game website hosting
  + Social challenges in AI
  + Introduce characters

# **08/15/2023**

* Personal website in development
* Unable to get a hold of counselor
* Media arts teacher unavailable for week
* [SAT Practice Tests](https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat/practice-preparation/practice-tests/paper)
* [PSAT Practice Test](https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt/preparing/practice-tests/paper)
* Inspiration
  + Neha Shukla
    - <https://www.neha-shukla.com/>
    - <https://www.instagram.com/thenehashukla/>
  + Izzy Lapidus
    - <https://www.instagram.com/izzylapidus/>
    - <https://www.izzylapidus.com/>
  + Gitanjali Rao
    - <https://www.instagram.com/gitanjaliarao/>
  + Sophia Ongele
    - <https://www.instagram.com/sofiaongele/>

Tasks

* ~~Sign up for CC classes~~
* ~~Identify and send 10 emails~~
* ~~Finish editing and upload video~~
* ~~Start learning backend~~
* ~~Start developing Forklift~~
* ~~Check in with counselor IRL~~
* ~~Figma Mockup for personal website~~
  + ~~Freelance Web Dev (link to previous projects/figma)~~
    - ~~Include contact form~~
  + ~~AI ethics/tech equity/etc advocate~~
  + ~~High School Student~~
  + ~~Link to Forklift project once website is up~~
* Look into game website hosting
  + Social challenges in AI
  + Introduce characters
* Schedule first interview
* ~~Take full SAT practice~~
* ~~Create IG account~~
* ~~Outline game~~
* ~~Gameart for next scenes~~

# **08/22/2023**

Dear \*\*\*\*\*,

My name is Huda Siraj, and I am a junior at Mountain House High School in Mountain House, California. I am interested in taking your film class: (insert the class name), this semester, and would \*\*\*.

Unfortunately, I am experiencing difficulties in signing up through my school because \*\*\*. However, I am excited about learning\*\*\* and would appreciate the opportunity to take this course.

I am wondering if you have any additional resources to facilitate this sign process, or if you would be able to register me directly. Thank you for your support and I look forward to hearing about the next steps.  
  
Sincerely,

Huda

* Film Club to continue this year
* AI club— no advisor
  + Option 1: Leadership role at an existing organization
    - Women in AI Ethics
    - Encode Justice
    - Other organizations ( we can research)
  + Option 2: Start your own organization
  + Option 3: Starting your own chapter of an existing organization

Starting your own organization:

* AI Ethics for women
* Empowering AI
  + AI Education for women
* Organization structure
  + Build national team
    - Tasks:
      * Develop curriculum for the bootcamp
      * Outreach + social media
      * Develop website
  + AI bootcamp (develop own model)
    - Free virtual bootcamp
* What makes you different?
  + Hands-on projects
  + Activities where we learn about AI
    - Workshop series
      * Presentation series about different AI issues
      * Hands on building with AI challenge
    - Hackathon
    - Conference (one-day)
    - Education for youth in your area
    - Talk about your game
      * Demo, they can work on it
* Finished regression model
* Researching engaging dev log
* ~~Send it to the Professor instructing the course and copy~~
  + ~~Community college registration support email~~
* Finalize leadership team
* Schedule first interview
* ~~Look into game website hosting~~
* ~~Finalize bio/profile picture~~
* First post up
* Film game video

# **08/26/2023**

* SAT Practice Test
  + Standardized Deviation
* Submitted application for film club
* Empowering AI: Reached out to partner for collaboration
  + AI Ethics Toolkit
* Follow-up sent to first interviewee
* Professional Social Media: Set up bio and profile picture
* Forklift goals:
  + Interactive website
  + Get mentioned in local newspaper
  + 4 interviews
  + Reach someone across the US

School:

* ~~Send follow-up to cc support team~~
* Take SAT Practice test

Empowering AI:

* Create IG account
* Start Website
* Begin developing curriculum
* ~~Send follow-up to Empowering AI co-leads~~

Folklift:

* Send email to the third business

Videogame project:

* First post up for videogame pr
* Cross-post first professional IG to LinkedIn

Youtube:

* Footage for game art – editing

# **08/30/2023**

* Club approved
* Community College course signed up
* Meeting your counselor:
  + Game plan:
    - Spend 5 minutes introducing yourself and your interests/hobbies/goals
    - Sign the form
* Empowering AI
  + Other partner: Good for doing the social media + curriculum development
  + Meeting schedule established
  + Goal: Find someone else to do the web development (ideally someone younger)
    - Partner has someone in mind
* Congressional App Challenge
  + Goal: Impact the community locally (wildfire tracker)
* Forklift:
  + Difficulty finding businesses
  + Henna business
  + Clothing business
  + Expanding scope to other cities
* Videogame Project:
  + Working on more game art
  + Integrating Ada Lovelace into the game
  + Finding the history of women in STEM and why they are relevant to the game
  + Introduction post
    - Who you are, why you’re working on the game, what you’re doing
* Youtube
  + Research the characters
  + Giving it meaning
* Film club:
  + Incentivize people to sign up
  + Give out candy, raffle, etc or anything else
  + First club fair: 70 member sign up
  + Intro for student news
  + Feature on student news
  + Advertising program
  + Sign up to be an actor/actress for short films
  + Looking for 3 officers

School:

* ~~Take SAT~~
* Meet with Counselor

Empowering AI:

* ~~Create IG account~~
* Start Website

Forklift:

* ~~Facebook post~~
* ~~Reach out to 3 other businesses~~
* Schedule first business interview

Videogame Project:

* ~~First post up for videogame pr~~
* ~~Cross-post first professional IG to LinkedIn~~

Youtube:

* Get video up by EOW

# **08/30/2023**

* Folklift
  + 7 confirmed interviews
* Youtube
  + Unity tutorial
* All As on progress report
* Film Club
  + 132 signups
* Empowering AI
  + Congressional app challenge idea solidified
  + Toolkit (AI Education Toolkit)
    - First meeting: general CS/Python
    - Second meeting: general about AI
    - Third meeting: Build something AI related
    - Fourth meeting: AI Ethics
  + What in your toolkit:
    - 4 google slides: lesson slides
    - 4 google docs: lesson content/lesson plan
    - 4 resources list (one for for every lesson)
  + Technology Executive
  + Financial Advisor
  + Sign ups: as many as possible
* SAT
  + 1470
  + Systems of equations, find the solution

# **09/06/2023**

* Empowering AI
  + Technology executive ! secured ! (kind of)
  + Meeting tomorrow to talk about curriculum
* Folklift
  + Two calls after this - setting up interviews
  + Friend will help her film
    - Both have camera equipment
    - Planning questions + shots
* Youtube Channel
  + A bit behind
  + Transfer/download different software
* Film Club
  + First meeting this week
    - Assigning roles
* Congressional App Challenge
  + Planning out color scheme
  + Met with previous winner
* Videogame Project:
  + Implemented a lot of features

Folklift:

* Film first two interviews – Folklift

Empowering AI:

* Finish first slideshow (~40 slides)

Youtube Channel:

* Upload one video

Videogame project:

* Solidify dialogue
* Start making environment for regression model scene

NCWIT:

* ~~Sign up for Hack Club~~ [~~https://hackclub.com/~~](https://hackclub.com/)
* Draft essay 1

#### Describe your journey of working with technology, including how you became interested and the experiences you have had since then. Be sure to provide specific details on your technology skills and activities. (250 words)

* Robot
* Wanting to amaze the world with code
* Wanting to do it regardless
* Lack of leadership/initiative

As the true crime television show played in the background, my mom cracked the egg on a scorching pan which sounded a rewarding sizzle. I watched my mom prepare eggs and roti for me as I packed my bag before I headed off to school. She always told me she wanted to do more than just watch dramatic shows all day, something that would empower her to change her lifestyle. I frequently suggested she became a five star chef, but she told me she wasn’t passionate about it despite her better-than-Gordon-Ramsay food. After a few weeks, my mom researched an offer that got her a job interview in web development. Getting a technology job felt surreal to her as she had never been exposed to any opportunities in technology. She was conflicted due to her lack of knowledge in anything related to technology but somehow, she felt a gravitational pull to it. I watched her day by day watching youtubers explain HTML tags and React.js Components. All her work was paid when she secured her job as a frontend web developer at Wells Fargo. My mom found comfort and passion within technology which elevated her to the height she is at now.

In the same way I inherited my five-foot-seven height from my parents, I felt that I inherited the height of my passion for technology from them too. My parents, young South Asian Muslim immigrants, came to the Bay Area to access what allowed them to empower themselves: technology. Growing up, I never understood why my father worked tirelessly for technology related startups. I grew to learn that my father was fascinated with technology since he was but a child, and finally gaining access to these opportunities in the Bay Area enabled him to do his passion: making a change in society so I can live in a better world.

Seeing how technology helped my mom find herself, I set out to do the same. Despite both of my parents working hard to make my future secure, I found that I was still struggling in getting involved with computer science in my small suburban town. Whether it be the disengagement of my female peers regarding computer science or the misrepresentation of people with my background in stem related clubs, I quickly saw myself getting discouraged in participating.

Framing:

1. Growing up, you watched your mom use technology to transform her life/your life/etc -> emphasized accessible technology, power of tech
2. Technology to you symbolizes opportunity and a chance to actively shape the future -> immigrant parents who came to Bay Area and work in tech. Watching your dad work tirelessly to build startups in hopes of building a better world inspires you
3. Despite this, you found yourself struggling to find CS opportunities in your small Suburban community
4. You also experienced difficulties engaging in the space → hackathon experience (or other experiences that made you struggle in your journey)
5. You found yourself unable to use technology due to all the obstacles → technology did the same for her
6. Felt unable to express myself because of being a female muslim developer, women of color
7. Technology empowered you to work on causes you’re passionate about
   1. Empowering AI
   2. Media at School / film club/anchor
   3. Hackathons
   4. Folklift
   5. Vex Robotics
   6. Game development -> sharing your journey on Youtube

Mom’s story

* Paving her own way in technology -> technology can be empowering for ANYONE

Hackathon experience

* Teammates weren’t taking it seriously

#### Describe how technology may play a central role as you imagine your future (including education, hobbies, career). (250 words)

#### Explain how you could use technology to solve a real-world problem you are passionate about (this could be a social problem, a technical problem, a local problem, a world problem, etc.). (250 words)

There is a very limited amount of computer science classes and spots offered, which makes it almost impossible for me to take the classes. A significant gender disparity in clubs which makes them difficult to access. For example, Hackathon club has over 200 members but only has around five girls.

# **09/10/2023**

NCWiT

* First draft for essay

Youtube

* Editing video before this

Filmmakers Club

* Planning first meeting

Folklift

* First interview next-next week

Empowering AI

* 10 slides in to slideshow
* Kahoot at end

Videogame Project

* Dialogue in the classification scene
* Made a spreadsheet for Carol Shaw

https://youngarts.org/programs/

Goals:

Folklift

* ~~Work on Folklift Website~~
* ~~Work on React~~

Folklift:

* Film first two interviews – Folklift

Empowering AI:

* Finish first slideshow (~40 slides)

Youtube Channel:

* ~~Upload one video~~

Videogame project:

* Solidify dialogue
* Start making environment for regression model scene

NCWIT:

* ~~Draft essay 1~~

SAT:

How to graph

* ~~Systems of equations~~
* ~~Inequalities~~
* ~~Circles~~
* ~~Ellipses~~
* ~~Hyperbolas~~

# **09/16/2023**

* SAT
  + 1480
* Learning React
* Progress on Game
  + Dialogue code system
* Folklift
  + Filming this Thursday
* Empowering AI
  + Got someone to start building the website
  + Want to meet IRL
* Congressional App Challenge
  + UI/Figma Designs
  + Features needed on document
* Youtube Video
  + Exporting right now

#### Describe your journey of working with technology, including how you became interested and the experiences you have had since then. Be sure to provide specific details on your technology skills and activities. (250 words)

I eagerly ripped open the packaging of the robot that my dad brought me for my 7th birthday. I couldn’t believe that a small kid like me could control an actual robot with my iPad.

My obsession with the toy led me to Vex robotics in middle school, where I had the opportunity to build my own robot, something I’d only ever seen in Sci-Fi movies. The process of building the robot led to a feeling of empowerment and excitement I’d never previously experienced.

Despite my initial love for technology, in middle school, I still struggled to access opportunities in my small suburban town. Whether it be the disengagement of my peers in computer science or the misrepresentation of Muslim girls within STEM-related clubs, I felt discouraged from STEM participation. Regardless, the passion that started with a small robot dog did not fade. I spent all my free time learning different computer science languages, studying game development, and continuing to dream about everything I could build with these tools.

Motivated by the desire to make STEM more accessible for people from all backgrounds, I started sharing my process of developing an AI education game on Youtube. I also founded a nonprofit, Empowering AI, that aims to educate and inspire younger girls, like my seven-year-old self, to pursue their own technology dreams. Today, I no longer view technology as a sci-fi fantasy but rather as a powerful tool that now enables me to express myself and empower others in the process.

#### Describe how technology may play a central role as you imagine your future (including education, hobbies, career). (250 words)

The sound of laughter and the clicking of laptop keys fills the space in a crowded Starbucks. I point at the screen next to mine, identifying a bug in a line of code. The feeling of collaboration and satisfaction lights up the room.

This was the life I imagined as a kid- sitting at a table surrounded by girls like me, typing lines of code, tinkering with robots, and collaborating to solve the most emergent problems. It was a vision that danced in my mind, a dream fueled by the desire to explore.

As I grew older, I realized the world wasn’t a safe space for my dreams. I felt endangered, especially considering that only a puny 24 percent of game developers were women. But instead of deterring me, it fueled my determination to break this pattern.

I refused to be a mere *statistic;* I aimed to demolish stereotypes and inspire others. With others like me, I found my purpose – my journey in technology.

In my future, I envision myself majoring in Computer Science in college to take a central role in shaping the tech industry as a Game Developer. Similar to my non-profit teaching ML to middle school girls, I want to continue to empower girls to see technology as more than just *coding*; it’s about realizing their dreams!

In a Starbucks filled with laughter and laptop clicks, I will redefine the future, fulfilling not only my younger self’s dreams, but also the dreams of future generations to come.

H~~owever, as I grew older, … not a safe space… only 24 percent are female…~~

~~want to change that … now I am older…. Have a nonprofit. ..~~

~~central role in future ,... genuine want to empower … not just academics …~~

~~grew up wanting to be this way … fulfill younger self’s dreams~~

~~From the vast sea of game developers, only 24 percent are female. Everytime I~~

~~From the moment I learned about Computer Science, I’ve had this vision of me sitting at a desk partnered with a group of other nerdy girls like me typing code on our computers to create robots, machines, and trinkets. I discovered that I wanted to pursue this passion for Computer Science in college, as well as continue all of my current projects.~~

* Plan to study CS in college (CS major in college)
* Want to empower younger girls
* AI Ethics
* Continue nonprofits (folklift + empowering AI)
* Continue robotics/game development
* Game Developer (24% female)

#### Explain how you could use technology to solve a real-world problem you are passionate about (this could be a social problem, a technical problem, a local problem, a world problem, etc.). (250 words)

In seventh grade debate class, I was prompted to argue that video games are detrimental to society. I didn’t understand this at first, since I spent most of my days playing Fortnite and traipsing along Roblox obstacles.

What I found was that video games had an immense role on their players’ mental health. Over 89% of gamers were diagnosed with depression, and many reflected this behavior with violence. What’s really disheartening is that some video games encourage this behavior. The top 3 video games in the world include Fortnite, Valorant, and CS:GO - all aggressive games exemplifying violence. I imagine a world where instead of these games, games which teach their audiences are at the top of the charts.

Sana Salam, a 12 year old citizen of Synthoria, learns about AI in a thrilling journey. Sana is a symbol of the many young gamers in the world that don’t learn about life changing skills. My game “Synthoria” is the change I wanted to see in the world- infusing value within activities children enjoy.

new version, using more imagery

In seventh grade debate class, I stood at the crossroads of understanding the influence of video games on our society. It was a moment when I realized that my hours spent in the immersive worlds of Fortnite and traipsing through intricate Roblox obstacles had more significance than mere *entertainment*.

What I uncovered in that debate was a profound revelation. Video games had cast a shadow on the mental health of their players. In fact, over 89% of gamers suffered from depression, and too often, this struggle resulted in violence. It was a turbulent sea where some games encouraged this storm. The top three video games in the world, Fortnite,Valorant, and CS:GO, served as waves, shaping the gaming landscape with their aggression. It was a world that seemed to be drowning in the sea of turmoil.

Yet, in that moment, I saw a vision- a world where the gaming charts were dominated by games that were not only entertaining, but also educational. I imagined an environment where video games, instead of being *destructive* forces, were bridges to *knowledge*.

Sana Salam, a 12-year-old resident of Synthoria, embarked on a captivating journey, unraveling the mysteries of AI and AI ethics. Her journey was a symbol of the potential within young gamers worldwide, a journey toward a life-changing skill. My game “Synthoria” is my instrument in igniting value in a way kids can enjoy, my lantern helping me transform the seas of mental health issues from video games into oceans of enlightenment.

* Safer space for people to express themself
* Game development to teach people about AI Ethics
* Videogames – very violent, contribute to MH issues
* Educational games, games that solve social problems (lack of rep. In tech, AI ethics and ethics in tech)
* Your work developing the game

# **09/24/2023**

* World History Community College signup
  + Unable to sign up for other course
* Forklift
  + Finished React Course
  + Second Interview planned
  + Developing Folklift Website
  + Send a follow-up to the first person
* Finished planning meeting for Empowering AI
  + Almost done with first week’s slides
  + Starting the second week of October on Sundays
  + Kahoot! Winner gets a prize
* MSA Election
  + Rigged
* Game
  + Started working on the beginning of the game (exposition)
  + Ask someone for help with the art
  + Video - how to do animations on Unity
* SAT studying
  + Doing practice throughout the week
* PSAT
  + October 14th

Tasks:

* PSAT Practice Test
* Interest form for Empowering AI Workshops
* Reaching out to podcasts/newsletters/pitching yourself
* Film third Forklift interview

# **10/01/2023**

Fall Break Started

Folklift:

* Secured three interviews
* Call this week
* Homepage down for the website

Empowering AI:

* Circulate interest form today
* First slides done

Game:

* Great progress this week
* Still needed: finish storyline

NCWiT:

* Finished second essay

# **10/05/2023**

SAT:

* 1490 twice
* Filmmakers Club
  + Selected new officers

Specific targeted strategies for paired passages

# **10/13/2023**

* SAT next weekend
* Filming
  + One had to reschedule
  + One out of town
  + Neighborhood publication idea
* Film Club
  + New officers selected
  + Breaking bad parody shot in own style
  + Planning next meeting to start project
* Empowering AI
  + Finished first Kahoot! And Slideshow
  + Outlined everything for all the meetings
  + Web developer not showing progress
  + Started developing own project on webflow
  + Send out emails to teachers, middle schoolers, print flyers in library
* Game
  + Scene with Ada Lovelace
  + Make website for game
* NCWiT Second essay done

NCWiT example links!

* <https://empowering-ai.webflow.io/> (website showcasing non-profit that encourages young girls to learn more about AI)
* <https://www.mhtjobz.com/> (built a job directory in my community which is facing an unemployment crisis currently)
* <https://youtu.be/U1gfo1Q1egk?si=EfgjkqsHeVzUuSFW> (Youtube tutorials to teach beginner programmers how to develop their own game)
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bO_ZXKQLBME> (Demo of my game “Synthoria,” which was crafted from my pixel art, programming, and script design - full production. It is aimed to middle schoolers who want to learn about AI in an enjoyable way.)
* <https://www.figma.com/files/project/58863449> & <https://www.figma.com/files/project/35825559> (Figma web design for programs & hackathon participation)
* <https://c0ral.glitch.me/> (Volunteering opportunity website I built with the use of APIs. At the moment, it’s only for LA area, but I am looking to expand this when I have access to a wider API.)

# **10/23/2023**

SAT

Empowering AI

* Need to circulate more
* Sending out email through the district
  + VP talked to school vice principal
  + Access middle schoolers + freshmen at the same time
  + Three lessons done
  + One more slideshow to go- AI ethics
  + Share with:
    - ~~Encode Justice Network~~
    - ~~Hack Club~~
    - Nextdoor
  + Hybrid in-person/virtual

Professional Accounts

* Game development

Game Development

* Working on differences (regression model)
* Uploading to Github

Folklift

* Blog-style website
* Started working on article for business

Film Club

* Officers meeting, started writing script

Congressional App Challenge

* Huda

In seventh grade debate class, I was prompted to argue that video games are detrimental to society. I didn’t understand this at first, since I spent most of my days playing Fortnite and traipsing along Roblox obstacles.

What I found was that video games had an immense role on their players’ mental health. Over 89% of gamers were diagnosed with depression, and many reflected this behavior with violence. What’s really disheartening is that some video games encourage this behavior. The top 3 video games in the world include Fortnite, Valorant, and CS:GO - all aggressive games exemplifying violence. I imagine a world where instead of these games, games which teach their audiences are at the top of the charts.

Sana Salam, a 12 year old citizen of Synthoria, learns about AI in a thrilling journey. Sana is a symbol of the many young gamers in the world that don’t learn about life changing skills. My game “Synthoria” is the change I wanted to see in the world- infusing value within activities children enjoy.

In seventh-grade debate class, I stood at the crossroads of understanding the influence of video games on our society. It was a moment when I realized that my hours spent in the immersive worlds of Fortnite and traipsing through intricate Roblox obstacles had more significance than mere *entertainment*.

What I uncovered in that debate was a profound revelation. Video games had cast a shadow on the mental health of their players. In fact, over 89% of gamers suffered from depression, and too often, this struggle resulted in violence. It was a turbulent sea where some games encouraged this storm. The top three video games in the world, Fortnite,Valorant, and CS:GO, served as waves, shaping the gaming landscape with their aggression. It was a world that seemed to be drowning in the sea of turmoil.

Yet, in that moment, I saw a vision- a world where the gaming charts were dominated by games that were not only entertaining, but also educational. I imagined an environment where video games, instead of being *destructive* forces, were bridges to *knowledge*.

Sana Salam, a 12-year-old resident of Synthoria, embarked on a captivating journey, unraveling the mysteries of AI and AI ethics. Her journey was a symbol of the potential within young gamers worldwide, a journey toward a life-changing skill. My game “Synthoria” is my instrument in igniting value in a way kids can enjoy, my lantern helping me transform the seas of mental health issues from video games into oceans of enlightenment.

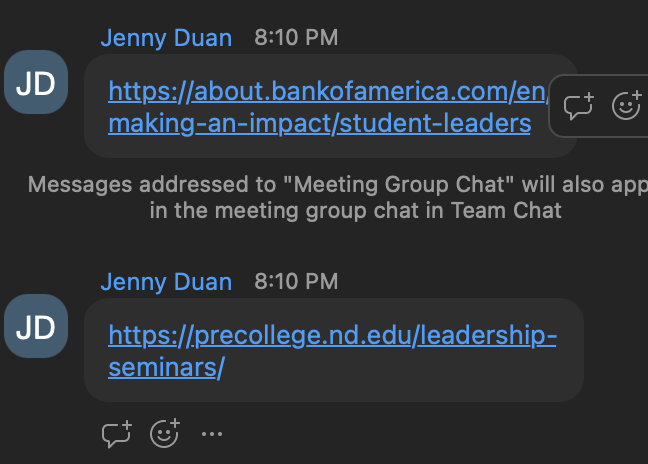
In seventh-grade debate class, I distinctly remember one controversial conversation: whether video games were detrimental to society. Prompted to argue that they were, I initially did not understand, since I spent most of my days on Roblox, dreaming up new communities, structures, and worlds. Gaming provided a form of escapism and comfort to me, a respite from the loneliness and isolation I sometimes experienced within the male-dominated CS classes at school.

Through my research process, I discovered that video games had an immense effect on their players’ mental health. Over 89% of gamers are diagnosed with depression, and many reflect this behavior with violence. What’s especially disheartening is that some video games encourage this behavior. The top 3 video games in the world include Fortnite, Valorant, and CS:GO - all aggressive first-person-shooter games glorifying gun violence. This is far from the world I imagine, a world where games that make complex topics accessible are at the top of the charts.

Sana Salam, a 12-year-old citizen of Synthoria, learns about AI in a thrilling journey. With no initial knowledge of AI or Machine Learning, Sana transforms through a series of mini educational experiences with her sister. Just like Sana, I want my game to impact young minds who don’t have the opportunity to learn about complex topics enjoyably. My game “Synthoria” is the change I wanted to see in the world- infusing education, value, and knowledge within the future of digital games.

# **11/06/2023**

* PSAT Scores
  + 1420
* SAT Takeaways
  + Always answer



# **11/16/2023**

* SAT Practice
  + Math felt easier
    - More prepared

Game Plan: Revisited

1. Academics (Grades, Test Scores, LoR)

* 3 Bs in high school
  + Freshman year
    - Honors Biology, first semester
  + Sophomore
    - AP Human Geography
    - Chemistry
  + Another B in APUSH
  + 4.2 weighted, 3.9
  + 12 AP/Honors
    - 3 honors, 9 APs
    - 18 APs
  + Planning for 4 next year
    - AP Environmental science, AP psych, AP lit, AP Stats
* SAT
  + 1320
* PSAT
* ACT – Maybe

NOTRE DAME ESSAYS:

Maximum word limit 300.

#1) Most people first learn about money and investing from a family member or trusted friend. Who in your life has helped you better understand the value of money and what are the most important lessons you’ve learned from them and through your own experience?

The lights flickered shut, and I watched as my Fortnite avatar jogged in place while getting eliminated by other players. “The light AND internet went out? I need to submit my chemistry paper!” my sister complained.

“I thought I paid the bill yesterday… I don’t have enough to pay it now…” my dad nodded in disbelief. Can you believe it? I was *just* about to reach tier 100, but some minute money problem messed it all up.

I’ve been saving up to buy fortnite currency since Eid, where I got a $20 bill. It was the only change we owned at the time, and I was really desperate to level up. “I’ll use my Eid money.” The look on my dad’s face was filled with a sense of sadness but also pride.

In the drive-through ATM, I inserted my worn Andrew Jackson. “That was a really brave thing for you to do. Selfless,” my Dad stated. I felt

* Not having lots of money at one point
  + The time our internet and lights went out, and the only money left was my Eid money ($20), which brought it back for some time.
  + When we got the money back, my dad rewarded me with lots of v-bucks (fortnite currency). He explained that, even in our faith, we are supposed to invest in things so they can benefit you later

WINTER

# **Week 1 Session 2: 12/04/2023**

* APUSH
  + Opportunity to turn the grade into an A
* Calc
  + Tutor
* Empowering AI
  + Contact with HP employee (Ruchi, December 12th)
    - Setting up marketing
    - Reached out to ASB officer to spread information
    - Trying to get a district-wide email
    - Collaboration with the girl from Florida (from Encode Justice)
* Game
  + Uploaded a demo of the game onto itch.io
  + Continuing on Instagram
* Folklift
  + Website Release
  + Posting on Reels
  + Video projects are not doable
  + Writing like a journalist because of AP Lang
* Film Club
  + Entered last year’s film into a local film festival

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rLmS0bLeUrZYTBziwgLw5A4JCa9Bva2-Jg8LPImlDLY/edit>

# **Week 2 Session 1: 12/05/2023**

* Call with girl from Slack
  + Deciding on collab
    - Hackathon
    - Bootcamp
      * AI Ethics in Specific (more specific, broader/older audience)
      * Gamified- KWK Connections
      * Kahoot!
      * Late January
      * Posting more on social media
      * Making an outline for bootcamp
      * Existing slide templates
* Empowering AI
  + Pushed back the date for networking event
  + Sent email to email circulator
  + Made form today, sent right after school
* Personal Website
* Short Film
  + Honorable mention - shown in film festival

# **Week 2 Session 2: 12/05/2023**

General Updates:

* Finals week coming up

Empowering AI

* Announcements
* Not much progress on planning event

Film Club

* Didn’t end up going to film festival
* Entering in more film festivals

Videogame project

* 44 people play the game
  + From mobile
  + Finished AI Ethics scene

Folklift

* Write another article about someone you interviewed previously
* Outreach to more brands
* Posting on reddit, professional account

# **Session 27 P2: 01/06/2024**

# 

* APUSH - back to A
* Calculus - tutor
* Folklift
  + LinkedIn Post
    - People applied (College Students)
* Empowering AI
  + Started planning event
    - Portfolio building (1:1 project)
    - Show how to make a calculator or website
* Videogame Project
  + 50 views
  + Finished bias scene
  + Making art for the boss fight
  + Mobile Optimization
* Film Club
  + Postponing to winter

# **Week 3 Session 2: 12/17/2023**

* Finals week
  + 100 on APUSH exam
* Folklift
  + 16 Applicants
  + 2 are making advertisements
  + Waiting on 7 people
  + Website updates
* Empowering AI
  + Making courses
  + Coding exercises/website
  + Ramp up on reels/word of mouth
  + <https://www.instagram.com/empowerecon/>
  + <https://www.linkedin.com/in/meimeifox/>
* Film Club
  + Pausing over break (need to get props)
* Game
  + Adding Neural Networks

Other:

* <https://distinguishedyw.org/apply>

Hackathons:

* <https://pioneerhacks.org/>
* <https://mateohacks.com/>
* <https://www.hydrahacks.org/>
* Cruz Hacks
  + Majority college students

<https://www.desiblitz.com/>

<https://www.blockfort.com/>

# **Session 27 P2: 01/06/2024**

* Finished all finals
  + Did well
  + 90% on CS
* Game
  + Finished neural network scene, connected to rest of game
  + Reached out to South Asian blogs
* Social media marketing
  + Wanting to improve
    - Folklift
    - Empowering AI
    - Professional Account
  + LinkedIn
    - 20 people to reach out on LinkedIn
      * Talk to them about their career journey, advice, etc.
      * <https://womeninaiethics.org/the-list/of-2024/>
      * Hi, I’m Huda, a 16 year-old game dev and highschool student from the US interested in AI Ethics. I’d love to connect with you and schedule a 30-minute call to learn more about your career journey!
        + Calls

Objective: learn more about their career path

What resources there are available

Talk about your game

There are opportunities that they know to improve your game

Send the game to them

* + - * LinkedIn post:
        + I made this game
        + Game updates
        + Features in the game

Why did you choose to create these characters?

Why is it important that you added x scene?

How does this gamified learning approach teach young people AI?

* Folklift
  + 3 people working on it
    - San Jose State
      * Internship certificate
      * 501(c)3
* Empowering AI
  + No updates
  + Growth hack:
    - Sign up for Hackathons and publish your game in their channels
      * Devpost.com
      * Hackclub.com
  + Collaboration workshop
    - Girls who code
    - Workshop at a Hackathon
      * Pitch to hackathons
    - Target age range: middle school + all of high school
      * Boys and Girls Club of America
      * YMCA
      * Low-income youth

Winter Break Goals:

* Expand extracurriculars
* Summer Program Applications
  + ~~Bank of America Student Leaders~~
    - ~~Reccomendation~~
    - ~~Essays~~
    - ~~Additional Information~~
  + Notre Dame Leadership Seminars
    - Reccomendation
    - Essays
    - ~~Additional Information~~
  + Asian American Journalism Camp - March 1, 2024
  + AI Scholars @ CMU - March 1, 2024

# **Session 25 P1: 01/06/2024**

# 

Decision 1: Want to prioritize major. Game design + interactive media arts (engineering + design)

Decision 2: Priority is California, but open to other locations

College List Brainstorming:

* USC - game development major
  + Weather:
  + Student Life: Lots of football games, party school
  + Location (city):
  + Academic culture (grades, competition, etc):
  + Job Opportunities:
* **UCI - game design and interactive media**
* Chapman University - game design minor
* UCSC - game design
* MIT - interactive media
* Penn - interactive media arts
* Northeastern - BFA in game design
* NYU - BFA game design
* UC Davis - interactive design

UC Berkeley / UCLA - media studies

CMU - human-computer interaction

Action Items:

* Research these schools + more schools
  + Questions:
    - Weather
    - Student Life
    - Location (city)
    - Academic culture (grades, competition, etc)
    - Job Opportunities / placements (co-op program, etc)?
* Media Studies Major, Game Design/Development Major OR Minor, Schools in the areas you want to be / schools that are well resourced (meaning they have game development clubs)

GOAL: Choose top 1 school, top 3 schools, top 5 schools, “the rest”

1. USC (BFA Game Development and Interaction Design)
   1. LOTS of Job Opportunities
   2. Academic Culture, feel like it’s the best balance between rigor and control, so I will still get the experience of learning and school while having time to myself & enjoying college
   3. Program is really immersive & has actual experience with published, award winning games as projects.
2. UCI (Game Design and interactive media)
   1. Program has a capstone project and apparently the major provides tons of projects and experiences throughout college in order to build your portfolio.
      1. I can try new things in the program, like AR/VR, tabletop, and mobile
   2. Location has LOTS of job opportunities
   3. Social life is known for being dead online, but from some youtube videos and quora posts, I found that it wasn’t really true. They hold festivals, movie screenings, comedy nights, etc!
   4. Really like the campus
   5. Not a pro or con, but I heard the academics are a bit more fast paced here.
3. UCLA
4. UC Davis (Interactive Design)
   1. Location- close to home
   2. con: heard it was surrounded by farms and many ppl from my school that went there say it is exactly like my town
   3. lots of clubs
   4. great MSA club, very diverse
5. UC Berkeley (Data Science)
   1. Location - close to home
   2. Love the college town/area
   3. i’ve visited the campus/area 2 times now & i love the feel here
   4. con: program → really film related, not too much game development involved.
   5. con: heard getting to classes is very difficult
6. Stanford
7. Chapman University
   1. con: not really diverse, and my community would be really rare there
   2. great location with LOTS of Job opportunities
   3. There are different parts of the minor like game programming, producing, designing, & art + production.
   4. con: students were sometimes described as uncompetitive & slacking off, not a great environment for me
8. MIT
   1. con: too far away
   2. program has a lot of variety to it. it also has lots about game dev but also media and its impacts
      1. Saw it has a course on south asian media representation which I would really like to take!
      2. Games for Social Change course!
   3. clubs at mit are very great
   4. one of the largest MSAs I’ve ever seen!!
9. uPenn
   1. con: too far away
   2. great program content! heard it is 75% CS and 25% art, so it isn’t much game development involved?
      1. multiple sources claim this major to be the HARDEST class. “isolating,” “hard,” used to describe this program.
   3. weather is a lot more pleasant during summer → really cold in winters
10. Northeastern
11. UCSC
12. NYU
13. CMU

Chapman University (Major Software Engineering, Minor Game Development)

UCI

1. **Weather** - Pleasant! Apparently wet Winters, really similar temperatures to my hometown (+1)
2. **Student Life** - Known to be socially dead, but there are concerts, festivals, movie screenings, comedy nights, etc. Most iconic event - Summerlands (Music festival) → THE WALLOWS ARE PREFORMING THIS YEAR (+1)
3. **Location -** Mainly suburban, not too much city life vibe. However, it is really close to LA & Orange County so many other things are available (Disneyland?) (+0)
4. **Academic Culture -** Supposedly fast-paced and competitive, great focus on academic excellence. Honors program is really rigorous.(+0)
5. **Job Opportunities/Placements -** GDIM gives access to industry partners like Blizzard, Riot, Electronic Arts, Obsidian Entertainment, Age of Learning, Disney, Tencent, and the Cartoon Network. (+1)

USC

1. **Weather -** A bit hotter than Irvine, similar winter conditions (-1)
2. **Student Life -** LARGE emphasis on sports even if you don’t participate in any. However, there is lots going on at USC. Famous celebrities - actors, actresses, other alums - are always there and many large concerts. From my understanding, this school is really social and social events are really important. Maybe this isn’t PERFECT for me since I am more of a homebody, but I think it’ll be nice to step out of my comfort zone!
3. **Location** - PRIME location. Connection to companies and opportunities is abundant and this area is a very nice college area. Lots of things to do in the college itself since it’s so large and wide.
4. **Academic Culture -** Coursework is apparently not too much, but there are many ambitious people so it may be a bit competitive. However, people say that USC is a great balance of going out and studying.
5. **Job Opportunities/Placements:** Doesn’t explicitly name companies that USC gives connections to on their page, but the program does give lots of actual experience with all levels of game development (game design, game programming, audio engineering, etc.).

Chapman University Research

1. **Weather** - Chapman University is located in Orange, California, which has a Mediterranean climate. The weather is warm and sunny most of the year, with an average temperature of 72 degrees Fahrenheit. The summers are hot and dry, with temperatures often reaching over 100 degrees Fahrenheit. The winters are mild, with temperatures rarely dropping below 50 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. **Student Life** - Chapman University is a private university with a student body of approximately 8,000 students. The student body is diverse, with students from all over the United States and around the world. The university offers a variety of student activities and organizations, including clubs, sports teams, and student government.
3. **Location** - Chapman University is located in Orange, California, which is about 45 minutes from Los Angeles. The university is situated on a beautiful campus with views of the Santa Ana Mountains. The campus is home to a variety of academic buildings, residence halls, and athletic facilities.
4. **Academic Culture** - Chapman University is a highly selective university with a rigorous academic curriculum. The university is committed to providing students with a well-rounded education that prepares them for success in their careers and lives. The university offers a variety of undergraduate and graduate programs, including business, law, and education.
5. **Job Opportunities/Placements** - Chapman University graduates have a high rate of employment. The university's career services office provides students with a variety of resources to help them find jobs and internships. The office offers career fairs, resume writing workshops, and interview preparation.

**UCLA**

1. **Weather:**

UCLA is located in Los Angeles, California, which has a Mediterranean climate. The summers are hot and dry, with average temperatures in the high 70s and low 80s Fahrenheit. The winters are mild, with average temperatures in the mid 50s and low 60s Fahrenheit.

1. **Student Life:**

UCLA is a large public university with over 40,000 students. The student body is diverse, with students from all over the country and the world. UCLA is known for its vibrant student life, with a variety of clubs, organizations, and activities to choose from.

1. **Location:**

UCLA is located in Westwood, Los Angeles, which is a safe and affluent neighborhood. The area surrounding UCLA is home to a variety of shops, restaurants, and bars. UCLA is also close to the beach and the mountains, which makes it a great place to live and study.

1. **Academic Culture:**

UCLA is a highly competitive academic environment. The students are motivated and driven to succeed. The professors are also highly qualified and dedicated to teaching.

1. **Job Opportunities:**

UCLA has a strong alumni network, which can be helpful in finding jobs after graduation. The university also offers a variety of career services to help students find jobs.

1. **Game Development & Interactive Media:**

UCLA offers a variety of programs in game development and interactive media. The university has a strong reputation for its game design program, which is one of the best in the country. UCLA also offers a minor in interactive media, which is a great option for students who are interested in a career in the gaming industry.

# **Session 25 P2: 01/06/2024**

# 

Finished Bank of America Essays + Activities (See Document)

NOTRE DAME ESSAYS:

Maximum word limit 300.

#1) Most people first learn about money and investing from a family member or trusted friend. Who in your life has helped you better understand the value of money and what are the most important lessons you’ve learned from them and through your own experience?

(Rough Draft)

The lights flickered shut, and I watched as my Fortnite avatar jogged in place while getting eliminated by other players. “The light AND internet went out? I need to submit my chemistry paper!” my sister complained.

“I thought I paid the bill yesterday… I don’t have enough to pay it now…” my dad nodded in disbelief. Can you believe it? I was *just* about to reach tier 100, but some minute money problem messed it all up.

I’ve been saving up to buy fortnite currency since Eid, where I got a $20 bill. It was the only change we owned at the time, and I was really desperate to level up. “I’ll use my Eid money.” The look on my dad’s face was filled with a sense of sadness but also pride.

In the drive-through ATM, I inserted my worn Andrew Jackson. “That was a really brave thing for you to do. Selfless,” my Dad stated.

The next day, my dad called me down for a surprise. To my surprise, $100 worth of Fortnite giftcards laid in front of me. “I want to thank you for what you did yesterday. I want you to learn something– the same way you gave $20 and in turn you got $100, I want you to think of

# 

# **Session 26 P1: 01/06/2024**

# 

* Congratulations about the NCWIT Award!
* Synthoria Launch!
* Filmmakers Club - started filming short film
* Empowering AI
  + Date (Feb 15)
  + Collab with nonprofit
* Game development Discord
  + Connected with guy on LinkedIn
  + 15 people on Discord
* Folklift
  + Interview
  + 3 interns/team members

\*\*\* Choosing Courses

* Take AP Spanish
* No free periods
* Consider English 12 Honors OR AP Lit

\*\*\* Retro on activities

\*\*\* Look at UC Berkeley majors

\*\*\* Notre Dame Essays

Classes:

1. AP Stats

2. English 12 Honors (online)

3. AP CSP/Game Design

4. AP Gov/Econ

5. AP Environmental Science OR TA/Free Period/Ceramics **AP Spanish**

6. **AP Psych** OR TA/Free Period/Ceramics

7. Adulting (Required)

Letters of Recommendation

* English teacher
  + Media Arts Teacher / Game Design Teacher
* CS Teacher

Activities:

Empowering AI

Folklift

Synthoria

Filmmakers Club

Muslim Community Center Volunteering

Student News

Discord / Social Media

Other:

Summer Program

Awards:

1. NCWiT Award
2. Film Award
3. **Presidential Volunteer Service Award**
4. **Hackathon Award**
5. **Advocacy Award**

Griptape Youth Challenger

Tasks:

* ~~Apply for Hackathon~~
* Finalize Notre Dame Essays
* ~~Email Games for Change:~~ [~~https://gamesforchange.org/studentchallenge/contact/~~](https://gamesforchange.org/studentchallenge/contact/)

**In the past four decades, the United States has experienced an unprecedented rise in income and wealth inequality. Inequalities across multiple other dimensions (race, ethnicity, geography, and gender) are also pervasive. Are there viable solutions to reduce these inequalities? Why or Why not? Explain.**

* Forklift
  + uplifting minority owned businesses through articles & creative arts

(Rough Draft) - Warning: really bad draft!!

“Well of course it feeds my kids and everything, but in a way, I feel like I still get to do what I’m passionate about. I never thought someone like me could do it,” an elderly hijabi woman spoke.

“Someone like you? What do you mean?” I inquired.

“A Muslim Woman. When was the last time you saw someone with the name ‘Fatima’ as an entrepreneur?”

At the time, I was interviewing Fatima, who owned a small business selling arts and crafts projects for Folklift, an initiative I started to highlight small Muslim-owned businesses in my community. Through my passion for journalism, I saw an opportunity to shape change through storytelling. When forming this initiative, it struck me that this economic disparity was massive. Is there anything we can do to bridge this gap? Yes, and no.

Print more money, give it to the people. No big deal. However, economic disparity between races, religions, ethnicities, and other factors is much more nuanced than simply giving more money. It’s an issue that is everlasting, but with the right leaders, can be reduced.

To exemplify, policy changes are strides to a better future. Enforcing wage transparency, increasing minimum wage, and other regulations are all steps leaders can take that can work to improve this disparity.

So maybe we can’t make everyone equal and have the same income and wealth immediately. But what we can do, is push for leaders to buy bricks and cement to build the bridge to this wide gap.

**Notre Dame students greatly impact local and global communities through their model of love, inclusivity, and activism. How have you made a difference in your community and how does it uphold the values of Notre Dame?**

* folklift??
* mhtjobz, in a time of unemployment we gathered muslim community to help other mht neighbors

My dad’s face shone white as an email screen reflected onto his face. “Fired,” it read. My dad is what you would describe a “workaholic,” and to him, this was the largest loss he’d ever faced.

Like my dad, many Muslims in my community were laid off in late 2022. I watched as the once joyful Uncles who came to every gathering later started dodging them to hunt for jobs. It became the sad reality that many of them faced, seemingly without solution.

Determined to create a change, I began scribbling on a shabby whiteboard. With his wobbly handwriting and squiggly boxes, my dad explained the core issue. **He doesn’t know anybody, and when you don’t know anybody, you’re a nobody. Already marginalized communities such as Muslims, Immigrants, and Women are further pushed to the side in such times of uncertainty.** And that’s when I struck gold.

With a purple and brown interface, I swiftly pieced together a job directory website. Uncles still employed provided contact to their employers, while the website pumped out data to those in need.

“Brother, I just wanted to thank you and your daughter so much.” Bilaal Uncle hugged my father.

“For what?”

“I got a job.”

That was the day that I learned the impact community can make. The day I learned that “nobodies” can make changes for anybody.

**#1) Most people first learn about money and investing from a family member or trusted friend. Who in your life has helped you better understand the value of money and what are the most important lessons you’ve learned from them and through your own experience?**

(Rough Draft)

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# **Session 26 P2: 01/06/2024**

# 

AP Lit?: 5 APs

USC - Early Action

1. Synthoria
   1. 150 plays
2. Women in Games Ambassador
   1. Ask about publicizing games
   2. Ambassador
      1. Take control of their social media for a time
      2. Create content for them
      3. Participate in virtual meetings
3. Empowering AI
   1. Connected with STEM Sisters
4. Folklift

# **Session 27 P1: 12/21/2023**

* Finished ND application

# **Session 27 P2: 01/06/2024**

* Griptape Video

# 

* Interview on Friday
* Next Tuesday – interview
* Synthoria posts
  + New LinkedIn, Instagram growth
* Calculus test - Thursday
* Empowering AI
  + Call with STEM Sisters Representative
  + February 17th - March 9th
  + Created interest form
    - 3 signups - FB
    - Aiming for 20-30 people
  + Create certifications + awards
  + Host mini hackathon
* Women in Games
  + Follow-up
* TurnUp
  + Wait until they get back via email
* Folklift
  + Essays
* Hackathon (during school)
* Invited to an awards ceremony
* GripTape
  + Picked out a single issue -> create a story
  + Short film captures an essence in a short time
  + Design process + publicize
  + Camera
  + Create short documentaries for ongoing social issues
  + Idea 2: Folklift
    - Need to document stories / videography

<https://www.bryancameroneducationfoundation.org/scholarship#eligibility>

# **Session 28 P1: 01/09/2024**

* Griptape Video
  + Refilm with authentic tone
* Folklift
  + Position it to Muslim education
* Empowering AI
  + New signups going well
* Going to Hackathon!
* Film Club
  + Finished filming
  + Uploaded all files
  + Facilitating editing sessions
* Synthoria
  + Got a lot of views
  + Posting on LinkedIn is rewarding
* Gaming Community on Discord
  + Not a lot of people joining
* Women in Games
  + Send follow up
* TurnUp
  + Responded to question
    - Tasks will be sent in the start of the week
  + Stick with school volunteering if possible

<https://www.games-for-good.com/podcast>

# **Session 28 P2: 01/13/2024 P0, P1 : Track 2: Awards and Summer Program**

* Congratulations!! about the NCWIT Award!
* Other Awards and Summer Programs Status:
* ~~Jan 15 Apply to BofA~~
* ~~Jan 22 Apply to Notre Dame~~
* Jan 31 Apply to Griptape
* Feb 2 Apply to NASA - data science
* ~~MarcAI Scholar~~
* Dartmouth JSEP
* ~~Jan 28th Smithsonian:~~ [~~https://forms.office.com/pages/responsep/apply~~](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Kl6bmOQU_k6Tt4zdX8XRHFBIjfDH4HlGpNw4Z1_W43dUM1FDQ1EzNlUxRlNRNVhZQU9IWU5JRUVMNi4u)
* Opens Feb 1st: <https://cims.nyu.edu/gstem/apply/>

**Track 1: Scaling EC and Community Impact**

* Synthoria Launch!
* Filmmakers Club - started filming short film
* Empowering AI
  + Date (Feb 15)
  + Collab with nonprofit
* Game development Discord
  + Connected with guy on LinkedIn
  + 15 people on Discord
* Folk lift
  + Interview
  + 3 interns/team members

# **Session 29 P1: 01/30/2024**

* Folklift
  + Community Submissions
  + Shifting from promoting small businesses
  + Limit it to Muslim youth?
* Griptape application video
  + Refilmed based on feedback
  + Ready to submit
* Filmmakers Club
  + Editing
* Interview
  + Rescheduled
* Podcast
  + Emailed them
  + Hoping for podcast feature
* Women in Games
  + Moderators are not active
* School
  + Putting more time into APUSH
  + Definitely harder
* SAT studying
  + New SAT tutor
  + Practice Test - 1480
* JCamp
  + Letter of Recommendation: CS Teacher

# **Session 29 P2: 02/06/2024**

* SAT Preparation
  + Focused on reading
  + Second session
  + Practice Test - Kaplan
  + Definitely helpful
* Folklift
  + 3 articles/poetry posted on site
  + 2 to upload to code
  + People interested haven’t submitted yet
  + Reaching out to people who have been vocal about the issue
  + College/youth perspectives
* Filmmakers club
  + Group of people who want to work post production
  + Movie night
* Empowering AI
  + Networking event rescheduled for April
  + Publishing on LinkedIn?
* JCamp
  + Ask CS teacher for LOR

# **Session 30 P1:**

Progress:

Empowering AI:

* supposed to have first day of boot camp
* Restarting the boot camp
* Other pearson not helpful
* April 7th – meeting with student from CMU
* Been strict and sending out links beforehand
* Restarting this Saturday

Folklift:

* Cultural ambassador role on linkedin
  + 2 people applied
  + Connected with people on linkedin, asked them to follow through (more questions)
  + Looking for people to help organize/physically write letters calling for ceasefire
  + Trying to make more Instagram posts
  + Film podcast segment
    - Ask about AI – will it take over jobs?
    - Reached out to games for change
    - Followed back on IG, will mention in podcast

Filmmakers Club:

* Finished trailer editing
* Going to share with club

Contact:

<https://ngcproject.org/about/initiatives/youth-advisory-board> – when are they seeking new members?

Encodejustice.org – email Nicholas about AI Advisory Board

CMU:

Finished essay**s**

**Why do you want to participate in camp this summer? How will you use your new coding superpower?**

This Summer, I want to participate in camp to learn technical skills that I can use to platform social justice. In previous projects, I've worked with pre-existing surface-level coding knowledge to create a platform, Folklift for sharing stories as Muslims in a time of great censorship for our community. However, there are many improvements to this initiative that I would like to take which would be greatly supported by KWK camp's guidance this Summer! With my initiative, I not only want to create a voice for Muslims, but also build a technology that will create an inclusive, empowering, and advocative environment for them.

**Tell us about a group or community you belong to. What makes this group or community special to who you are? This could include personal interests, cultural connections, social circles- and beyond.**

I'm a Muslim-Indian girl, a seemingly rare occurrence. Growing up, I had the struggle of explaining myself to close-minded people who thought only Pakistani Muslims and Indian Hindus existed, having to constantly prove them of my community's existence. As an insecure child tired of explaining myself, I would introduce myself as Pakistani due to the sheer amount of people that tried convincing me that I wasn't Indian or Muslim. As I grew, I learned that at the end of the day, I am Indian, and I am Muslim. My identity is what makes me who I am– celebrating Indian independence day while also fasting during Ramadan. Supporting the Indian cricket team while also going to Friday prayers. Braiding my hair and placing Indian Jasmines in it while also teaching Sunday School at my local mosque. Speaking Hindi, an Indian language, while also writing and reading in Arabic. It is these factors; these cultural traditions, that make me, me. I cannot be confined within certain expectations of who I should be, or if my identity even exists.

# **Session 30 P2 02/26/2024:**

* Recovering from sickness
* Shark Tank project
  + Judges from outside school
  + Made a project to counteract social media addiction
    - Fun games
    - Puzzles customized to the child’s interests
    - Able to connect with accomplished author about social media usage
  + Presenting next week
* APUSH test
  + Need to do corrections
* Empowering AI
  + 4-5 people showed up on first day of bootcamp
  + Went pretty well, asking questions
  + Kahoot– shark was chasing you, answering questions
* Folklift
  + Someone at Brown interested
  + Reach out to organizations
* Filmmakers Club
  + Meeting Thursday physically
* Game
  + Podcast– filming in April
  + Not sure if the podcast episode is out yet (mention)

Empowering AI, Folklift, Filmmakers Club, Game, Mosque Volunteering (teacher), Youth Action Committee (local committee), [summer program], AI Advisory Board, (brainstorm new programs), Hackathon

Priorities:

JCamp

KWK

<https://www.bryancameroneducationfoundation.org/scholarship>

Likewise! I’m interested in the opportunity to join the Encode Justice AI Advisory Board- I see that there might be an opportunity to collaborate on the labor team and I’d love to contribute! I have previous experience writing and leading AI Ethics initiatives and I’d love to chat further

Hi! I’m Huda, a current HS junior interested in []. I’m super interested in your background and would love to have a conversation about []. Do you have any availability in the next 1-2 weeks?

Huda’s Summer Programs, Awards, and Scholarships

Awards:

1. NCWiT Award
2. Film Award
3. **Presidential Volunteer Service Award**
4. **Hackathon Award**
5. **Advocacy Award**

Summer Program

1. JCamp
2. KWK

Scholarships

I'm a web developer and game developer! I've built a couple website for initiatives using React and other javascript frameworks like "framer.js" (folklift.co & www.empoweringai.us)

I've also developed a game using Unity, with the language of C#. It's about teaching some concepts of AI/ML in a way that's accessible to all (you can try the game here! - https://hudasraj.itch.io/synthoria). This was super fun & I also got to learn more about AI, but I would really like to learn more about the components of AI and how it is made this summer at KWK camp!

# **Session 30 P2 03/02/2024:**

Teachers:

Freshman Year:

* N/A

Sophomore Year:

* CS Teacher
  + NCWiT
  + CMU
  + CTE
* **English teacher**
  + Candidate
* History
  + Notre Dame
  + Princeton
* **Chemistry**
  + Candidate
* **Spanish Teacher**
  + Candidate

Junior Year:

* Calculus Teacher
* Media Arts Teacher
  + BofA
  + CMU
* History
* CS Teacher
* English Teacher
* Physics Teacher

Counselor:

* Open up more

Principal:

Counseling Office Front Desk:

Wellness Center Coordinator

Vice Principal

* Mental Health Awareness Month campaign
  + Green ribbons
* Newsletter Tiktoks

# **Session 31 P1 03/05/2024:**

* [Al Neuhart Freedom Conference](https://www.freedomforum.org/al-neuharth-free-spirit-and-journalism-conference/application/)
* Ronald Reagan Leadership Award
* **NYU GSTEM**
* Make Noise today Conference

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Y6spbho-3cNenx4cKAAUGY0bAKMdXYk5X6UN5v9nw2Y/edit?usp=sharing>

# **Session 32 P1 03/010/2024:**

* Sunday School letters
* Calculus test highest score
* Games for Change podcast
  + Got a lot of positive feedback
  + Want to continue posting more
* Encode Justice
  + Want established industry experts

Spring:

# **Session 1 P1 03/20/2024:**

RECAP

Folklift:

* Nonprofit marketing guy wants to set up a call for Folklift
* AFASA Essay Contest: <https://afsa.org/essay-contest>

Empowering AI:

* Last session this time
* Vice president not doing much

Film Club:

* Cultural night - showcasing film
* President next year

Game

* Elementary school toolkit

Empowering AI

* Mini Hackathon

<https://www.bryancameroneducationfoundation.org/scholarship>

# **Session 1 P2 03/23/2024:**

New News Segment:

* Interviewing school admin

Empowering AI:

* Last session postponed to tomorrow
* Priority 1
* Lesson Plan: <https://www.scratch.ie/primary/lessonplans/lesson1/>

Awards to look out for:

* Diana Award
* Disney Dreamers Academy
* We Are Family Foundation: [hello@wearefamilyfoundation.org](mailto:hello@wearefamilyfoundation.org)

# **Session 2 P1 04/06/2024:**

Updates:

* Publicing games now

Empowering AI:

* Contacted large organizations
* Reached out to code.org
* AI art challenge

Game:

* Sent out email toolkit

Vice Principal:

* Did the interview
* Ronald Reagan award – ask next week

**Siraj’s call with Rishi (expert in publicity, outreach, marketing, publishing news articles etc.)**

Huda outreach, marketing strategy

* Start small..
* Target Muslim women in tech - news papers, journals
* Or General bay area in women in tech
* Target Local news channel
* Cold emails 150-200 emails ( 3-4 line)
* Revamp Huda’s Website and portfolio, current game website doesn’t have CTA and story clear. Can’t expect admission officers to click on all her linked in.. game site should be comprehensive on its own.
* AI ethics – reach out to bigger news sources.

# **Session 2 P2 04/06/2024:**

Empowering AI

* New interest – phasing out VP

Folklift:

* New Social Media person

Scholarship Updates:

* Bryan Cameron Impact

JCAMP: ACCEPTED!!!

NHSGA: Waitlist update email sent

Apple Engineering Camp Answers:

* Classes/workshops/experience
  + Put everything

Classes:

Service/Projects:

Other:

What are you looking for?

* Supportive learning community

Why do you want to participate?

* Don’t have much engineering experience, a good opportunity

Women in Games ambassadorship

* Trying to engage the local bay area community more
* Responsibility: hold one specific event, be active on discord and linkedin

# **Session 3 P1 04/16/2024:**

* Breakthrough Junior Challenge:
  + June 2024
* Science Ambassador Scholarship
* Make a note to talk to your journalism about receiving the program
* Reach out to previous emailed teachers with school email

Hello Mr. Tran,

I hope this email finds you well! My name is Huda Siraj, and I am a junior at Mountain House High School near Tracy, California and a 16 year/old game developer and computer science enthusiast. I’m also passionate about science communication and AI Ethics, and hope to pursue a career in this field in the future.

I’ve spent the past year and a half developing my own free online educational video game [Synthoria](https://hudasraj.itch.io/synthoria), focused on teaching AI + Machine Learning in a fun way. I think that this game provides a fun learning environment to middle school students to these concepts. I have created a [lesson toolkit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1k50XmhBRQxOm3qtSRnOB5h8GzVSvnB5g6Jl0f7dSmZI/edit?usp=sharing) that integrates my game with curriculum standards [CTE: Info and Comm text 4.2 and 10.1.](https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/sf/documents/infocomtech.pdf)

I am in the process of distributing this curriculum to teachers around the Bay Area and would deeply appreciate your support. [Please let me know via this feedback form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1GwHFgL5S3OqGoF23tl-AIhwR4s_eT-AMZdH30wr5Dhs/edit) if you integrate this solution into your classroom, or if you have any questions or feedback.

Thank you! I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

...

Huda Siraj

669-291-5080

hudasirj@gmail.com

4.2 Employ technology based communications responsibly and effectively to explore complex

systems and issues.

10.1 Interpret and explain terminology and practices specific to the Information and Communication Technologies sector.

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/sf/documents/infocomtech.pdf>

# **Session 3 P2 04/16/2024:**

SAT UPDATE: 1500

* Declined from GSTEM

DNA video for breakthrough

# **Session 4 P1 05/04/2024:**

* Games for Change National Finalist!!!
* Rejections:
  + Al Neukarth
  + Declined from essay competition
* Progress with empowering AI
  + Established new pages for the website
    - AI art competition (prompt engineering)
    - Planning a hackathon for girls
    - Keynote speaker
* Folklift
  + Got a new VP
  + Made a new instagram page for them
* Synthoria
  + Response from local teacher
  + Scale to 200 sent
* AP Exam Preparation
* Breakthrough Challenge (Khan Academy)

c

# **Session 4 P2 05/10/2024:**

Empowering AI Metrics:

Key Metric: How many people reached

1. **“How”**
   1. Hosting
   2. Followers
   3. Partnership, alliances
      1. With schools
      2. With senior figures, agencies… ( influencer)
         1. How to reach out to LUSD board leader
            1. Schedule conversation –

Speaker series

Run this advice

* + 1. Other non profits ( other students)
       1. Following..
       2. Collab posts..
    2. Affiliate
  1. Outreach
     1. No show
     2. Solutions
        1. Marketing
        2. Get people engaged
        3. How to distinguish
        4. Creative - workshops like tiktok live

Auxillary metrics: ( internal & external)

* How many modules did you make
* How many people are on your team (from how many continents/countries/states)
* How many workshops did you host
* How much effort

Interview prep

* What inspired

# **Session 5 P1 05/17/2024:**

Cameron Impact Project:

* DUE MAY 22ND – PRIORITY

Finals/Tests:

* All As

GripTape:

* Indian Classical Guitar

Huda’s Summer Plans:

Kode With Klossy

* June 17th - June 28th

Vacation Dates:

* London July 1st to 10th

JCamp:

* August 3rd to August 9th

Empowering AI Hackathon:

* Planning for the summer
* New team going well
* AI art competition

1. Synthoria
2. Empowering AI
3. Filmmakers Club
4. Women in Games Ambassadorship
5. Kode With Klossy
6. JCamp
7. Folklift
8. Mosque Volunteering
9. Muslim Youth North America
10. Design / Web dev freelance

# **Session 5 P2 05/27/2024:**

**General Update:**

* Ending school - Summer from May 27, 2024 to Aug 1, 2024
* All A’s this semester

**Scholarships:**

* Cameron Impact Essay - Submitted

**Wins of the week:**

* National Games Award – WINNER
* First local news article!!! – Tracy Press

**Reiterating Huda’s target Ivy level UNIQUE, AUTHENTIC, STANDOUT Profile for College Apps**

* Muslim young girl
* Video game developer
* Videographer
* Story teller

**Top Weak Spots:**

* **Scaling**, **Publicizing**, **Amplifying** huda’s impact

Why a weak spot?

* **Y**ou need to show impact

**What should Huda be prioritizing in Summer and month of June in general:**

1. Scaling community impact
2. Demonstrating leadership ( another session – Youth Action Committee - federal internship)
3. Scholarship application

**Huda’s top challenges:**

1. Don’t know how to get people to sign up for bootcamps

**Today’s priority topic:**

1. **Forklift: ( we don’t have any credentials yet) ( can show Jcamp)**

**How does this tie into Huda’s story and profile?**

**What huda needs to optimize for?**

* + Goal: Metric – 10 …reaching and impacting more people
  + Goal: Virality ( only need 1 article)

**How to achieve that?**

* + Someone from India has responded expressing interest in writing for Folklift
  + Methods so far:
    - Cold Messaging
    - Instagram posting has not been working
  + Personal Instagram is still a good metric
  + Getting mentioned in other news sources – Stanford Daily, etc.
  + Reach out to other IG accounts to offer Folklift as a resource / collaboration posts
  + Ask Muslim Association to amplify Folklift

1. **Empowering AI: ( NCWIT )**

**How does this tie into Huda’s story and profile?**

**What huda needs to optimize for?**

* + ~~Goal: Metric – No. of views~~
  + Number of attendees

**How to achieve that?**

* + Bad publicity is good publicity!!!
  + Community Facebook groups
  + Preparing for college groups
  + NCWIT newsletter circle
  + NCWIT Slack
  + KWK Circle

1. **Synthoria: (NCWIT)**

**How does this tie into Huda’s story and profile?**

**What huda needs to optimize for?**

* + Goal: Metric –

**How to achieve that?**

* + Videos of game (2500)
  + Number of plays
  + Verbal feedback

Huda’s schedule as of May 24 Update:

* Week of May 27th - Available on Sunday at 3 pm
* Week of June 3rd - Available on Sunday at 3 pm
* Week of June 10th - Available on Sunday at 3 pm
* June 17th - Not available on weekdays
* June 30 - July 10th - On a different time zone, but will update on schedule
* August 3-August 9th - Not available

Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 1 hour l Session 6 l Part 1 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - June 7, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

**Agenda:**   
IG Scaling for Empowering AI  
  
  
**Key Points of Discussion:**

Team organization– making it feel more “official”

* Transitioning to Slack via iMessage/texts

hi! my name is huda, and I'm the founder of "empowering ai." just wanted to start off my saying your initiative has motivated me with my organzation immensely!!

we are an organization based on bringing AI Ethics and gamified Artificial Intelligence education to greater accessibility to young girls.

i was reaching out to see if you would be interested in collaborating for an instagram post!! possibly for an educational or awareness post, but i'm definitely open to more brainstorming!

looking forward to hearing back from you!!!

Goal: Increase submissions for AI art contest

Progress:

* Posting on personal IG, LinkedIn, TikTok
  + Receveived 0 submissions
  + $50 prize
  + Deadline: June 22nd, 2024
    - Posting since 2 weeks ago
  + Contest rules and guidelines document
* Company tours
  + https://www.ycombinator.com/companies/industry/ai/san-francisco-bay-area

Hi Chun! I'm Huda, a highschool student and founder of Empowering AI (empoweringai.us), a non-profit expanding ai-education for girls. I would love to create an opportunity for our community to learn more about Monterey AI through a company visit or moderated call! Would love to discuss more.

**Action Items:**

* Create official flyer
* ~~Create Slack for nonprofit~~
* Include contest guidelines document
* Post on NCWiT Slack and Kode With Klossy Slack
* Keep on messaging YC/other startup founders (goal: 50 messages)

**Synthoria:**

Post Ideas

* Which Synthoria character are you
* Design a character with me
* Outfits inspired by synthoria characters
* Movies about AI
* Try this new ChatGPT hack
* AI Productivity tools for next school year / academic weapon
* When chat is down
* Generating AI art
* Deepfake Instagram influencers
* Music AI generation / gorillaz

Synthoria

* Reach out to small gaming creators to play your game
* Finish designing flyer, print out 100 copies, distribute

**What’s next?:**   
  
  
Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 45-Min l Session 6 l Part 2 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - June 6, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

**Agenda:**   
  
  
  
**Key Points of Discussion:**

* Want to do 2-3 day camp
* Vice President super active
* Created guide for AI art competition
* **Folklift**
* Girl from India wrote poetry  
    
  **Action It**  
    
    
  **What’s next?:**

Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda |1 hour l Session 7 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - August 22nd, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

**Agenda:**   
Recap of JCamp experience – amazing and life changing!  
  
  
**Key Points of Discussion:**

College Essay - about Huda’s different identities, comparing and contrasting

School– catching up, workload is tough

Reviewing and working on Huda’s college form (senior survey)  
  
**Action Items:**

**What’s next?:**

Completing Huda’s Senior Survey: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/15e0O6bWQCER25bgyMrI3UQjoxs77pr-W5pEnfMyqOxk/edit>

Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 45-Min l Session 7 l Part 1 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - June 12, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

**Agenda:**   
  
  
  
**Key Points of Discussion:**  
  
**Action Items:**  
  
  
**What’s next?:**

Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 45-Min l Session 7 l Part 2 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - June 14, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

**Agenda:**   
  
  
  
**Key Points of Discussion:**  
  
**Action Items:**  
  
  
**What’s next?:**   
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 45-Min l Session 7 l Part 3 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - June 16, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

**Agenda:**   
  
  
  
**Key Points of Discussion:**  
  
**Action Items:**  
  
  
**What’s next?:**

Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 45-Min l Session 8 l Part 1 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - June 21, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

**Agenda:**   
  
  
  
**Key Points of Discussion:**  
  
**Action Items:**  
  
  
**What’s next?:**

Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 45-Min l Session 8 l Part 2 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - June 22, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

**Agenda:**   
  
  
  
**Key Points of Discussion:**  
  
**Action Items:**  
  
  
**What’s next?:**

Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 45-Min l Session 8 l Part 3 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - June 24, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

**Agenda:**

Extracurriculars

* Folklift
  + Trying to find international writers
  + Goal: to get as many readers as possible
* Synthoria
  + Consistent with TikTok, posting twice a day
  + One video reaching 10k views
* Empowering AI
  + New Hackathon planning
  + Trying to raise money for prizes
* **Key Points of Discussion:**  
    
  **Action Items:**  
    
    
  **What’s next?:**

Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 45-Min l Session 8 l Part 3 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - June 27, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

**Agenda:**

Kode With Klossy:

* Data science project

Hackathon:

* $13k - Value of subscriptions from Wolfram and Xyz
* Cold emailing
* 6-7 sign ups from around the world
* Product manager speaker  
  **Action Items:**  
    
    
  **What’s next?:**

Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 60-Min l Session 9 Part 2 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - July 24th, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

**Agenda:**

* Trip to London
  + Saw Stonehedge, museums, history
* Empowering AI Hackathon
  + Prizes, sponsors backing out last minute
  + Judges backing out last minute
  + Creating certificates for everyone
  + Handling everything – a lot of responsibility
* Statistics
  + Around 100
    - 16 different countries
    - 46 different cities
    - Average experience level was 5/10
    - 4 different continents
    - Some people found out from their college
    - 4 workshops
    - 20 submissions
      * Winning Projects: CodeHER
  + $23,000+ prizes
  + 7 judges
* Synthoria
  + Posting on indie development servers
* Folklift
  + Two founders reached out for feature

**Action Items:**

* Pitch Synthoria to indie game newsletter
  + <https://indiedevmonday.com/>
  + <https://ttrpg.substack.com/>
  + <https://www.thebestindiegames.com/newsletter>
  + <https://indiegamereviewer.com/>
  + <https://www.thegamer.com/tag/indie-games/>
* Fill out MYNA application

**What’s next?:**

* For Empowering AI, trying to host more competitions and hackathons (with incentives)
* Forklift – ask for feature on school newspaper

Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 60-Min l Session 9 l Part 3 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - July 25, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

Huda’s brainstorming list: <https://www.notion.so/ivylevel/Brainstorming-06e572f690b44297a9ad6c5fc3c6597d>

**Agenda:**

* MYNA application update
  + Almost done– a couple more essays to go
* College app brainstorming
  + 21 facts list
  + Video game arc – putting character in narrative
    - Stories: MSA, Hackathon, Choosing a storytelling  
        
        
      **Key Points of Discussion:**  
        
      **Action Items:**  
        
        
      **What’s next?:**

Weekly Planning and Execution

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 60-Min l Session 10 l Part 2 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - July 28, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

Huda’s brainstorming list: <https://www.notion.so/ivylevel/Brainstorming-06e572f690b44297a9ad6c5fc3c6597d>

**Agenda:**   
New classes assigned

CS Capstone

AP Lit

AP Stats

AP Spanish

AP Gov/AP Econ Macro

AP Psychology  
  
**Key Points of Discussion:**

TikTok video went viral

**Action Items:**  
  
  
**What’s next?:**

***Ivylevel Coach Marissa <> Huda | 60-Min l Session 12 l Part 1 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - Aug 13, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

**Agenda:**   
Check-In

* Started school again, falling behind
* Journalism camp! It was amazing!
* Essay for Jcamp was about exploring Indian and Pakistani tensions, able to learn from someone else’s experience

**Key Points of Discussion:**

* Goal of these next two sessions: Go over brainstormed ideas, learn more about the writing process
  + Main idea: I experience internal conflict from showing myself four different ways to be accepted, conclusion is that I am all of these things
    - Takeaway: Resilience, strength in diverse experiences and ability to relate with others from different backgrounds
  + Proof: Synthoria game that I developed
    - Teaches AI concepts through fun stories to combine love for tech and journalism
    - Characters are Indian and Muslim
  + Analogies:
    - 4-way intersection on highway: preventing car-crashes by controlling identities
    - Neural network in CS/tech: each layer and experience makes AI get better at recognizing patterns and stronger! **Every layer and experience helps me get better at adapting and learning to coexist with others!** Pattern recognition in AI is similar to my experiences, helping me with making predictions. I have a lot of experiences of needing to adapt quickly like at JCamp, making it easier to know when to show what identity as time goes on. Large amount of experiences with multiple different identities is advantageous because I can relate with more people. **The takeaway is not that I am different from everyone else, but that I can relate to everyone in one way or another.**
  + Examples of Struggles:
    - When trying to find hackathon sponsors and speakers on linkedin, I got more responses after I removed my creative student journalist background
    - Told friends I spoke Hindi instead of Urdu because they said I pronounce things incorrectly. I said that I spoke Hindi so that it wasn’t as alien. Pronouncing it incorrectly made me feel like an outsider but taught me how to pronounce it well to adapt better.
* Going to JCamp, I felt like an imposter/black sheep because I was the only person interested in tech. Had all this knowledge about AI, but people there only had interest in journalism. Quickly adapted, I found myself sharing that I am interested in interactive media, which is a mix of tech and journalism.
* Activities/experiences can repeat throughout app but highlight different perspectives
  + ex: EQ vs IQ, human interaction vs learning technical skill

**Action Items:**

* Finish draft of essay by tomorrow and share the link with me!

**What’s next?:**

Meeting tomorrow at 7-8pm to discuss draft and secondaries for Stanford STS and USC CS video game major

***Ivylevel Coach Marissa <> Huda | 60-Min l Session 12 l Part 2 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - Aug 14, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1V89KACRhWSfWqh-VpwYlPVByhQRmC28qVycwAXpK058/edit>

**Agenda:**   
- draft

- supplemental  
  
**Key Points of Discussion:**

* Include people’s reactions, your thought process, your impact (think how you impacted others in your community, multiple players’ identity, confidence in entire ethnic group)
* Inclusion of variables for the neural network can be helpful for structure, include video game to tie all of your identities together
  + Focus on storytelling and journalism to balance out the tech structure/format! The stories in between the technical steps is an example of how you use every opportunity to showcase your strengths in both tech and journalism, it is a fusion of your identities which is exactly what you are writing about
* Make sure that you focus on your growth, passions, intentions, through process, and relationships – how you made others feel vs how they made you feel  
    
  **Action Items:**
* Keep working on the draft!

**What’s next?:**

* Reach out if there are other questions or if you want additional guidance or feedback for your essays

***Ivylevel Coach Jenny <> Huda | 60-Min l Session 9 |48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - Aug 24, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KLkXSIa4muVhafsT2xPe_B7w3OwOgB75xKts0l-aEh4/edit>

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/15e0O6bWQCER25bgyMrI3UQjoxs77pr-W5pEnfMyqOxk/edit>

Disney Dreamer’s Academy Questions (to be sent)  
**Agenda:**   
- Naviance questions

- Riley’s Way Foundation

- Coca-Cola Scholarship  
  
**Key Points of Discussion:**

* There will be a lot of writing moving forward in the next couple of weeks- be prepared!
* For the Riley’s Way Foundation Application
  + Weave in your own personal experiences into your application questions– name drop activities like Synthoria, Empowering AI, etc
  + The foundation’s focus in on kindness, so ensure that you’re emphasizing this in your answers as well

**Action Items:**

* Finish Riley’s Way Foundation application
* Finish Naviance questions
* If time allows: please draft the first two responses to the Disney Dreamer’s Academy application

**What’s next?:**

# August 11th, 2024

Common App Essay

* Brainstorm essays – in a video game, storytelling (games and journalism), being a gamer and being a Muslim (facing Islamophobia and changing the culture)
* **Speaking Urdu and Hindi, which are basically the same but have different contexts**

1. Having a unique structure
2. Gaming, Identity, and Storytelling

**Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?**

**Tutorial on Neural Network**

**/**

**How Do Neural Networks Work**

1. **Train your data**

Experience with feeling like a black sheep - Muslim/Indian Side

Experience with feeling like a black sheep - Tech/Journalist Side

1. **Add data to the second layer**

Reflect Indian Side

Reflect Journalist Side

1. **Recieve Output Layer**

Learning how I have a little bit of everyone, it’s my greatest strenth

1. Think of a phrase in Urdu/Hindi

Phrase in Urdu

Going to the mosque on Fridays;

* Talk about Islam and STEM
  + Going to Mosque and teaching
  + Muslim practices that you have
  + Gaming and islamophobia

Same Phrase in Hindi

* Talk about being Indian and journalism/storytelling
  + Interviewing Desi small business owners
  + South Asian things that you do
  + J-Camp and showing my creative side – separate from South Asian

Same Phrase in English (optional)

* Talk about how all of these identities make you who you are and tie into what you want to do in the future
* Or mention gaming and islamophobia here
* Making your game
  + Storyteller’s game
  + Muslim Indian characters
  + Teaches code

“Hi my name is Huda”

Show not tell - the trouble with not using a narrative

List of short sentences describing who you are towards the end of the essay

Focus on really honing in on the main points, because you can always elaborate on other points later in supplements

* If something isn't working in your Common App but you still like it, keep in mind for future supplements

Structure isn’t set in stone, think about what feels most natural when you’re writing

**Essay Hooks:**

Have a title for your essay

Starting with dialogue

“Breaking the fourth wall”

People have two eyes– to see the sand from the left and the ocean from the right;

People have two feet– to stride from the left and push off from the right.

I often find myself molding into a one-legged cyclops, desperate to show

UC Application

**USC and Stanford Supplements**

**Stanford (250)**

1. **The Stanford community is deeply curious and driven to learn in and out of the classroom. Reflect on an idea or experience that makes you genuinely excited about learning.**

“Intellectual Vitality” Essay – show that you are passionate about learning

* Show that you think deeply about the world around you
* Show that you take action to pursue your curiosities

Hackathons and EmpowerAI

Better story? – being curious at J-Camp about Indian and Pakistani relationships

A green flag sheltering a white moon and star. 3 ribbons– orange, white, and green– sheltering a blue chakra.

1. **Virtually all of Stanford's undergraduates live on campus. Write a note to your future roommate that reveals something about you or that will help your roommate—and us—get to know you better.**

hiii roomie!!

just wanted to say that you TOTALLY lucked out because i’m the only one in my family who doesn’t snore. i have a loud, bustling family– especially as the middle child. i’m used to sharing spaces and “locking in” amid chaos in the background. hopefully, however, we’ll be able to have a calm environment in our room, lighting a couple candles and have gilmore girls playing as we manifest our academic goals.

i’m probably up at ungodly hours, drowning my stresses away with “wordle”, “connections”, or “sudoku.” i’m always gaming, so if you hear me calling someone an idiot, it’s about the guy who eliminated me in Fortnite.

i’m a huge bookworm as well, so you’ll probably catch me reading my favorite book– “Under The Tamarind Tree” by Nigar Alam– while listening to the smooth crooning of Frank Sinatra.

if you’re wondering why there’s a random victorian woman hung on our wall, it’s Ada Lovelace. did you know *she* was the first computer before our sticker-adorned macs existed? my poster wall in my room is a BIG deal. bimonthly rotations and everything. my favorite posters are the ones i shoot from my camera of the beautiful sunsets, but hey– maybe a photobooth picture of us will top them!

if you have any grievances about me, that was my evil twin that possesses me when i’m having a writer’s block named Zuda. if you have any compliments regarding how well-kept my bed is, that’s me!

see you soon! <3

“Personality Essay” – don’t overthink it and just share things about your life and how you think

If there’s something missing from your application, include it here

Show you’re a good fit for Stanford’s culture and show that you would be a good friend

Bring your PC setup, staying up late to watch YouTube

NYT mini, Wordle

1. **Please describe what aspects of your life experiences, interests and character would help you make a distinctive contribution as an undergraduate to Stanford University.**

Write about your life experiences and what new perspective or interest you would bring to Stanford

Similar to IV Essay, should be more personal

What is your “niche” – I need to study/do this thing and Stanford is the best place to do it

* Identify the thing you’re passionate about
* Identify opportunities at Stanford that align with this – labs, classes, student orgs

Interactive media is a relatively new field

* Journalism doesn’t really have an interactive aspect
* Wanting to contribute this to Stanford (The Daily, STS Communications and Media)

Story: me doing a mini, and learning something I didn’t know afterwards

**Short Questions (50)**

1. What is the most significant challenge that society faces today?
2. How did you spend your last two summers?
3. What historical moment or event do you wish you could have witnessed?
4. Briefly elaborate on one of your extracurricular activities, a job you hold, or responsibilities you have for your family.
5. List five things that are important to you.

# August 30th, 2024

Common App Neural Networks Take 1

**How To Make a Neural Network**

**Step 1: Feed in your data.**

Cheeks red. Armpits sweaty. My greasy, flat bangs swept back by my hijab cap.

Wearing my long, abaya dress and the heavy material of the hijab on a 101-degree Summer’s day felt like a punishment, but the sweet feeling of my forehead grazing the carpet as I prayed and hugging my aunties as I mutter countless “Assalamualaikum”s was the reward. I unzipped my abaya and folded away my hijab to reveal my black t-shirt and magenta hair, stepping into my boba-date outfit with my friends.

*culture = “indian”;*

“Where should we go next?” my friend Satvika asked. Like a lightbulb in a dark chamber, it came to me that we could eat at the South Indian restaurant that mirrored the flavor of the same Indian state we were all from. “I know where we should go!” I announced as my friends all turned their attention to me and my boba-stuffed cheeks. “Let’s go to ah-puh kuh-die!”

Like a choreographed dance routine, their heads snapped onto one another immediately. A distinct mix of disgust, amusement, and superiority stood plastered on each of their faces, smirks creeping up their mouths.

“Huda…”

Was it the boba in my mouth? Was it the food they didn’t like?

“It’s up-uh kuh-day!” Satvika giggled.

As someone who prides herself in knowing five languages, I sure felt like a mute deer caught in headlights.

“It’s okay, we still love our kinda-Indian friend.”

Perhaps the Urdu “Assalamualaikum”s I muttered earlier at the mosque penetrated my Indian pronunciation of the restaurant. I am Indian by heritage, but it appeared that my abaya and hijab covered more than my skin and hair: my identity.

*culture = “kinda-Indian???”;*

*var skill = “journalism”;*

The 29 of us student journalists huddled around a metal table, yellow notepads in our hands.

“My publication did a piece about the upcoming election.” Arthur, a peer from Palo Alto commented.

“Really? I focus on my school’s sports publication, where we publish weekly. Our editor was a former New York Times editor! It’s honestly a bit challenging because we only have 7 publications at our school.” Dave, a peer from Princeton, New Jersey remarked.

“What margin does your publication use? What beat do you cover?” Dave inquires, shining the flashlight of attention directly at me.

What margin *does* my publication use? What beat *do* I cover?

My brain scrambled to find a fit response, but instead, all I could think about was the all-nighters I spent coding away into the night, the time I had spent illustrating characters for my video game, and my persistence in advocating for the ethical policy of artificial intelligence.

Should I even be here? In the same program as Dave and Arthur, that is. My journalistically desolate town, where we have *one* publication, wasn’t exactly a harbor that sent off many journalist ships.

“It’s kind of hard to explain.” I managed to mutter.

My hands held the same yellow notepads as Dave and Arthur. My palms were adorned by ink stains like them too. But perhaps the hackathon stickers that decorated my Macbook, or the neck posture I attained from coding tirelessly, made me different from Dave and Arthur.

*skill = “???”*

**Step 2: Add a hidden layer of neurons to process data.**

There is nothing I ravenously crave more than lollipop chicken– my go-to takeaway order from the local restaurant I love most.

“Mummy, can we please get up-uh kuh-day?” I ask, earning a proud grin.

The weeks following Satvika’s comment were ones of great introspection. *Why did she have to point out my mispronunciation? Why couldn’t I have been born with the superpower of pronunciation?*  I researched hundreds of Indian words, drilling their pronunciations into the folds of my brain.

What I soon discovered was her educating me that pronouncing the name of that restaurant wasn’t an attack; rather, a datapoint for me to get better at recognizing pronunciation patterns.

I was previously too afraid to, but after acquiring knowledge on how to pronounce “Appa Kadai,” I approached the restaurant owner. There were so many words I could use to describe his food: scrumptious; nostalgic; Ōdārpunistundi—a South Indian word for comforting.

*culture = “Muslim Indian”;*

The feeling of being a black sheep in a crowd of normal ones consumed my thoughts. Even hot glue wouldn’t have been effective in keeping my eyes shut.

1:06 AM. I scrolled past my lock screen, rapidly making my way to my favorite app: The New York Times Games, the one place where my freakishly robust vocabulary renders me victorious.

Nothing felt more like a warm hug than Wordle. “ADIEU,” I typed, confirming ‘A’ and ‘E’ to be placed in different locations. I scraped the insides of my brain, pulling out the most arbitrary words from crevices of my brain. “Abate!” I whisper-shout, just quiet enough to not wake my groggy roommate up.

Abate. That’s what Wordle did. This is who I was to the core– a Wordle player. **The Wordle girl.** Someone who learns, challenges, and destresses through games. I wasn’t just a journalist, nor was I just a techie. I was an interactive media producer!

The handshakes got firmer; the “nice to meet you”s intensified; the “I’m Huda, and I’m a student producing interactive media”s got bolder.

*skill = “Interactive Media”;*

**Step 3: Collect output results.**

**Focus on one story where all 4 identities merge = Synthoria**

When I see myself, I see the ink stains on my palm, but also the hackathon stickers that adorn my computer; my brown skin and thick eyebrows, but also my Arabic name and the hijab I wear. I see the game I developed: Synthoria.

In Synthoria, Sana & Yasmeen, two Indian Muslim sisters, chase a rogue robot through a landscape that feels both familiar and complex. They navigate the same dualities I’ve faced—embracing faith while decoding technology, finding a balance between tradition and innovation. The sisters’ journey mirrors my own, where every challenge in the game reflects a piece of my life—whether it’s the perseverance of my Muslim upbringing, the cultural nuances I’ve learned as an Indian, the narrative instincts I’ve honed as a journalist, or the logic and creativity I bring to coding.

The world of Synthoria is layered with the questions I’ve asked myself—about ethics, about identity, about how to find your way when the rules aren’t always clear. It’s a world where the characters, like me, are constantly learning, adapting, and finding strength in unexpected places. Each line of code, each story element, carries with it the traces of who I am, not as a product of any one identity, but as the sum of all the experiences, cultures, and passions that have shaped me. In playing Synthoria, I’m not just creating a game—I’m exploring the patterns of my own life, the intersections that define me, and the endless possibilities of who I can become.

I used to think the recipe of my identity contained too many ingredients, a mixture too complex to yield anything recognizable. But just like building a neural network, I’ve learned that each layer—each culture, each skill, each experience—adds depth to the model, allowing it to recognize patterns and adapt. What once seemed like a jumble of disconnected inputs now makes sense as I see how the hidden layers of my life have processed these data points into something meaningful. The complexity doesn’t make me different from others; it allows me to be part of all of them, finding connections where none seemed to exist before. In the end, just as a neural network learns from diverse data to make accurate predictions, I’ve learned to navigate and adapt to each community I belong to, recognizing that my seemingly disparate identities are, in fact, the layers that give me strength.

***Ivylevel Coach Marissa <> Huda | 60-Min l Week 11 l Part 1 | 48-Week| Ultimate App 24x Week Program - Sept 4, 2024***

**Attachments and/or Links to Documents:**

[Personal insight questions | UC Admissions](https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-freshman/personal-insight-questions.html)

**Agenda:**   
Check-In

UC App

350 Words/essay

1. **Describe an example of your leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes or contributed to group efforts over time.**
   1. Toolkits for students learning about AI paired with video game
      1. Distributed to 200+ classrooms in the US to teach students how to use the game
      2. Not having easy access to learning about AI, no CS teacher at school
   2. Different clubs, beginning of HS it wasn’t as accessible bc rigged competitions and male-dominated spaces
      1. EmpowerAI to help with hackathon
      2. MSU – started gazette to highlight Muslim-owned businesses and formed a partnership with MSU/businesses
      3. Joined national Muslim organization to have broader audience
   3. Family was not able to afford utility bill, gave parents
2. **Every person has a creative side, and it can be expressed in many ways: problem solving, original and innovative thinking, and artistically, to name a few. Describe how you express your creative side.**
   1. Educate people on different platforms and telling stories
      1. Sunday school lesson toolkits for kids to learn
      2. Toolkits for students learning about AI paired with video game
         1. Distributed to 200+ classrooms in the US to teach students how to use the game
      3. Gazette writing articles and poetry about minority experiences
3. **What would you say is your greatest talent or skill? How have you developed and demonstrated that talent over time?**
4. Describe how you have taken advantage of a significant educational opportunity or worked to overcome an educational barrier you have faced.
   1. Toolkits for students learning about AI paired with video game
      1. Distributed to 200+ classrooms in the US to teach students how to use the game
      2. Not having easy access to learning about AI, no CS teacher at school
5. Describe the most significant challenge you have faced and the steps you have taken to overcome this challenge. How has this challenge affected your academic achievement?
   1. Different clubs, beginning of HS it wasn’t as accessible bc rigged competitions and male-dominated spaces
      1. EmpowerAI to help with hackathon
      2. MSU – started gazette to highlight Muslim-owned businesses and formed a partnership with MSU/businesses
      3. Joined national Muslim organization to have broader audience
6. Think about an academic subject that inspires you. Describe how you have furthered this interest inside and/or outside of the classroom.
   1. Toolkits for students learning about AI paired with video game
      1. Distributed to 200+ classrooms in the US to teach students how to use the game
      2. Not having easy access to learning about AI, no CS teacher at school
   2. AP Lang – shark tank, create product and pitch, need to convince people of the product
      1. Was really nervous, scared to be shut down but the class forced her to develop public speaking skills
7. What have you done to make your school or your community a better place?
8. Beyond what has already been shared in your application, what do you believe makes you a strong candidate for admissions to the University of California?

**Key Points of Discussion:**

Cal

* Media studies
* Alternative: cog sci

UCI

* Game design and interactive media (BS)
* Alternative: data sci

UCLA

* Cognitive Science
* Alternative: Data theory

UCSD

* Not as passionate about applying to it bc not really relevant
* Data science

UCD

* Cognitive science
* Alternative: Data science

Private school list:

1. NW – potential
2. NE
3. MIT
4. Stanford – potential
5. USC
6. NYU
7. CMU
8. UPenn

Public school list:

1. Cal
2. UCLA
3. UCSD
4. UCD
5. UCI
6. CalPoly SLO
7. CSU Fullerton – backup

Total ~ 22 schools

**Action Items:**  
  
  
**What’s next?:**

Wed Sept 11 6pm