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EXPERIENCE & EXTRACURRICULARS

ADD ASK A SCOT video producecr http://bit.ly/3QMxtOp

The Highlander, Managing Editor   **March 2023 – Present**
Carlmont High School
- Edit and design for the Highlander magazine while managing and coordinating with writers, artists, and photographers to produce cohesive and professional spreads.
- Fundraise and reach out to businesses for the purchasing of advertisements in the magazine to support its roughly $17,000 budget (the journalism program receives no financial help from the school).
- Head of distribution of 600+ issues to the school community

Scot Scoop News, Staff Writer   **Aug. 2023 – Present**
Carlmont High School
- Write for one of the most prestigious high school journalism programs in the country while reporting on a variety of topics including health, artificial intelligence, the environment, and other current issues.
- Head of Scot Scoop Ethics and Legal Team, dealing with ethical concerns and educating/advising peers, giving regular presentations to the entirety of the journalism staff to inform on matters such as press law while also making decisions on the ethical standards of the publication.

ScotCenter News, Video & Podcast Producer   **Dec. 2023 – Present**
Carlmont High School
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SciScoop, Host & Founder   **Dec. 2023 – Present**
SciScoop, Podcast
- Produce and host a podcast (published on Spotify & Scot Scoop News) that discusses current advancements in science and technology-related areas, often with a guest speaker.
- Examples of previous episode topics include precision medicine, space junk, 3D bioprinting, and deep brain stimulation.

Society of Orthodox Youth Organizations (SOYO), President   **Jan. 2023 – Present**
Antiochian Orthodox Church of the Redeemer, Los Altos Hills, CA
- Regularly coordinate and oversee SOYO events, activities, and community service and volunteer opportunities, i.e. packaging meals/items for the homeless, partnering with local humanitarian organizations, etc.
- Co-lead biweekly leadership meetings.
- Build an active community of youth dedicated to aiding those in need.

Model United Nations (MUN) Club, President   **Aug. 2021 – Present**
Carlmont High School
- Co-lead weekly club meetings and attend several MUN conferences per year.
- Educate new members on MUN procedures and prepare them for research and conferences.
- Organize club fundraising events, manage communications, create flyers, etc.
- Led the coordination of the first-ever MUN conference to be hosted at Carlmont, requiring months of preparation, including logistics/venue planning, promotion, chairing application evaluations, and more. Used the proceeds to provide financial support to my club members who may not have been able to participate in certain conference opportunities due to the costs

Girls Who Code (GWC) Club, Co-President   **Sept. 2021 – Present**
Carlmont High School

- Teach programming languages, including JavaScript, CSS, HTML, and Python.
- Encourage membership to help close the gender gap in STEM and empower women in the field.
- Currently working on a large-scale project to have club members enhance the local middle and elementary schools' coding programs by directly teaching and assisting the students with the material.
- Prepare club meeting slides, curriculum, and agenda.
- Was accepted into and participated in the free GWC 2023 Summer Immersion Program (SIP).
  - General Dynamics Information Technology 1 Course.

Student Advisory Council (SAC), Director of Outreach & Founding Member   Jan. 2023 – Present
Carlmont High School
- Attend and often lead weekly meetings with the Carlmont principal to advise the administration on student matters such as phone policy, mental health resources, and campus supervision.
- Manage all council outreach and communications to ensure that the voices of all students are heard.

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Youth (DEI) Youth Task Force, Co-Vice President & Founding Member Jan. 2023 – Present
City of Belmont
- Organize various DEI events, especially those that include guest speakers and/or are discussion-based, in order to educate the community, especially high school students, on the foundational aspects and importance of DEI.
- Spoke closely with Belmont Mayor Julia Mates and council members about DEI issues impacting youth.
- Meet often with the Belmont Officer of DEI to discuss and act on the promotion of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the Belmont community, with a focus on school environments.
- Lead the development of an in-progress website and regularly create social media posts/flyers for outreach.

Stanford Institutes of Medicine Summer Research Program (SIMR), Lab Student   June 2024 – Aug. 2024
Stanford University
- Spent 320+ hours (over 40 hours a week) in PJ Utz lab, leading my own research, individually conducting experiments, and crafting protocols/procedures.
- Adapted nanobodies to stratify individuals infected with COVID-19 with a strategy that also holds promise for improving diagnostic and therapeutic interventions against infectious agents.
- Presented findings during Utz lab meeting as well as a poster session in which many members of the Stanford scientific community were present. Find poster here: http://bit.ly/3QMxtOp

San Mateo Medical Center (SMMC), Volunteer and Practitioner Shadow   June 2023 – October 2023
San Mateo County Health
- Volunteered several hours every week in the nursing and chemotherapy departments.
- Shadowed nurses and observed patients being cared for.
- Carried out a variety of tasks, i.e. answering call lights, helping patients, directing visitors, sorting files, unpacking and/or transporting hospital equipment, etc.
- Completed training in SMMC policy and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Stanford Center for Artificial Intelligence in Medicine & Imaging (AIMI), Research Intern
Stanford University   June 2023 – Aug. 2023
- Conducted research and completed Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative Program (CITI) Training to access patient databases for the primary internship project.
- Grew medical and computer science knowledge through daily lectures and project work.
- Was selected out of an unprecedented number of over 1,000 applicants to be in the group of 25 interns.
- Placed first in the end-of-internship competition with a team of 5. Scoring components involved presentation, project ranking, question-answering, etc.

Genetics Class Volunteer Teacher   Sept. 2023 – Dec. 2023

STEM Accelerates Girls' Excellence (SAGE)
- Taught middle and elementary students about the field of genetics and drove them to grow the skills necessary to pursue answers to their own questions about scientific topics.
- Created a several-month-long curriculum with presentations/lectures, interactive activities, and assignments.

Genetics, Genomics, & Cancer Biology Research Intern   **May. 2023 – Sept. 2023**
Elio Academy of Biomedical Sciences
- Attended lectures given by professional researchers, utilized genomics databases and analysis tools, and worked on research projects regarding subjects such as circulating tumor cells.
- Published research on the genetics and inner workings of Parkinson's Disease.

Volunteer Academic Peer Tutor   **Aug. 2023 – Present**
Carlmont High School
- Regularly tutor fellow students in various subjects (i.e. Algebra 1 & 2 (Trig), Precalculus (Honors), Chemistry, Spanish, etc.) before school/during lunch/after school
- Member of Peer Tutoring Club, named February 2024 Peer Tutor of the Month

Volunteer Tutor   **Aug. 2023 – Present**
Project READ
- Help young children learn to read, write, and develop critical thinking skills with in-person, weekly practice.
- The literacy program focuses on children from Redwood City's most underserved neighborhoods and schools.

Website & Design Intern   **June 2023 – Present**
Artstem, 501c(3) Non-Profit Organization
- Design and create wireframes for new website pages as well as update the live website
- Led the organization of multiple fundraisers and coordinated with other team members

UI/UX & Graphic Design Student   **May. 2022 – Sept. 2022**
Academy of Art University
- Participated in the Academy of Art University's Pre-College Art Experience, and mastered the principles of graphic design as well as user interface, experience, and accessibility through rigorous coursework and projects.

BigBuddiesTutoring, Founding Member & Tutor   **Sept. 2020 – June 2021**
BigBuddiesTutoring
- Worked with a small group of dedicated, like-minded peers to found a program to help younger students with academic struggles amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Assisted in creating a website, forms, and tutoring system.
- Offered free tutoring in various subjects to all elementary and middle school students in the Belmont Redwood Shores District (BRSSD).

EDUCATION

Carlmont High School | *Belmont, CA*   **Design Tech High School |** *Redwood City, CA*
Jan. 2022 – Present   Aug. 2021 – Jan. 2022
                                                 - Athletics: Varsity Girls Soccer

AWARDS IN JOURNALISM

Youth Journalism International (YJI) Contest - 2024
- **First Place** - TECH JOURNALISM - *Unlocking Potential: How AI is Revolutionizing Healthcare*
- **Honorable Mention** - OPINION WRITING BY AN INDIVIDUAL - *Schools are failing young readers*

National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA)

- **First Place** - Online Pacemaker Winner - 2023
- National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) Leadership Award in Student Journalism - 2024
- **First Place** - Pacemaker for Digital Story of the Year: Multimedia News Story - 2024
- **Honorable Mention** - Pacemaker for Digital Story of the Year: Multimedia Feature Story - 2024
- **Third Place** - Pacemaker for Digital Story of the Year: Interactive Graphic - 2024
- **Fifth Place** - Best of Show Fall National High School Journalism Convention - 2022

Journalism Education Association
- **Superior Rating** (highest) in National Video Package Editing Contest - 2024

California Press Women (CFPW) Contest - 2024
- **Second Place** - NEWS - *Humanitarian crisis deepens in Gaza*
- **Second Place** - ENVIRONMENT - *Pyrotechnic marine flares ignite concerns for safety*
- **Third Place** - FEATURES - *A national struggle: Child care's impact on working women*
- **Honorable Mention** - FEATURES - *Indigenous language revitalization: Native American communities reclaim their culture*
- **Honorable Mention** - NEWS - *Nightshade empowers artists to fight back against generative AI*
- **Honorable Mention**- ENVIRONMENT - *Toxic 'forever chemicals' pollute humans and animals worldwide*

School Newspapers Online (SNO)
- **13-time Winner** of Best of SNO Award - 2023, 2024
- Selected for showcase on "Best of" Best of SNO Award - 2023

Journalism Education Association of Northern California (JEANC) BEST OF THE WEST Contest
- **Second Place** in Broadcast (ScotCenter) - 2023
- **First Place** in Feature Magazine (Highlander Magazine) - 2023
- **Third Place** in Website (Scot Scoop) - 2023
- **First Place** in Feature Magazine (Highlander Magazine) - 2024
- **Second Place** in Website (Scot Scoop) - 2024

View Isabella Zarzar's online journalism portfolio at **https://scotscoop.com/staff_name/isabella-zarzar/**
Highlander magazine issues may be found at **https://scotscoop.com/category/the-highlander/**

Other:
- Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Achievement in AP Calculus BC - 2023. 2024
- Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Achievement in Precalculus Honors - 2022, 2023
- National History Day (NHD) California State Finalist - 2021
- Honorable Mention in Belmont Library Youth Arts Contest - 2019

SKILLS

- **Programming Languages (at least basic proficiency):** Python, HTML, CSS, JavaScript.
- **Computer-aided design (CAD) Software:** SolidWorks, SketchUp.
- **Adobe Creative Cloud (experienced):** InDesign, Photoshop, Premiere Pro, Audition, Lightroom, Illustrator, Fresco.
- **Website Builders:** Wix, Squarespace, Doteasy, GoDaddy, Google Sites.
- **Other:** Microsoft Office Suite, Genially, Flourish, SoundTrap, Replit, Autodesk Sketchbook.
- **Languages:** Spanish (professional working proficiency), Arabic (elementary proficiency), Korean (elementary proficiency)

- Effective written and verbal communication
- Time management

- Organization
- Attention to detail
- Adaptability
- Teamwork