

David Truong
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David Truong, a recent college graduate in computer science at the University of Washington, currently works in San Francisco as a Software Developer for the game company Zynga, the creators of 'Farmville'. He is also a prospective Ph.D. candidate in computer science and engineering at the University of Washington. David's story follows:

During high school, I was an active member of FBLA at Lake Washington High School. As a member of FBLA, I participated in conferences, competitions, and various officer positions. The positions that I served during my time in high school include historian, treasurer, president, state regional VP, and national membership committee member. I was also selected as Washington state's member of the year.

I believe in FBLA's goals and am a testament to their effectiveness in helping develop tomorrow's future business leader. "Strengthen the confidence of students in themselves and their work" is one of FBLA's goals that has greatly impacted my life in helping me become more confident in speaking, presenting, and in freely expressing ideas while working with others. All of these skills play an important role in being successful in the workplace.

I began programming my freshman year of college and have since worked at a number of large tech companies and have won a number of awards and competitions. I've interned for companies such as Intel, Lockheed Martin, and Microsoft. I've experienced a wide variety of roles while working, which include being a software developer, tester, and program manager. Additionally, I have also worked as a teaching assistant and a researcher at the University of Washington.

During the course of my undergraduate degree, I worked on a number of programming projects and competitions. I have placed top 3 in the ACM programming competition and Microsoft's puzzle challenge. Many of my projects have gotten national recognition and won numerous awards. My programming team has won the Yahoo Hacku programming competition three years in a row at the University of Washington and has won in the Yahoo Open Hack competition in New York City. Most notably, our competition project, www.kathack.com, went viral with millions of views within the first days after the competition and was publicized on sites such www.engadget.com, www.digg.com, www.reddit.com, and www.slashdot.com.

The *Bus Stop Alarm*, one of my other projects received national recognition as a finalist in Google's Juicy Ideas competition. The *Bus Stop Alarm* is a mobile application that allows users to set an alarm to notify them when they reach their destination. So no more falling asleep on the bus and missing your stop! My most recent project was the game *Aquatic Equations*, which teaches students math through the context of games. *Aquatic Equations* was chosen as a top 3 national finalist in Hidden Agenda game competition.

Through FBLA I have learned vital skills that have helped me achieve success both academically and professionally in the workplace. FBLA also helps with the transition from school to professional life.