

Aleksander Kurgan

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EDUCATION

Deep Run High School (DRHS), Center for Information Technology (CIT) Glen Allen, VA	Aug. 2022 - Present
Relevant Coursework: AP Human Geography, AP European History, AP Statistics, AP Computer Science Principles, AP Precalculus, Intro to Programming, IT Project Management, AP Calculus BC, AP Physics I, AP US History, AP English Language, AP Computer Science A	
GPA: 4.58	
George H. Moody Middle School, International Baccalaureate (IB) Program Richmond, VA	Sep. 2019 - June 2022
GPA: 4.0 Gifted student program	
Polish Primary and Middle Schools (Grades 1-8) Polish Embassy, Washington, D.C	Sep. 2016 - Jun. 2023
GPA (Scale: 1-6): 6.0	
Shady Grove Elementary School Glen Allen, VA	Sep. 2016 - Jun. 2019
GPA: Gifted student program	
Mount Pleasant Elementary School Edmonton, Canada	Sep. 2014 - Jun. 2016

EXTRACURRICULAR INVOLVEMENT

Jazz Trombone Primary Teacher: Dr. Toby Whitaker	2019 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Selected for early participation in Jazz Band Grades 6-8, George H. Moody Middle SchoolSelected for early participation in Jazz Band Grades 9-12, Deep Run High School	
Classical Euphonium Primary Teacher: Professor Ross A. Walter	2015 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Selected for early participation in Advanced Band Grades 6-8, George H. Moody Middle SchoolSelected for early participation in Top Wind Ensemble Grades 9-12, Deep Run High School	
Robotics Member of FRC #1086 Blue Cheese, Ashland, VA	2023 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Computer Aided Designer (CAD): Developed complex 3D models of robots using (self-taught) professional CAD software (Onshape). Click here to see example modelsComputer Aided Manufacturer (CAM): Used CAM software Fusion360 to facilitate manufacturing of modelsFabricator: Fabricated robot parts for First Robotics Competition robots using in-shop machinery	
Programming & Cybersecurity Member of Computer Club at DRHS	2022 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Highly proficient in Javascript, HTML, CSS, Typescript and proficient in Python, and JavaProficient in Linux hardening skills utilized in the annual the Cyberpatriot competitions (2024-Present)Proficient in cryptography, hashing, forensics utilized in "Capture the Flag" cybersecurity competitions (Radford RUSecure, finalist; PatriotCTF)	

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- "*Multiphonics on Euphonium: Solving the Mystery of the Third Note*", Virginia Junior Academy of Science (VJAS) Symposium, 2021 [Paper Presentation](#) (Winner of the **Second Prize**, Physics Category)

PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCES

- Performance with the VCU Greater Richmond Youth Jazz Band directed by Dr. Taylor Barnett. May 14, 2024
 - Carpenter Theatre at the Dominion Energy Center, Richmond, VA.*
- Performance with the VCU Greater Richmond Youth Jazz Band directed by Dr. Taylor Barnett. May 4, 2024
 - Trinity Episcopal School Jazz Festival, Richmond, VA.*
- Performance with the VCU Greater Richmond High School Jazz Band directed by Toby Whitaker. May 6, 2023

- *Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall, Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, Richmond, VA.*
- ["Rhapsody by James Curnow", with Dr. Magdalena Adamek, piano.](#) November 9, 2022
 - *Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall, Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, Richmond, VA.*
- ["Concertino" by Ernst Sachse, with Dr. Magdalena Adamek, piano.](#) December 1, 2021
 - *Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall, Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, Richmond, VA.*

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Academic Awards

- AP Scholar with Distinction 2024
- Deep Run High School Academic Excellence Award 2024, 2023
- *Awarded for receiving all A's among all classes in all quarters of the school year.*
- Deep Run High School Principal's Scholar 2024, 2023
- *Awarded for ranking in the 99th percentile among 2.3 million nationwide PSAT testers.*
- Polish Ambassadors Diploma for Exceptional Academic Achievement2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018
- *Awarded for exceptional academic achievement with a GPA of 5.5 or above (on a 1-6 scale).*
- United States Presidential Diploma for Outstanding Academic Excellence 2022

Music Awards

- Deep Run High School Band Outstanding Sophomore Award 2024
Recognized as the top player in the Sophomore class of Deep Run High School bands for exceptional musical achievements.
- Deep Run High School Fine Arts Department Award 2024
- Second Chair All-Virginia Concert Band (Performance: April 18-20) 2024 (Grade 10)
- *Ranked as the second-best euphonium player in Virginia for Concert Band, directed by Verena Mösenbichler-Bryant, Chair of the Music Department and Professor of the Practice of Music at Duke University.*
- Principal Trombone Greater Richmond Youth Jazz Band Program 2024
- *Selected by Dr. Taylor Barnett as the first best trombone player in the acclaimed Greater Richmond Jazz Program.*
- Second Chair All Virginia Top Jazz Band 2024 (Grade 10)
- *Ranked as the second-best jazz trombonist in Virginia's highest-level jazz band, directed by Alan Baylock, Director of the prestigious One O'Clock Lab Band at the University of North Texas.*
- All-District Band Euphonium Audition Winner and Participant (Grade 10) 2024
- Deep Run High School Band Outstanding Freshman Award 2023
- *Recognized as the top player in the Freshman class of Deep Run High School bands for exceptional musical achievements.*
- Fourth Chair All-Virginia Symphonic Band (Grade 9) April 27-29, 2023
- Second Trombone Greater Richmond Youth Jazz Band Program 2023
- *Selected by Professor Toby Whitaker as the second best trombone player in the acclaimed Greater Richmond Jazz Program.*
- All-District Band Euphonium Audition Winner and Participant 2023 (Grade 9), 2022 (Grade 8)
- All-County Band Euphonium Audition Winner and Participant 2023 (Grade 9)
- 2nd prize in the International Competition "GCC Series-Music of America" 2021
- *Selected as the second best Euphonium player in the international Great Composers Competition series.*
- Finalist at International Tuba Euphonium Association VTEC Competition, age category 12-15 2021
- All-District Band Euphonium Audition Winner and Participant (Grade 6) 2020

Programming and Cybersecurity Awards

- Finalist Radford University RUSecure CTF Cybersecurity Competition 2024
- Cyberpatriot Top 'Gold Category' All-Virginia Qualifier 2024
- Winner of the "Code Beats" Summer Program competition, VCU 2022

Programmed a new hip-hop beat that won competition among around 40 submissions. Released as the opening track of the resulting Spotify album edited by DJ Harrison and Dr. Antonio García. Featured at the VCU's Jazz Orchestra concert in 2022. [Click to listen](#)

ADDITIONAL HONORS

- Winner of the "Who could be the Polish School at Washington D.C. Patron?" Speech Competition 2022
- George H. Moody Middle School All A Honor Roll Award 2022
- Polish School in Washington D.C. Poetry Recitation Competition Winner 2021
- Presidential Diploma for Outstanding Academic Excellence, Shady Grove Elementary School 2019
- Adam Mickiewicz Poetry Recitation Competition Winner 2018
- Write and Recite a Poem in Honor of Mother's Day Competition Winner 2018
- Polish School in Washington D.C. Poetry Recitation Competition 2nd Prize 2016
- Winner of the "Favorite Polish Tradition" Art Competition 2016

SKILLS, ACTIVITIES & INTERESTS

Languages: English (Native), Polish (Native), Spanish (Intermediate)

Programming Languages: Python, Java, Next.js, Typescript, Javascript, HTML, CSS

Software: Onshape, Fusion 360, VSCode, Git

Interests: Computer Aided Design, Programming, Mountain Biking, Cooking, History, Reading