

# Zakaria Kortam

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As a dynamic and driven Computer and Software Engineering student, I am fueled by a deep passion for leveraging software as a catalyst for innovation, transforming novel ideas into tangible realities that push the boundaries of what's possible.

## Experience

### Founder

#### Surf LLC

Aug. 2022 - Present

Surf is a social media platform that utilizes A.I. to provide an innovative user experience, while protecting user data. I created & planned UI/UX designs, features, website, developed the application, formed and organized marketing, development & customer service teams.

#### Kortam Media

Mar. 2020 - Present

I created a media production conglomerate that has reached 6M+ people. Kortam Media creates a wide range of content ranging from humour to politics. Additionally, we also had a video editing service, where I worked with creators across the country.

#### Clippy 2.0

April 2023 - Present

I designed and created an AI chatbot that humorously incorporates aspects of "Clippy," Microsoft's old Word assistant. My application got over 500 users from all over the world.

#### Butterfly Project

June 2023

I created a non-profit that has raised \$10,000. The project will work with specialized groups of students from 7 high schools and 2 community colleges to create special youth-led initiatives locally based on the skillsets of the groups of students.

#### Developer Intern • Inqueue

June 2023 - Present

Working as an intern at a startup company that creates a consumer and enterprise product for managing lines and queues of people.

#### COO • ClosingTheDivide

Sept. 2021 - Present

Led a multi-national nonprofit of hundreds of volunteers dedicated to expanding technological access. Over 1300 computers donated, \$250K raised, and 13 labs built. I assembled and led teams, formed partnerships, designed and logistically planned international projects.

#### Secretary General • Model U.N.

January 2022 - June 2022

I was elected as Secretary General of a youth-led model United Nations community of over 600 people from over 20 different countries. I reformed the organization and led its expansion for over 6 months. I developed a new charter, developed a more stable structure, and a new system for international votes and the preservation of peace.

## Education

### B.S. Computer Engineering

#### Silver Creek High School

Aug. 2020 - June 2022

#### Evergreen Valley College

June 2022 - May 2024

#### Mission College

June 2022 - May 2024

#### President • EVC Computer Science Club

June 2023 - Present

Led, restructured, and expanded the EVCCSC to over 60 members and projects ranging from Augmented Reality to UI/UX design and AI/ML.

#### Courses include:

Elements of AI | Intro to Machine Learning | Discrete Math & Structures | Program Structures | Java, Python, Scheme Computing | Data Structures | Computer Science I and 2 (Searching, Hashing, Trees, etc) | Critical Thinking & Composition

#### Programming Languages:

C++ | Java | Python | Scheme | Dart

## Awards

#### Presidential Volunteer Service Award • Gold

May 2022

I was awarded the U.S. PVSA for my consistent involvement as a volunteer in my community.

#### California State Champion • Future Business Leaders of America

April 2022

I was awarded the title of California State Champion in a series of competitive entrepreneurial events at the FBLA California State Leadership Conference.

#### Speaker of the Year • Silicon Valley Urban Debate League

April 2022

Received the Speaker of the Year Award for my exceptional and consistent speaking performance at SVUDL.

#### Finalist • SVUDL Moot Court

June 2022

Debated in front of Superior Court of California Judges, as well as the honorable, Justice John B. Owens from the United States 9th Circuit.