

# JONATHAN CHAO

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## EDUCATION

**University of Southern California** Los Angeles, California  
**Bachelor of Arts in Intelligence and Cyber Operations** August 2023-April 2027

- Overall GPA: 4.0/4.0
- Coursework: Information Security Management, Ethical Hacking and Systems Defense, Enterprise Network Design, Digital Forensics and Cybersecurity Investigations, Apple Forensics & Security (macOS & iOS), National Intelligence and the Shaping of Policy, Technology and International Relations

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## SKILLS & INTERESTS

### Forensics Work

- With the USC CTF team, won 3rd at the National Collegiate Incident Response Competition (CIRCUS), analyzing images tracking attacker activity, and conveying forensic information to a panel of forensic experts
  - Conducted forensics research on Facebook Marketplace's app, creating a IEEE White paper and presenting to industry experts
  - Produced 10+ Computer Forensics reports on provided .E01 files using Encase, Autopsy, Cellebrite Inspector, and Volatility
- ### IT Projects
- Worked with local nonprofits such as Via Serica, Cooperative Aid, and OCUkraine as a proficient web designer and software developer to merge the leadership's business ideas with software to drive fundraising and medical missions
  - Collaborated with Python professor to create new final project, testing knowledge of Pandas DataFrames, lists, and dictionaries
- ### Security Projects
- Developed packet sniffer on a Raspberry Pi Zero W to capture TCP three-way handshakes and evaluated router security by analyzing traffic and cracking MD5 hashes using Hashcat dictionary attacks.
  - Presented to USC's CTF club on OSINT, using Public Records Requests to locate the building and floor of USC's data center

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**USC Viterbi Technology and Applied Computing Program** Los Angeles, California

**LA for Accelerated Programming in Python (TAC 115 & TAC 116)** January 2024-Present

- As head LA, manages a team of graders to manage grading and facilitate learning programming
- Grades a cohort of 30 students, assists professor during and after lecture, and hosts Lab Hours to individually tutor python
- Introduced a novel system of managing grading activity using Google Sheets, ensuring consistent and timely grading of students

### Cooperative Aid Inc.

Remote

#### Website Admin and Technology Head for Medical Nonprofit

July 2025-August 2025

- With the help of leadership, redesigned Cooperative Aid's website using WordPress and Elementor, increasing usability and donor accessibility, helping to fund a medical trip to Liberia (<https://cooperativeaidinc.org/>)
- As technology head, introduced Trello Kanban boards to coordinate tasks and maintain transparency across the organization

### theCoderSchool

Yorba Linda, California

#### Coding Tutor Intern

July 2022-August 2022

- Led and assisted groups of 20-30 students through coding summer programs, assisting in troubleshooting and tutoring
- Collaborated with a small team to develop and publish a novel Java + CSS camp on GitHub

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## LEADERSHIP

### Member Relations VP for CybOrg

Los Angeles

#### Event Planning & Logistics @ USC's largest cyber club

January 2026-Present

- Planning events as a leader, coordinating transportation, and planning logistics for a multi-day club retreat with 25+ members
- As the main contact between students and CybOrg, organized club events to draw in new members and interest current ones

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## PROJECTS

### Freelance Website Design for Client

June 2024-Present

- Designed website using Wordpress, Elementor, and Java for a client desiring a reactive portfolio showcasing video projects
- Collaborated with a client over 3 months, constantly updating and refining the website according to their recommendations

### Nonprofit OC Families for Ukraine

March 2022-Present

- Co-founded and was Co-president for OC Families for Ukraine, along with being Creator and manager of website
- Raised 30,000+ dollars for World Central Kitchen, Global First Responders, and CERT by leveraging Lions Club connections