

Cyrus Alexander Rivers
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Education

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST), Alexandria, VA 2019 - 2023
GPA: 4.0 UW, 4.44 W (of 4.0) (through Junior year)
SAT: 1580
AP U.S. History: 5 | AP Drawing: 5 | AP Calculus BC: 5 | AP Biology: 5
12th Grade Course Work: AP English Language/Lit, AP US Government, Geosystems, Biotechnology Research, Research & Statistics, Neurobiology, Bionanotechnology, AP Japanese

Volunteer and Work Experience

Reston Art Gallery, Reston, VA September 2021 - Present

Volunteer

- Led groups of 10-30 students for Reston “Arts & Crafts for Kids” teaching art techniques such as printmaking and designing hands-on arts and crafts projects such as collage work, sculpting projects, and gift making.
- Assisted with exhibition breakdown and set up, assisted with classes, answered student questions, organized materials and supplies, kept space clean and orderly, and helped with promotion.

Art Show Organizer

June 2022 – August 2022

- Organized “Art for Recovery” art show and fundraiser featuring thirteen high school artists to raise awareness of substance abuse health crisis and raised nearly \$3,000 for *Recovery Program Solutions of Virginia*

Visual Artist, Reston, VA

2015 - Present

Self-Directed

- Created numerous individual art pieces and several collections, both independently and as part of enrollment in various art programs, including TJHSST’s AP Drawing Course and a variety of painting, drawing, digital art, and mixed media design courses hosted by Rhode Island School of Design, Monroe Art Studio, the Smithsonian, Torpedo Factory and private instructors.
- Designed and published a portfolio of art pieces and collections at cyrusrivers.com.

TJ Writing Center, Alexandria, VA

March 2021 – Present

Tutor

- Provided feedback to other TJ students to improve scientific writing as well as IBET papers, research projects, and creative writing.

Extracurricular Activities

Thomas Jefferson High School Biotechnology Club, Alexandria, VA

Co-President

2022 – Present

- Leading planned initiatives for the TJ Biotechnology Club
- Organizing speaker events with Biotechnology professionals
- Planning and organizing biotechnology lab exercises and educational presentations

Understudy Officer and Member

2020 -2022

- Presented lectures and facilitated club activities such as genetically modified organisms presentation, gel electrophoresis lab, Ted Talk discussions, and biotech-related games.
- Assisted other officers with planning club initiatives, led biotech game sessions, and led marketing and promotion efforts to recruit new members.

Thomas Jefferson High School Theater Arts

Winter 2020 - Present

Singer, Actor, Dancer, Pianist, Drummer

- Newsies Musical – “Spot Conlon” Supporting Actor, Singer, Dancer (Winter/Spring 2020)
- School of Rock Musical – “Freddy Hamilton” Supporting Actor, Singer, Dancer, Drummer (Fall 2021)
- The Play That Goes Wrong – “Inspector Carter” Lead Actor (Winter 2020/2021)
- Matilda the Musical - Bruce Bogtrotter (Winter/Spring 2021)
- Virtual Coffee Houses – Sang and played piano for three virtual “Coffee House” performances during pandemic when in-school activities were prohibited
- Member of the International Thespian Society
- Soloist for Sophomore Year Class Song

National Art Honor Society

2021 - Present

Member

- Participated as an artist in the “Memory project” which involved creating and giving a portrait of an African refugee to them.
- Assisted with several fundraisers for art supplies, such as designing and selling goody bags, working a bake sale, and helping create a banner and posters for a Climate Walk Out event.
- Brainstormed with the group to decide on society activities.

National Student Leadership Conference on Biotechnology, American University

June 2021

Student

- Gained experience with lab techniques and skills such as micropipetting, streaking bacteria, performing restriction digestion, transforming bacteria, and operating PCR equipment.
- Led 4-person team to win the Project Pitch contest over six other teams, designing and proposing a biodegradable IV bag that would withstand the autoclaving process and not compromise IV bag functionality. The IV bag design and materials would allow the entire bag to biodegrade in order to prevent the accumulation of mass amounts of medical waste.

American University Biotechnology Course, Virtual

July 2021

Student

- Researched genetic factors in susceptibility to alcoholism and drug addiction through literature review (Grade: A)

Georgetown Pre-College Online Program; Medical Research:

Clinical Trials Resulting in Medical Discoveries

August 2021

Student

- Investigated how acetylation of MSH2-gene-associated histones affects the likelihood of developing colorectal cancer in humans through literature review

Awards/Achievements

Scholastic Regional Art Contest

2022

- Gold Key Award for “Stress Matrix”
- Gold Key Award for “Nucleotidal Brain Box”

National Student Leadership Conference Biotechnology Program

2021

- Product Pitch Competition Winner for Biodegradable IV Bag

Summer Residential Governor’s School for Visual and Performing Arts

2022

- Selected for Summer 2022 Visual Arts Program

National Capital Area Cappies

2022

- Winner of *Best Featured Actor in a Male Role* award for performance in *Matilda*

National Honor Society

2021 - Present

National Art Honor Society

2021 – Present

National Japanese Honor Society

2022 – Present

Principal’s Award

2021-2022

- Principal’s Award of Recognition for Outstanding Artistic Achievement

Additional Coursework (outside of TJHSST)

March - May 2021

Rhode Island School of Design Continuing Education, Advanced Program for High School Students, Exploration in Design I and II

July 2021

Rhode Island School of Design Continuing Education, Advanced Program for High School Students, Experimental Drawing

July 2021

American University Biotechnology Virtual Course

July 2020

Art League at the Torpedo Factory Digital Illustration