

Amrit Amar

High School CV

Education

2004 - 2009 John Mackenzie Primary School, Francistown, Botswana

2010 - 2010 Eastern Gate Academy, Francistown, Botswana

2011 - 2016 Maru-A-Pula Secondary School, Gaborone, Botswana

2016 - 2020 Cornell University, Ithaca NY, United States of America

Qualifications

2014 *Cambridge IGCSE:*

Physics (A*)

French (A*)

Mathematics (A*)

ICT (A*)

Biology (A*)

Computer Science (A*)

Chemistry (A*)

Economics (A)

English Language (A*)

Additional Mathematics (A)

Literature (English) (A*)

2015 *Cambridge AS-Level*

Physics (A)

Mathematics (A)

Chemistry (A)

Computer Science (A)

Work Experience

Maru-A-Pula School Front Office Intern (*May 2016 – August 2016*)

I worked at Maru-A-Pula School's front office as an intern. I handled telephone calls, school clients and student requests while researching and making presentations for the principal's office. I also handled data entry of new students, student surveys and handled administrative tasks. I also helped teacher's by helping them with classes, teaching classes and tending to tech problems they had.

Community Service

Makgasa ICT & Teaching (*January 2013 - August 2014*)

I taught primary school children at Old Naledi Primary School how to use the computer effectively for educational purposes and helped with their reading. I was the head of the "ICT" part of the activity. During this activity, I taught children the fundamentals of computers and helped them learn Microsoft Word and Excel applications and use them for writing letters, making questionnaires and solving mathematical problems with ease. I enjoyed this activity because I could create the spark in young minds to love and pursue a career in a computer-related field.

Tswaragano Reading (*January 2015 – August 2015*)

I also taught primary school children at Tswaragano Primary School how to read and played educational puzzle games with the children. By playing puzzle games with children, I taught them logic and how to solve simple problems.

Bundles of Brightness (*March 2015*)

Bundles of Brightness is a project initiated by Riverside Church, Harlem, New York, with the aim of providing uniforms, solar lights and job opportunities to impoverished villages in Africa. It was implemented in Botswana under the name, *Operation Starfish*, which is a poverty alleviation scheme. Bundles of Brightness held a charity concert in which I participated as a pianist. The concert earned P200,000 (BWP) in total.

Extra-Curricular Activities

1. **Student Advisory Council** (*Class Elected Representative, Treasurer, Technology Manager*):

The Student Advisory Council (SAC) is a student body composed of class-elected representatives, formed for the purpose of addressing and solving student complaints. All student issues are discussed in weekly meetings and any problems that were not resolved were escalated to the school management. The SAC is also responsible for giving permission to activities for their events. I was the Treasurer and Technology Manager of the SAC. I handled all funds raised through various events arranged by other activities and made sure it went to them. I also handled all online communication between the SAC and the school body.

2. **Programming Club** (*President*):

The programming club is an activity for students who are interested in programming and coding. Every Wednesday, I taught my juniors how to code programs and make computer applications. As the head of the activity, I managed everything from marking the register to grading work given to students.

3. **Maru-A-Pula Voices** (*Journalist, Website Manager, Yearbook Photographer*):

Maru-A-Pula Voices (MAP Voices) is an activity for students who are interested in the world of journalism. Students who are part of this activity write articles about events that happen around the school, take photographs and interview various people of interest. These articles were uploaded by me on to the school news website. In addition, we published a trimester magazine (*The Compass*). MAP Voices is also responsible for the annual yearbook. I was part of the editorial team as a journalist, a website manager and a yearbook photographer.

4. **Maru-A-Pula Debate Society** (*Team Member*):

The Maru-A-Pula Debate Society is a club for students interested in debating. I am part of the school's debating team. This society is the best debate society in the high-school category in Botswana, proven by our 4-year undefeated debate record.

5. **Squash Club** (*Team Member*):

The Squash Club is a club for students interested in the sport. I am part of the Maru-A-Pula Squash team.

6. **Fencing Club** (*Team Captain*):

The Fencing Club is for students interested in the sport. I am the captain of the Maru-A-Pula Fencing team.

7. **School Theatre Production** (*Technology Manager, Part of 5-Piece Live band*):

The drama department of Maru-A-Pula school stages an annual theatre production. In 2012, I was the technical manager of the production, in which I handled the lighting and sound effects of the show. In 2015, I was part of a 5-piece live ensemble band for the theatre production as a keyboard player.

8. **Computer Maintenance** (*Member*):

Computer Maintenance is a clean-up service where students clean computer labs and fix broken computers.

Talents/Achievements

1. **Best Game Programmer in Africa U/18** (*2013 and 2014*):

I was declared Africa's Best Game Programmer in the years 2013 and 2014. In 2013, I won first place out of 708 contestants from different African countries in a month long contest that had 3 stages of elimination. The prize was to work as a programmer for Mojang AB, a Swedish video games company, on their famous game, Minecraft, as part of the Minecraft Code Developers Group, where I reported bugs. In 2014, I successfully defended my position in the second iteration of the competition, where there were 1567 contestants in 6 elimination rounds, and won game making software and an opportunity to talk to top game developers of the video gaming industry.

2. **Captain of the School Botho University ICT Linkz Challenge Team** (*2012 and 2013*):

I was captain of the Maru-A-Pula Botho College ICT Linkz Challenge Competition in both 2012 and 2013, where our team was declared the winner. The ICT Linkz Challenge is an interschool competition for all high schools in Botswana that focuses on Computing topics. I came 1st in the IT Innovation/Working model category in 2013 for making an animatronic robotic hand (a robotic hand that moves based on the human hand controlling it) that could help people working in dangerous situations such as in mines.

(A video demonstration can be seen here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TA5GpAQBzUY>)

3. **Member of School David Makgang Quiz Team (2014):**

I was part of the MAP David Makgang Quiz Championship Team in 2014 which won first place. The competition was organized by the Phakalane Golf Estate for all high schools in Gaborone.

4. **Third Place in the Monash University Essay Competition (2015):**

I won third place in the Monash Essay Competition 2015. The competition was organized by Monash University in Australia, where the theme was “Are you Socially Responsible?” for high-schools in Gaborone.

5. **Bronze Award at the De Beers English Olympiad (2014):**

I won a Bronze award in the English Olympiad 2014, for writing on the theme, “Life’s a laugh”. The English Olympiad was organized by the De Beers group of companies for all high-schools in Southern Africa.

6. **Winner of the Maru-A-Pula Science Fair (2015):**

I won first place at the MAP Science Fair in 2014 with my animatronic hand project (from the Botho University Linkz competition). The hand project can be a solution to the dangerous conditions that miners may encounter during fire breakouts or rock falls in the mines. The hand is controlled by a user who moves his own fingers to move the robot’s fingers. The hand can be used to extract minerals from mines and rescue people and things in fire situations with the same precision a human has, without any danger.

(Another video demonstration can be seen here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vL56RGWwA9o>)

7. **Music: Piano (2006-present):**

I have played the piano for the past nine years. I have passed my Grade 7 Piano exam (2014) and Grade 5 Music Theory exam (2013) from the Associated boards of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM), UK. I will write my Grade 8 Piano exam in June 2016. I have performed publicly at various events including the annual school music concert (*Tutti & Soli*), charity events and school theatre production.

8. **Winning Team Member of National High-School Debate Championships (2012):**

I was part of the Maru-A-Pula Debate Team at the National High-School Debate Championships. We won first place in the competition.