

EHAS

Everyone Has A Story

Andrew Kowitt

We are on a mission: to prove to you, our reader, that everyone, and we do mean everyone, has a story within them, both unique and interesting. Cue our bi-monthly feature EHAS. Everyone Has A Story, where one Patriot Post staffer sets off on a quest to find and extensively interview a Heritage student at random to prove that everyone does, in fact, have a story.

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After realizing The Patriot Post does not find their sample population for polls correctly (in terms of statistics), I set out to find someone for EHAS using simple random sample. Randomly select a number electronically; the number that pops up corresponds to the student in a table — you know, just like Mr. Sofy told us to do in the real world. I emailed the person and — nonresponse. A few more nonresponses later and The Patriot Post found its randomly selected student: freshman Andrew Kowitt, not a jack of all trades, master of none kind of guy.

“I’m more of a nine of all trades,” Kowitt laughed after discussing his work in computer science, robotics and classical piano.

Although Kowitt feels he has a lot to grow in his passions, it doesn’t stop him from working hard on things he’s passionate about.

He enjoys working with computers, both leisurely and academically, for the Ninjineers Robotics team. As ninth grade representative for the Playtriot Board Game club, Kowitt tries to expose the club to more virtual games. Now, they spend more time on video games than board games, a quick fix for online learning.

Kowitt aims to surprise people with the extent of his passion for gaming.

“I’m curious if you’ll have the same reaction as everyone else I’ve told this to,” Kowitt said. “I like playing Tetris competitively,” he added.

I admit, this was the first interview to garner that response.

After starting Tetris on the Nintendo Switch on a whim (“I thought, this game is free, let’s try it”), Kowitt began to look into the specifics behind Tetris.



(Photo submitted by Andrew Kowitt)

“That was my first mistake,” Kowitt said. “I couldn’t just play like any normal person.”

After more gaming, he got into “proper Tetris ranking” and settled a little lower than average. Kowitt doesn’t foresee himself winning any Tetris tournaments yet, but he still enjoys this hobby.

As for robotics, he began his work as a fourth grader. On the First Lego League Robotics team, Kowitt found a bridge between gaming and robotics that eventually bred his passion for computer science. This led further into his involvement with coding over the summer for a course his dad signed him up for. He hopes to become proficient in at least one coder language at one point.

Kowitt is not all about tech though; he also composes for piano. He began his musical career at four years old, but took a break. Over the past year, he started getting into playing again.

“I want to be able to sit down at a piano and just impress a group of people,” Kowitt said. “I’m getting better at understanding patterns of diminished chords.”

Kowitt will continue learning piano, computer science and, of course, Tetris.

“All these things, I work really hard for them. Hopefully I reap the rewards.”



Issue 1 (Design/Zoe Persaud)

GEARING UP: Freshman Andrew Kowitt got his start in robotics on the First Lego League (FLL) Red Ninjineers as the only fourth grader on the team. Although he is looking forward to working on the senior high Ninjineers team, he also hopes to be a mentor for FLL students like him once he is back on campus. He credits his work on FLL as one of the activities that first sparked his interest in science. (Photo submitted by Andrew Kowitt)

