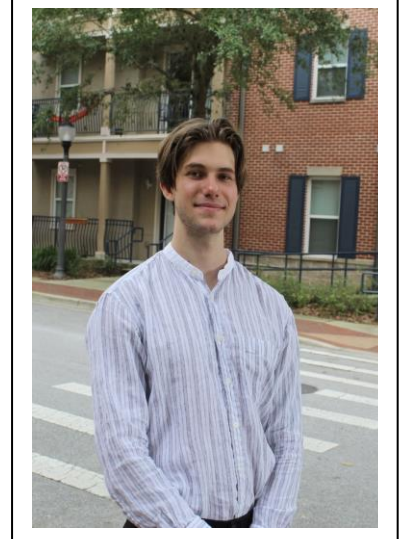


**Michael Cardei**  
**Computer Science**  
**Innovation Fellows Program - University of Florida**  
**University of Florida Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering**

Michael Cardei is a second-year student at the University of Florida's Wertheim College of Engineering studying Computer Science while also pursuing a minor in Business Administration. Within the field of Computer Science, Cardei is eager to specialize in Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence. During his free time, Cardei's interests include swimming, surfing, programming, and chess.



Cardei was raised in Boca Raton, Florida. With a nearby beach and surrounded by nature, he enjoyed exploring the outdoors with his friends and two older sisters. With proximity to the beach, Cardei learned how to surf and swim which had a large impact on his life by cultivating his love for the water and adventure. Following his passion of swimming, he joined a club swim team along with his high school varsity swim team. Eight years of club swimming taught Cardei the importance of determination, work ethic, and dedication when it came to achieving your goals. His senior year he was elected team captain and learned the significance of leadership, communication, and responsibility. During his attendance at West Boca High School, his three favorite subjects were mathematics, computer science, and business. Cardei joined his older sisters at the University of Florida studying Computer Science in hopes of one day starting his own venture utilizing the knowledge and skills gained from his engineering and business courses.

Upon beginning his academic study of Computer Science, Cardei's passion for technology constantly grows along with his knowledge and ambitions. Although his studies are focused on technological and business related skills, his interest in entrepreneurship grew as well. Participating in Hackathons provided opportunities for Cardei to utilize his technical skills and knowledge while also having the freedom to think of creative solutions to real world problems. Throughout the remainder of his academic career, Cardei hopes to obtain internships at top technological companies and perform research in academic labs. He plans to pursue a master's degree within Computer Science, concentrated in Artificial Intelligence.