

Training Scholarship Winner Nam Pho Uses Linux for Science

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As a first-generation Vietnamese-American, Nam Pho says he learned to make the most of limited resources and opportunities in many facets of his life. When it came to computing, this meant dealing with secondhand hardware. He built his Linux skills through frustrating, but educational, attempts to get old computers up and working again.

“With a bit of hacking I was ecstatic to see that Linux would give the machine second life in my hands,” said Pho, who was one of five Linux Foundation Training scholarship winners announced at LinuxCon in New Orleans. “Linux would continue to be a part of my life to varying degrees until today.”

Today Pho is a research computing scientist on the Linux High Performance Computing team at a large, nonprofit medical research university in the Boston area. Inspired by the Human Genome Project in the late 1990s, he chose to study genomics in college and combined it with his interest in computers.

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