

John Roemer  
[Jt.r@live.com](mailto:Jt.r@live.com)  
646-673-4640

Dear Vishwam and Lindsay,

I'm writing to apply to the internship opportunity on your team at Nordstrom Technology. After your presentation at Turing, I wanted to apply because the work you do strongly correlates to my goals as a developer. Before finishing the back-end program at Turing, I worked in the visual arts. The same thing draws me to the arts and to software development—a desire to design and implement user experiences. Your focus on constant improvement through developing new features demonstrates that Nordstrom encourages experimentation and learning. Your presentation at Turing was truly inspirational: you addressed the failures of the machine learning approach for *Your Look*, but then you demonstrated how the team made a functioning product by learning from their failures. I know I could succeed and grow within an agile team like yours.

My most satisfying job so far was working as a studio assistant for the artist Ofri Cnaani. We worked as a team to plan, produce, and install multimedia artworks at galleries and public institutions. Working with her required fast problem-solving and the ability to shift between multiple projects, each requiring a custom approach. My experience has taught me to move fast and break things. So far in my career as a developer, working as part of a team appeals to me the most because of the knowledge-sharing that takes place.

The most recent team project I worked on is an app called Politik. Our team made a more interactive and comprehensible resource for issues lobbyists present to the US government. In order to achieve this, we designed a front-end in React that implemented a D3 word cloud, a Python/Django API to consume data from ProPublica's API, and a Ruby/Rails API that receive data from the Python API and determined the words lobbyists used the most. Getting these three apps deployed and communicating with each other required specialized knowledge and collaboration from everyone on the team. I was the only team member with experience in ProPublica datasets, so my first responsibility was to design a solution for consuming and normalizing the required lobbyist data. After building the two back-end APIs, I switched gears and collaborated with our front-end teammate to implement the flow for user interaction. While working together on the UI, I contributed to the visual design; at the same time, I learned about React implementations and patterns from my teammate. I look forward to more opportunities for this kind of cross-disciplinary teamwork in future projects.

By combining the technical and creative knowledge I've gained, I am positive that I would be strong team member able to contribute to fulfilling Nordstrom's goals. As soon I successfully deployed my first application using a microservice style architecture, I was hooked. With the guidance of the teams at Nordstrom, my skillset would only expand, and my work would become even more fulfilling.

Please find my résumé attached with a list of my qualifications and links to my work. I look forward to learning more about Nordstrom and the position.

Thank you for your consideration,  
John Roemer