Besufekad Desta

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Education

Virginia Commonwealth University	Richmond, VA
B.S. in Computer Science	Concentration in Software Engineering	Expected Graduation: May 2027

Relevant Coursework

Data Structures | Algorithms | Software Engineering | Deep Learning | Computer Organization

Skills

Languages: Java | Python | JavaScript | HTML/CSS
Software: Git | Flask | NextJS | React

Independent/Academic Projects

Portfolio Website (Link) *October 2024 - Present*

- Created a personal website project showcasing various works and skills, designed to enhance online presence and demonstrate technical capabilities.
- Developed and optimized the website using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, implementing responsive design principles.
- Implemented responsive design techniques and mobile-first strategies, utilizing flex box layouts and CSS media queries.

Balanced Delimeter File Scanner *October 2024*

- Developed a Java program that analyzes HTML files to verify the balance of opening and closing tags, ensuring proper structure and format. This project involved applying algorithmic principles to handle nested tags effectively.
- Designed and implemented a custom stack data structure, encapsulated within a generic class, to manage the storage of opening tags as they are encountered during parsing.

Math Expression Parser *October 2024*

- Designed and implemented a binary tree-based parser in Java to evaluate mathematical expressions with an in-order traversal.
- Developed a recursive algorithm to build the binary tree, where each node represented an operator or operand and the operands were the roots while the operators were the parents.
- Supported operations including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, ensuring correct order of operations through operator precedence.

Work Experience

Residential Assistant *July 2024 – Present*
Gladding Residence Center *Richmond, VA*

- Implemented educational programs focusing on personal development topics such as study skills, time management, and stress management.
- Organized and executed impactful programs, including the Fall Festival, which attracted over 350 students and connected them to essential campus resources such as Counseling Services, RecWell, and the Developing Men of Color organization.
- Provided guidance to 36 first-year students transitioning into college life to aid student success and professional development.

Computer Science Teaching Assistant *January 2025 – Present*
VCU College of Engineering *Richmond, VA*

- Streamlined task delegation and communication by leading the migration from an outdated platform accelerating task completion rates across the team.
- Collaborated with the professor and team of teacher assistants to efficiently organize work distribution, ensuring timely task completion.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

National Society of Black Engineers Member, *VCU*	August 2024 - Present
Competitive Coding Club, *VCU*	August 2024 - Present
Developing Men of Color, *Committee Member IT Club, VCU*	August 2023 - Present
Community Health Equity Club Member, *VCU*	August 2023 - May 2024