

Nyarika Kemo Sonko

📍 Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada ✉ ksonko@sfu.ca 🔗 [linkedin.com/in/kemo-sonko](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kemo-sonko) 🐙 github.com/KemoLD 🌐 kemosonko.com

Education

Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

Sep 2019 - April 2024

Bachelor of Science, **Computer Science**

- **Relevant Coursework:** Software Design, Data Structures & Algorithms, Database Systems, Operating Systems
- **Extracurricular:** Men's Basketball NCAA division II Student-Athlete, Captain of SFU Intramural Volleyball Team

Experience

Software Development Engineer Intern - Diligent

Sep 2023 - Jan 2024

- Enhanced troubleshooting capabilities by **75%** by building **AWS CloudWatch dashboards**, enabling monitoring across AWS services
- Developed **scalable infrastructure as code** using Terraform/CDK for repeatable and consistent deployments across environments
- Built a **lambda** Slack notifier capturing **100% of AWS pipeline errors and successes**, ensuring prompt notifications for all deployments

Software Engineering Intern - Apollo Insurance

Sep 2022 - May 2023

- Collaborated on **cross-functional teams** to design, develop and implement new features for the company's insurance products and services
- Contributed to software systems maintenance, adeptly **identifying and resolving bugs** while implementing performance enhancements
- Built an **ElasticSearch** system to retrieve policy information from non-indexed fields in DynamoDB, significantly reducing retrieval times
- Configured Datadog and Rudderstack SDKs on a policy portal, capturing **user interaction tracking** and system performance metrics
- Developed a self-serve SMS bot, significantly reducing call center calls while serving **500+ customers weekly** with policy information

Quality Assurance Developer Intern - Later

May 2022 - Aug 2022

- **Designed, developed, and executed test cases** in an agile setting, ensuring software quality through the software development cycle
- **Led test-sprints** and oversaw testing processes for new features in each sprint, ensuring comprehensive coverage before approving release
- Developed an image uploading testing system, resolving a longstanding team issue and achieving **100% end-to-end test coverage**

Product Manager Intern - Wenso Ltd

May 2021 - Sep 2021

- Contributed across the entire **software development life cycle**, from conceptualization to launch, ensuring a cohesive development process
- Conducted **market research** to defined optimal pricing models, aligning product offerings with market demands and competition
- Spearheaded product **backlog management**, prioritized features, and set clear development expectations, ensuring efficient timelines
- **Led sprint retrospectives**, guiding the team in evaluating successes, challenges, and areas to refine, fostering continuous improvements

Skills

Programming: Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, Node.js, React.js, React Native, Redux, Express, Spring Boot, HTML, CSS, SQL, PostgreSQL

Testing and CI/CD: Selenium, Cypress, Jest, Junit, Nightwatch, Test Driven Development, Continuous Integration/Continuous Deployment (CI/CD)

Cloud and Infrastructure: Amazon Web Services, IAM, Google Firebase, AWS CDK, Docker, REST API, Microservices, HTTP

Tools and Platforms: Linux, XCode, Android Studio, Source control (Git), Google Admob, Postman, VS Code, JIRA, Notion, HubSpot, Confluence

Soft Skills: Communication, Critical Thinking, Leadership, Teamwork, Collaboration, Time Management

Languages: Native English Speaker, Native French Speaker

Projects

Affordable Housing App (React Native, Firebase, Google Cloud) - <https://roomtree.app>

Jun 2022 – Present

- Conducted **feasibility research** for the “RoomTree” roommate and room/suite sublet finder app, assessing viability and profitability
- Integrated advanced features **Geolocation, Google Places Autocomplete and Google Maps** for precise location-based results
- Published the app on the App Store, garnered **350+ impressions**, and achieved **finalist** status for the SFU Coast Capital Venture Prize

Portfolio Website (React.js, JavaScript, CSS) – <https://kemosonko.com>

Jan 2022 – Present

- Developed & deployed a web application to showcase my skills, personal projects & experiences in a **responsive user interface**
- Incorporated **reusability, scalability, and component modularity** into the website to improve flexibility and **code reusability**

Leadership & Volunteering

Teaching Assistant – Microsoft Teals

Mar 2024 - Present

- Demonstrated an **understanding of computer science fundamentals** to help 12th grade students learn the Python programming language
- Led sessions for students to enhance **problem-solving skills** & effectively work, both in **teams & independently**, through structured tasks
- Fostered equitable access to CS education through an **inclusive learning environment**, fostering **equity** and **diversity** for all students

Community Advisor - SFU Residence and Housing

Aug 2022 - Present

- Initiated and nurtured relationships among 33+ residents each semester, creating a welcoming and **supportive community environment**
- **Drove campus engagement** through the planning and execution of diverse programs spanning social, academic, and career-oriented
- Achieved a **100% incident resolution** rate by providing inclusive counseling services to students on academic and personal matters

Awards

Mahatma Gandhi Student Award - SFU Institute for Humanities and Thakore Charitable Foundation

October 2019

- Received the Mahatma Gandhi Student Award at SFU for dedicated community service and leadership, recognizing my impactful contributions to Heeno International, a privately funded Gambian Non-Governmental and Non-Profit Foundation.