



# Kenneth Lance Howard

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## Education

North Carolina A & T State University, B.S. in Computer Science - <b>Magna Cum Laude</b>	Greensboro, NC   May 2025
North Carolina A & T State University, M.S. in Computer Science - AI and DS focus	Greensboro, NC   Exp. Dec 2026
Fayetteville Technical Community College, Associate of Science	Fayetteville, NC   May 2021

## Technical Skills & Software Proficiencies

**Proficient:** C++, Java, Python, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, React, VS Code, NetBeans, Eclipse, SQL, Swift, Node.js, Jenkins, Linux, LLMs, RAG, various APIs/microservices, PyCharm, PyTorch

**Skills & Interests:** Machine Learning, Frontend, Data Structures, Algorithms, OS, Services, Flutter, Networking, Git, Digital Media, SQL, Backend, AI, Data Science, Scripting, Kubernetes, R, Linux, Feature Engineering, Fine-Tuning, Deep Learning

## Work Experience

### Sandia National Laboratories

#### Computer Science R&D

Albuquerque, NM | May 2024 – Present

- Conducting **R&D** initiatives to enhance national security, focusing on advanced algorithms for data analysis and system resilience.
- Integrating **LLMs**, **RAG** (Retrieval-Augmented Generation) **Feature engineering**, **Fine-Tuning** and **image processing models**, with **full-stack development** to innovate secure **AI-driven** software systems.
- Collaborating with **cross-functional teams** to design, develop, and deploy efficient software solutions tailored to operational needs.

### Graduate Research in AI/ML

#### AI Full-Stack Developer – NCAT Research Project

Greensboro, NC | August 2024 – Present

- Built an AI assistant for students and faculty to query lesson plans, parse notes, and auto-generate study content.
- Developed full-stack features using **Streamlit**, **LangChain**, and **Docker**, integrating **LLMs**, **RAG**, and multi-format file support.
- Led backend integration and containerized deployment for scalable, secure performance.

## Projects

### Full Stack Application Development:

Completed large-scale **Java projects** with **front-end/back-end** design using **Eclipse**, **OOP**, and **Jenkins** for database management, **React**, **React Native**, and **Python** applications with API integrations, **scripts**, and **Web scraping**.

- Designed architecture, implemented features, integrated **RESTful APIs**, ensured real-time data sync and more.

### Capital One Custom AI Assistance Hackathon:

Developed an AI assistant that secured 1st place. Leveraged **LLMs**, frameworks, and software engineering principles. Implemented contextual responses, data retention, and structured insights with **Streamlit** and **Docker**.

- Managed AI model development, testing, and deployment with **Docker**, refining the contextual response system.

### Deutsche Bank Hackathon – Sentiment Analysis with AI:

Built a real-time sentiment analysis pipeline to classify financial news and social media data.

- Trained advanced **NLP models** for high-accuracy sentiment detection; integrated results into a live dashboard for immediate insights.

### Sound Application for Hearing Loss (Flutter, Spotify AI):

Created a cross-platform mobile app that evaluates hearing capability and suggests curated music playlists using **Spotify's API**.

- Built the front-end in **Flutter** for a user-friendly interface; integrated Spotify AI APIs for personalized recommendations.

### AI Data Visualization Platform, – J.P. Morgan Data For Good Hackathon (React, Tailwind, OpenAI API, Python):

Developed a **full-stack** web app that visualized NBA player stats and mental health trends from uploaded CSV data using **LLMs**.

- Engineered front-end with **React** and **Tailwind** to support real-time user input and results display.
- Integrated **OpenAI API** with custom Python backend to generate charts and summaries from natural language prompts.
- Connected CSV upload and AI query pipeline to deliver contextual insights via button-triggered interactions.

## Extracurriculars & Awards

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|---|-----------------------|
| Member, (Association of Computing Machinery) <b>ACM</b> , <b>NSBE</b> & <b>SHPE</b> at NC A&T | Fall 2023–Present     |
| <b>Gen AI Certified with Dell</b> ; Placed in <b>Deutsche Bank Hackathon</b> & more           | Fall 2024–Spring 2024 |
| <b>Microsoft Mentorship Program</b> with a focus in Copilot, CS and personal development      | Fall 2024             |
| Member, <b>NCSU AI Club</b>   | Fall 2021–2022        |
| <b>NC A&amp;T Hackathon: Multiple 1st Places with Chevron, Capital One &amp; more</b>         | Fall 2023-Fall 2024   |
| Computer Science Course TA, NC A&T, <b>Led a python boot camp segment</b> for students        | Spring 2024           |