

Nicholas Zolton

281-913-9227 | nicholaszolton@gmail.com | nicholaszolton.dev | github.com/NicholasZolton

Technical Skills

Programming Languages: Java, C\#, C++, C, Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, HTML, CSS

Tools/Frameworks: React, React Native, NodeJS, Spring, Docker, Kubernetes, FastAPI, PyTorch, Svelte

Experience

Chief Technology Officer

Oct 2025 - Present

Happyverse

San Francisco, CA

- Leading technical strategy for a pre-seed startup valued at \$10M backed by Village Global, Jeff Dean, and Nvidia's Inception
- Secured multiple 5-figure enterprise contracts by leading end-to-end customer evaluations spanning technical discovery, solution design, and enterprise security requirements

Head of Engineering

Sep 2025 - Oct 2025

Happyverse

San Francisco, CA

- Implemented agentic solutions including knowledge retrieval, MCP integration, and interactive screen features, resulting in a significant increase in pilot user engagement and retention
- Reduced GPU inference costs by 75% without affecting broader quality benchmarks by optimizing model infrastructure and enabling distributed, parallelizable inferencing solutions

Founding Software Engineer

Jun 2025 - Aug 2025

Happyverse

San Francisco, CA

- Architected distributed, real-time video-conferencing AI systems using WebRTC and Triton; rapidly grew product to 1,000+ users with hundreds of AI conversations weekly
- Built a B2B web-app for tailoring real-time AI experiences, owning the React/TypeScript frontend, backend/infra, and Kubernetes orchestration

Software Engineer

Feb 2025 - Jun 2025

Walmart Global Tech - Global Workforce Management Analytics Team

Bentonville, AR

- Integrated Walmart Canada into analytics platform, eliminating multi-million-dollar third-party costs
- Built data pipelines with Airflow/BigQuery and improved frontend performance for a web app serving 60k daily users
- Developed and deployed critical infrastructure components using Java Spring for the Global Workforce Management Demand team, directly facilitating the automatic scheduling of 2.3 million associates worldwide

Teaching Assistant - Discrete Mathematics

Aug 2024 - Dec 2024

University of Texas at Dallas

Richardson, TX

- Mentored 40+ students in discrete mathematics concepts including logic, set theory, and graph theory, facilitating a deeper understanding of computer science and algorithm fundamentals
- Collaborated with faculty to grade assignments and exams, providing detailed feedback to support student learning and academic success

Software Engineering Intern

Jun 2024 - Aug 2024

Walmart Global Tech - Global Workforce Management Demand Team

Bentonville, AR

- Spearheaded Java Spring microservice for critical task automation, saving dozens of monthly labor hours
- Reduced tech debt by 30% across team projects through legacy code refactoring, improving development velocity and lowering maintenance costs

Software Development Intern

Nov 2022 - May 2023

BenefitMall

Richardson, TX

- Optimized C# and SQL stored procedures for W-2 services, reducing report generation time by up to 50%

Software Engineering Intern

Dec 2021 - Aug 2022

Brains4Drones

Dallas, TX

- Pioneered use of OpenVINO and YoloV5 to increase embedded vision-inferencing AI performance by 50%
+
- Managed two vital projects, removing reliance on shortage-ridden hardware and improving AI model accuracy

Education

University of Texas at Dallas

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

GPA: 4.0

Dec 2024

Projects

Sparrow Link <i>FastAPI, Postgres, React, Typescript</i>	Dec 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">1st place Engineering Capstone project at The University of Texas at DallasDeveloped a remote research platform for Spark Biomedical, accelerating clinical trials and data collection for their neuro-stimulation device, and enabling secure remote access to medical technologyCES 2026 Finalist for Best Wellness Tech	

Achievements

1st Place Gemini x Pipecat (\$100,000 prize)	Oct 2025
Google Developer Student Club President	2023 – 2024
Hackathon Awards: HackUTA (2nd), Axxess (1st), HackRICE (2nd), HackPrinceton (Finalist)	2023