

Xiaochen (Nigel) Lu

Dec 11, 2024

845-248-2938 | xiaoclu@outlook.com

ACLU National Office

Product & Technology Department

New York, NY

Dear Hiring Manager at ACLU,

I am excited to apply for the Product Manager Intern position in the ACLU's Product & Technology Department. As a Master's student in Computer Science at NYU with hands-on experience from internships and startups, I have developed strong skills in software development, data analysis, and product management. My journey as an engineer reflects a consistent focus on problem-solving, collaboration, and continuous learning, which I am eager to bring to this role.

At eBay Inc., I designed a dashboard to improve cluster monitoring and reduce response times, which taught me how to align technical tools with real-world needs. This experience introduced me to the importance of understanding users' pain points and delivering solutions that add value. Later, at the NYC Department of Design and Construction, I worked on machine learning models and built an interactive platform that supported over 400 engineers. This role expanded my technical expertise and reinforced the power of clear communication in ensuring the success of complex projects.

My most transformative experience was at Kaizntree, where I stepped beyond the scope of class projects and immersed myself in the realities of building production-ready software. As a software engineer in a startup, I worked directly with customers to understand their needs and challenges. This taught me to consider aspects often overlooked in academic settings, such as application stability, user experience, and long-term scalability. By applying CI/CD practices, integrating APIs, and adopting agile workflows, I learned to nurture a product through its entire lifecycle while balancing technical execution with user needs. These lessons have prepared me to

approach complex projects with a more holistic perspective, a mindset that aligns with the Data Pod's mission to empower supporters' engagement and fundraising.

I am inspired by the ACLU's mission and commitment to equity and inclusion. Joining your team would allow me to apply my skills toward meaningful, people-focused change rather than profit-driven goals. This internship is a unique opportunity to combine my technical expertise with my passion for creating impactful solutions.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss how I can contribute to the ACLU's work and its mission.

Sincerely,

Xiaochen (Nigel) Lu