Sydney Bao

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EDUCATION

Northeastern University   Boston, MA
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Design   *September 2023 – Present*
Relevant Coursework

- Database Design
- Object-Oriented Design
- Foundations of Software Engineering (graduate course)
- Projects in Cloud Computing at AWS Skills Center
- Discrete Structures
- Prototyping with Code
- Technology and Human Values
- Human Computer Interaction
- Algorithms

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Java, Kotlin, Python, SQL, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, TypeScript
Frameworks/Libraries: React, React Native, Node.js, Express.js, JUnit, Selenium, Cloud Computing, REST API
Tools: Git, Docker, Datagrip, Firebase, Amazon Web Services, XCode, MongoDB, MySQL, Visual Studio, CAD, Figma
Project Management: Microsoft Excel, wireframes, storyboards, Unified Modeling Language diagrams, Atlassian Jira
Operating systems: Windows, Linux, macOS, iOS, Android

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineering Fellow   July 2024 – Present
Headstarter AI

- Develop 5 AI projects, including a Customer Support artificial intelligence system using OpenAI and an AI Rate my Professor program using Pinecone and embeddings

Mobile Engineer Intern   May 2024 – Present
Popper.Social   *Corona, California*

- Increased average engagement time by 500% by enhancing the UX design of the Market and Create Event screens
- Created a delete account feature for over 400 users using Firebase and React Native
- Increased daily active users by 30% by fixing 10 critical bugs through XCode and TestFlight testing and implementing a CI/CD pipeline to efficiently incorporate feedback from supervisors and the team

Director of Software Development   May 2024 – Present
Northeastern University's Entrepreneurs Club   *Boston, MA*

- Analyze and leverage user and site traffic data to increase user engagement, using the agile methodology
- Program an efficient sign-in feature to collect accurate attendee data at club-hosted events and improve the Operations team's budgeting system

Coding Instructor   January 2022 – July 2024
theCoderSchool   *San Mateo, CA*

- Received referrals from 3 parents, recognizing my communication skills to make complex concepts approachable and engaging
- **Coding Student** (2014 - 2023):   Placed 3rd in the 2020 and 2021 Coder Games, a nationwide coding competition

PROJECTS

HeadshotNews | headshotnews.com | *React, HTML/CSS, JavaScript, Node.js, Firebase*   May 2024 – July 2024

- Designed and programmed a full-stack news aggregator, using Firebase to store and update the articles daily
- Web scraped 5 popular Esports sites using Puppeteer for HTML parsing and informational retrieval
- Placed 3rd in the Northeastern Husky Startup Challenge

NutritionalPal | *AI-Bloks, Python*   May 2024 – June 2024

- Experimented with 3 LLMs and generative AI to answer questions about restaurants' nutrition information
- Increased the llmware/bling-1b-0.1 model's accuracy by over 50% by refining the format of stored nutrition data
- Optimized llmware/bling-1b-0.1 model's natural language processing via Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)
- Utilized the speechRecognition, Tkinter, and pyttsx3 libraries to process speech inputs and convert text outputs into speech, enhancing user interaction and accessibility

AWARDS

Research Justice at the Intersections Scholar   June 2024

- One of three students recognized for their research on making technology more accessible to marginalized communities. My research partners with Jumpstart and focuses on preschoolers from low-income communities

U.S. Nationals Taekwondo Black Belt Silver Medalist   May 2022