

# Charles Wang

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## Education

### University of Pennsylvania, School of Engineering & Applied Science

Philadelphia, PA

B.S.E. in Digital Media Design

May 2026

M.S.E. in Computer Graphics & Game Technology (Accelerated)

May 2026

- Relevant undergraduate coursework: Data Structures & Algorithms, Computer Architecture, Linear Algebra
- Relevant graduate coursework: Interactive Computer Graphics, Procedural Graphics, Offline & Real-time Rendering, Computer Animation, 3D Modeling
- GPA: 3.69/4.00

## Relevant Experience

### TikTok

San Jose, CA

Intelligent Camera Effects Software Engineer Intern

May 2024 — August 2024

- Contributed 1 new feature to the C++ SDK that powers TikTok's interactive effects and filters, which combines an in-house graphics rendering engine with generative AI models and object detection algorithms
- Revitalized a Unity-like effect creation tool used across internal teams after 7+ months of inactivity by writing C++ and CMake to integrate the newest SDK version, fixing 8 critical bugs and eliminating 3 crashes
- Prototyped an architecture that enables greater interplay between layered effects in the pipeline with JavaScript

### Penn Engineering

Philadelphia, PA

Undergraduate Research Assistant

August 2023 — April 2024

- Shipped a web platform made with TypeScript, Next.js, Flask, and MySQL for Scallop, a neurosymbolic language written in Rust, with two other students
- Designed RESTful API routes for running Scallop code using tRPC and Prisma as middleware
- Implemented OAuth user authentication as well as auth-protected procedures of saving, loading, and publishing of custom user projects to and from the online playground

## Leadership

### UPenn Game Research and Development Environment Club (UPGRADE)

Co-President

January 2023 — present

- Collaborate with 40+ members to foster an inclusive environment for UPenn students interested in making games
- Initiated and lead the development of 6 Unity game projects including Minigame Collection, Galaxy Gacha, and DuckGooseDuckGoose, made with C# and Maya
- Organize annual school-wide game jams, PAX East and GDC trips, and host tutorial workshops and guest speakers

## Projects

### Monte Carlo Path Tracer

Offline physically-based renderer supporting cosine-weighted sampling, BSDF-based sampling, direct light sampling, MIS, and environment map lighting. Renders dielectric materials and Trowbridge-Reitz microfacet surfaces.

### Mini Minecraft

Voxel game engine made with C++ and OpenGL in a team of three. Uses Qt for window and context creation. My contributions are terrain chunking, efficient rendering (block face culling), block texturing, day/night system, skybox, celestial objects (moon, stars, clouds), flood fill lighting, inventory system, GUI, and text rendering.

### Mini Maya

OBJ mesh editor, inspired by Autodesk Maya. Internally uses a half-edge data structure to store geometry. Supports mesh operations like Catmull-Clark subdivision, face triangulation, edge splitting, and skinning via custom joint skeletons.

## Technical Skills & Interests

**Languages:** C++, OpenGL Shading Language (GLSL), C#, TypeScript/JavaScript, Python, Java, HTML/CSS

**Software & Tools:** Unity, Qt, Figma, Adobe CC (Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign), Linux, Git, CMake, React, Node.js

**Interests:** Open source, UI/UX, making games, going running, bass guitar, making playlists, subway systems