

# AJ Kneisl

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## EDUCATION

### University of Minnesota

*Bachelor of Science in Computer Science | GPA: 3.93*

Minneapolis, MN

*Expected Spring 2027*

- Relevant Coursework: Algorithms and Data Structures, Discrete Mathematics, Computational Linear Algebra, Machine Architecture
- Organizations: Social Coding (Top Project Presenter), Tech Horizons, IoT Club

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Languages:** Java, Kotlin, Python, Rust, C++, TypeScript, SQL

**Backend:** Ktor, Spring Boot, Node.js

**Frontend:** React, Next.js, TailwindCSS

**Tools/Cloud:** Docker, AWS, nginx, Git, Gradle, Maven

**Testing/ORM:** JUnit, JetBrains Exposed, SLF4J, Jackson

## EXPERIENCE

### Freelance Work

Sept 2022 – Present

*Fullstack Developer & System Administrator*

- Built a script-sharing platform in **TypeScript** with automated payouts and a custom **Jetty** engine, growing to **1,000+ users**.
- Developed and launched a Minecraft plugin in **Java**, improving server performance and boosting player retention by **36%** across **4,000+ players**.
- Designed and deployed mortgage and inquiry forms, increasing form completion rates by **35%** over nearly **10,000** visits.

## PROJECTS

### Bulletin | *React, Tailwind, Kotlin, Ktor*

Aug 2025 – Present

- Created a customizable photo-board web app with **auto-scaling image optimization**, reducing load times by **40%**.
- Packaged for deployment via **Docker**, supporting storage on both local disk and **AWS S3**.

### DECAfe | *React, TypeScript, Next.js*

May 2023 – Jun 2023

- Built a cafe ordering site for a DECA competition, leading team to qualify for **ICDC**.
- Automated deployment via **Vercel CI**, ensuring continuous updates during competition.

### Unify | *Kotlin, Ktor, React, socket.io, MongoDB*

May 2020 – Jun 2023

- Developed a forum-based and live chatting social media platform enabling user connections and content sharing.
- Deployed on **AWS** with auto-scaling infrastructure, minimizing downtime and improving reliability.
- Implemented email/phone verification to dramatically reduce fake accounts and inappropriate content.

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

### Burrow App

Jan 2024 – Present

*Social Coding UMN*

*Minneapolis, MN*

- Led a 4-person team to develop a student study-group finder, mentoring peers on modern frameworks and commonly used programming languages.
- Promoted app adoption through targeted outreach and communication campaigns, increasing active app users by over **50%** in the first year.
- Presented at UMN Social Coding, earning **#1 Most Promising Project**.

### DECA Captain

Sept 2022 – Jun 2024

*BHS DECA Chapter*

*Burnsville, MN*

- Coached peers in communication and problem-solving, achieving multiple **national qualifications**.
- Organized and led fundraising events, increasing funds by **50%** over prior years.
- Expanded chapter membership by **30%** through recruitment events and outreach.
- Leveraged technology skills to drive project success, strengthen team performance, and secure competitive qualifications.