

# ALESSA R. CROSS

[alessacross.github.io/](https://alessacross.github.io/)

@ alessacross1698@gmail.com    978-482-6567    5559 S. University Avenue    Chicago, IL    [linkedin/in/alessacross](https://www.linkedin.com/in/alessacross)

## EXPERIENCE

### Software Engineering Intern

PayPal

June 2019 – Sept. 2019    San Jose, CA

- Built a RNN-based contextual AI assistant for PayPal’s Analytics team from end-to-end
- Trained a deep learning model on Slack channel and FAQ page using Rasa framework and TensorFlow
- Predicted overall user intent with 96% accuracy
- Bot answers recurring questions, automatically identifies bugs in user code, and hand-holds developers through various troubleshooting processes
- Integrated with corporate Slack channel and custom web UI, deployed model to server using Google Cloud Platform

### Software Engineering Intern

FUSE

June 2018 – August 2018    Chicago, IL

- Designed UI and front-end development for social media iOS app
- Built functionality that allows users to fetch content from various social media and news sources, drag content to and watch live videos in group chats

## PROJECTS

### Safeguard+

Founder

- Built an iOS app that alerts users seconds before an earthquake and tsunami, displays relevant stats, and maps designated safe zones
- Inspired by my own analysis of what went wrong on 03/11/2011
- Data from Japan Meteorological Agency’s API, written in C

### Sonify

Lead Engineer

- Built an Android app that visualizes musical beats through colored lights for live concerts
- Sonify records a song, converts to WAV file to extract sound energy, computes beat, then flashes light accordingly
- Leveraged sound energy of a file by computing instantaneous sound energy and a rolling average energy over a window of time

## AWARDS

 **3rd Place**  
Venmo’s "Make Money Less Awkward" Intern Hackathon 2019

 **Youngest Entrepreneur Award and 3rd Place**  
Vietnam EdTech Hackathon 2015

## EXTRACURRICULARS

### compileHer @ UChicago

Head of Professor Outreach

June 2018 – present

In charge of planning professor volunteer and teaching at events

### compileHer @ UChicago

Operations Manager

June 2017 – June 2018

Draft grants to the Women’s Board to fund coding workshops and hackathons for local middle school girls

## EDUCATION

B.S. Computer Science with specialization in Computer Security

The University of Chicago

Sept 2016 – June 2020

Dean’s List

### High School Diploma

Phillips Academy, Andover

Sept 2012 – June 2016

## STRENGTHS

Perceptive    Prudent    Candid  
Innovative    Inquisitive

Python    JavaScript    C    HTML / CSS  
SQL    Racket    TensorFlow    Rasa  
React Native    React.js    REST APIs

## LANGUAGES

English    Japanese    Spanish

## INTERESTS

Karate (brown belt)    Music Production  
Hip hop    Arrested Development  
ML/AI    NLP    Philosophy