

Ava Hajratwala

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SUMMARY

Recent Columbia graduate and emerging leader passionate about designing and optimizing systems to make user, business, and developer experiences smoother. Experienced in full-stack development, AI research, and user-centered design. Seeking software engineering roles.

SKILLS

Languages: Java (SpringBoot), TypeScript, Python, C, C++, SQL (MSSQL, MySQL, PostgreSQL)
Frameworks: React, Spring, Angular, Express.js, FastAPI, JUnit, Playwright
Developer Tools: Azure, AWS, Docker, Kubernetes, Kafka, Postman, CI/CD (GitHub & GitLab), Maven
Libraries: Tailwind, jQuery, Bootstrap, NumPy, OpenCV

EXPERIENCE

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| Software Engineer
<i>M&T Bank</i> | Jul. 2025 – Present
Wilmington, DE |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Proposed and implemented a GitLab CI/CD pipeline enhancement that minimized manual intervention and reduced deployment times by 25% across 5 teams.Wrote unit tests using JUnit to automate compliance to new bank SDLC requirements, increasing test coverage by 50% and sharply reducing manual testing time.Maintained Angular/Java SpringBoot applications to help the bank manage risk over 1.2 million monthly transactions.Supported containerization and migration of applications to the cloud (Azure), reducing operating costs and improving reliability. | |
| Full-stack Developer
<i>WBAR Radio</i> | Sept. 2024 – Feb. 2025
New York, NY |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Automated frontend/backend deployment processes by building development environments and CI/CD pipelines, speeding up deployment times by 30x.Designed and deployed a scalable Python REST API, enabling access to up-to-date information on show schedules, archive recordings, and DJ profiles for over 1000 monthly users.Designed and integrated a relational database to replace data published manually in the source code, allowing non-developers to update site content.Implemented custom RBAC with SSO-enabled login to ensure data security for DJs and admin users.Coordinated interviews with 10 stakeholders across the organization, leading to UX improvements that boosted user satisfaction. | |
| Undergraduate AI Research Lead
<i>Soros Lab, Barnard College</i> | May 2024 – Dec. 2024
New York, NY |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Promoted to team lead in 3 months for strong leadership, organization, and communication skills.Cut approx. 10 hours per week of test runtime by parallelizing experiment trials (~7x speedup).Designed and implemented a testing GUI in Python using Tkinter, which cut configuration time in half by eliminating source code updates.Mentored 3 teammates in Git and GitHub, improving team collaboration and version control practices. | |

EDUCATION

Barnard College, Columbia University <i>Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science</i> <i>Selected courses: Design for Generative AI, Multithreading, Hacking 4 Defense, NLP</i>	New York, NY Sept. 2021 – Dec. 2024 GPA: 3.81/4.00
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PROJECTS

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| Privacy Guardian <i>Python (Flask), React, OpenAI API, Vercel</i> | Sept. 2024 – Feb. 2025 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Designed and built a full-stack React app to help users evaluate jargon-filled privacy policies using generative AI.Tested new features on 10 users while iterating on technical prototype, increasing user satisfaction by 30%.Increased user trust in the model's accuracy by implementing a feature that displayed citations alongside the model's claims. | |