


# 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.

## EDUCATION

**Barnard College, Columbia University**

*Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science*

*Selected courses: Design for Generative AI, Entrepreneurship, NLP*

New York, NY

Sept. 2021 – Dec. 2024

**GPA: 3.81/4.00**

## SKILLS

**Languages:** Java, TypeScript (Node), Python, C, C++, SQL (MySQL, PostgreSQL), HTML, CSS, Haskell

**Frameworks:** React, Spring Boot, Angular, Express.js, Flask, FastAPI, JUnit

**Developer Tools:** Git, Docker, Supabase/Firebase, Vercel, CI/CD, Kafka, Postman, AWS, Maven

**Libraries:** jQuery, TailwindCSS, Bootstrap, NumPy, OpenCV, WebAudio

## EXPERIENCE

**TDP Engineer**

*M&T Bank*

Jul. 2025 – Present

*Wilmington, DE*

- Proposed and implemented a CI/CD pipeline enhancement using Kafka and GitLab runners, reducing deployment times by 25% and minimizing manual intervention.
- Led an upgrade of my team's CSS framework across 4 applications, improving UI consistency and reducing maintenance time.

**Full-stack Developer**

*WBAR Radio*

Sept. 2024 – Feb. 2025

*New York, NY*

- 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.
- Designed and implemented a role-based access control system and 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**

*Soros Lab, Barnard College*

May 2024 – Dec. 2024

*New York, NY*

- 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, cutting configuration time in half by eliminating manual file updates.
- Mentored 3 teammates in Git and GitHub, improving team collaboration and version control practices.

## PROJECTS

**Privacy Guardian** | *Python (Flask), React, OpenAI API, Vercel*

Sept. 2024 – Feb. 2025

- 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.