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   New York, NY
Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science   *Sept. 2021 – Dec. 2024*

Selected courses: Design for Generative AI, Entrepreneurship, NLP   **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, JUnit, Playwright
Developer Tools: Git, Docker, Supabase/Firebase, Vercel, Kafka, Postman, AWS, Maven
Libraries: jQuery, TailwindCSS, Bootstrap, NumPy, OpenCV, WebAudio

EXPERIENCE

TDP Engineer   Jul. 2025 – Present
M&T Bank   *Wilmington, DE*

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

Full-stack Developer   Sept. 2024 – Feb. 2025
WBAR Radio   *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   May 2024 – Dec. 2024
Soros Lab, Barnard College   *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.