

# Ben Hammond

**Software Engineer and Professional Musician in Denver, CO | [hello@benhammond.tech](mailto:hello@benhammond.tech)**

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Software Engineer** | Morehouse School of Medicine, Satcher Health Leadership Institute (Jul '21-Current)

- Ownership of Health Equity Tracker frontend, accepting MVP hand-off from Google.org and coordinating with a small team to continue development into an award-winning platform
- Personally achieved: 90% reduction in all dataset transfer sizes by adding gzip Express middleware, 85% improvement on bundle sizes by lazy-loading React components, 100% faster load times and 84% reduction in data shipped on our slowest reports by refactoring the Airflow DAG, setting needed permissions with Terraform and using SQL to query and export dramatically smaller JSON files
- Personally quadrupled the number of trackable data types, completing research and writing new modules to combine datasets across disparate sources using Python with Pandas, using Docker to containerize and upload for Google Cloud Run and BigQuery
- Addressed over 170 accessibility audit items, making open-source contributions to improve usability for hundreds of thousands of users and adding screen-reader navigation to our Vega and D3 visualizations
- Architected an integrated blog and content management system, utilizing a headless Wordpress dashboard as requested by the communications team, and incorporating cached content directly using React Query.
- Overhauled project's GitHub, assisting PM in migrating technical planning to an integrated board reducing duplicative issue writing, developed a system to streamline code reviews and templates for new issues and pull requests. Prioritized defining high-level, ambiguous requests into actionable, measurable tasks completable by more junior developers, and code-pairing and mentoring to eliminate knowledge gaps
- Representing our organization in communications with NPR, CDC, Rutgers and RWJF; collaboration with outside agencies to allow for problem-free insertion of newly designed components
- Improved overall codebase health by incorporating a systematic approach to our design system and development, standardizing implementation methods (inconsistent mix of Material UI and inline-CSS) and enforcing a select set of SASS variables throughout to minimize design drift. Included expanded tests to all new functionality; identified the lack of "end to end" testing and implemented coverage using Playwright, added missing Typescript custom typing throughout codebase to expedite development and prevent errors

**Owner and Professional Musician** | Ben Hammond Music ('06-'21)

- Doubled project fees, maintained 5-star reviews by implementing cloud-based management software
- 3,000+ paid shows in 9 countries, incl. Montreal Jazz Fest and with members of Jimmy Buffett's band
- Exhibited excellent communication and team leadership producing 3 albums, selling 14k+ discs
- Cultivated opt-in email list and social media presence with over 10k followers and 175k YouTube views

**Developer** | Freelance ('04-'20)

- 17 yrs building custom websites, showcasing dynamic content and embedded media for multiple clients
- Created custom Python command-line interfaces (CLI) using BeautifulSoup and Selenium to extend 3rd-party web services, automating repetitive business tasks and saving user an average of 5 hrs/week

## SELECTED SIDE PROJECTS

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**Little Cabin** | Python | Django | (May '21)

- Syncs consensus-based scheduling with Google Calendar API using a Google Cloud Platform service account; Heroku deployment required customized configuration to generate required credentials file
- Provides current weather to authorized users using Open Weather API and custom template tags

**Gigboard** | React | Express | (Mar '21)

- Fullstack app for short-term gig-workers, built with MERN-stack and an internal RESTful API
- CRUD functionality restricted per role; offers custom encrypted registration via JWT or Google OAuth
- Wrote 3 technical posts, assisting fellow students on team with deployment debugging

## EDUCATION

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**McGill University, Montreal, QC Canada** | Bachelor of Music, Honours in Music Technology

- Foundational computer science coursework, data structures/algorithms, Big O time/space complexity

**General Assembly** | Software Engineering Immersive, Full-Stack (Remote; Nov '20 - May '21)

- Intensive certificate program focused on web technology using JavaScript / Node.js and Python with Django