

# Besmelh Alshaalan

balshaal@u.rochester.edu • (267) 901-6030

[www.besmelh.me](http://www.besmelh.me) • [linkedin.com/in/besmelh-alshaalan](https://linkedin.com/in/besmelh-alshaalan) • [github.com/besmelh](https://github.com/besmelh)



## EDUCATION

University of Rochester

Rochester, NY

**Bachelor of Science in Computer Science | Minor in Digital Media Studies**

**Anticipated May 2023**

- GPA: 3.54; Relevant courses: *Intro to A.I., AI/VR Interaction Design, Intro to HCI, Computational Statistics, Data Structures & Algorithms, Linear Algebra, Calculus, Mobile App Development (iOS)*

**Awards:** KAUST Gifted Student's Program (KGSP) Scholarship

## EXPERIENCE

**Recreational Graphics Teaching Assistant, University of Rochester**

**Aug 2022 – Dec 2022**

- Supporting students to learn 3D modeling in Blender, for 2 hours weekly, and grading 15 students' assignments.

**Media Tech Intern, NBCUniversal, Los Angeles, CA**

**June 2022 – Aug 2022**

- Assisted in enhancement requests, quality assurance testing, user acceptance testing, and rollout of features.
- Developed a program to generate unique Microsoft Forms, to help verify information from business owners.
- Migrated an Excel sheet to an Airtable base, for easier maintainability, and efficient generation of data analytics.

**iOS Mobile App Development Teaching Assistant, University of Rochester**

**Aug 2021 – Dec 2021**

- Supported students to develop iOS apps in Swift, and graded the assignments of 12 students.

**Tech and Product Intern, Millie Group, New York, NY**

**May 2021 – Aug 2021**

- Conducted user research to finalize the features of Millie's internal website.
- Designed the UI/UX of the website through a Figma prototype.
- Developed a full-stack React App using PERN Stack (PostgreSQL, Express, React, NodeJS), and managed the files and database through PostgreSQL & AWS.

**IBM Accelerate Software Apprenticeship, IBM, Virtual**

**May 2021 – July 2021**

- Enhanced the technical and foundational skills needed to succeed in the software development industry.

## PROJECTS

**BalanceBuddy**

**Jan 2022 - May 2022**

*Website to balance between students' schoolwork & internship search process through daily tasks & progress dashboard.*

- Conducted user research, designed prototypes in Figma, & performed usability testing for the working prototype.
- Developed the back-end of the webpage and Chrome extension using React, and set up a MongoDB database.

**Light Up**

**Dec 2020 - Jan 2021**

*An iOS app for brainstorming ideas; it displays random words and has the option to write ideas in "sticky notes".*

- Developed using Swift, managed the database with CoreData, and retrieved random words via an API call.
- Published to the App Store and localized in Arabic and English.

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

**Student Volunteer, SIGGRAPH Asia 2022, Daegu, South Korea**

**Dec 2022**

- Will support the conference's events like the Computer Animation Festival & Emerging Technologies exhibition.

**Marketing & Design Team Lead, DandyHacks 2022**

**Mar 2022 - Present**

- Contribute to bi-weekly team leads' meetings to plan for the University of Rochester's annual hackathon event.
- Lead a team of 4 to design and market publicized content. (E.g., logo, social media posts, website, merchandise).
- Aid the IT team in translating the website's Figma design and developing it using Vanilla JS, HTML, and CSS.

**International Student Mentor, University of Rochester**

**July 2020 - Nov 2020**

- Guided incoming international students and smoothen their transition to the U.S. culture and academics.

**High School Students Mentor, Nuqsh**

**Sep 2020 – Present**

- Advised Saudi high school students through the U.S. colleges' application process.

## SKILLS

- Python, Java, C, Swift, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, React, Node JS, Express JS, SQL, PostgreSQL, R, Unreal Engine
- Figma, Blender, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Premiere Pro, Airtable
- Adaptability, creativity, problem-solving, leadership; Native, Arabic; Fluent, English