

Blake Sharp  
New York, New York

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To whom it may concern,

To be a museum curator for the Department of State is the perfect combination of all my interests and experiences. I graduated from Stanford University in June 2022 with degrees in Computer Science and Art History. Even though I have just graduated, I am bringing in nearly two years of true work experience.

I took one year off between my junior and senior year to work at Google and various technology startups. I implemented a new search filter for Google, reworked data pipelines for a criminal justice startup, and built and launched a VC-backed art title management platform backed by Ethereum. Since graduation, I traveled for four months and am now working in applications security at Morgan Stanley.

While at school, I worked on a year-long project with computer vision scientists in Toronto and the conservation department at the Getty in Los Angeles. Together, we researched and built a [computer vision software tool](#) to analyze X-Rays and CT scans of wood to measure and count the tree rings. This is the first free and available tool of its kind that allows conservators and other scientists to date pieces in their collection without having to invasively sample the piece they are researching. In addition to this research project, I spent my sophomore year conducting a research project in the conservation lab on campus to understand how we could use XRF technology to properly identify photography methods to better inform conservation.

Additionally, I took a class at Stanford where we built a [museum exhibit showcasing Northwest indigenous American art](#). We spent half the class researching and learning as much as possible about the community and the second half of the class building a respectful and informative museum exhibit of what we learned with objects we had in our collection. We wrote all the accompanying exhibit text and built each of the display cases.

I was also a tour guide of the on campus art museums, a walk-on to the Division I indoor and beach volleyball teams, and wrote for our school's newspaper. These experiences demonstrate that I am an effective communicator and work well on teams. I want to pursue a career in the public sector to work with driven, brilliant people who can push me to grow as much as possible and to give back to a country that has given so much to me.

Thank you,  
Blake Sharp