# Benjamin Botvinick

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**I am an intensely driven and team-oriented coder with professional-level skills far beyond what would be expected from a high school sophomore. I have extensive experience with full stack web and iOS development. I pick up new techniques quickly and apply them creatively. I am independent and disciplined, but I also love to work in a team setting. I am currently seeking internship opportunities for late 2019, with the goal of further developing my skill set and collaborating with other talented coders to build amazing things.**

## Education and Training

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|---|---|
| 2018-2021 | Milton Academy (GPA 3.97) |
| 2018 | AP Computer Science A Exam (Score 5) |
| 2018 | Make School Summer Academy |
| 2008-2018 | Germantown Friends School (GPA 4.10) |

## Technical Skills

**Advanced:** Node.js, Python, Linux, JavaScript, Swift, NoSQL, WebSocket, Google Cloud Platform
**Intermediate:** Java, CSS, Amazon Web Services

## Links and Profiles

GitHub: https://github.com/botv
Stack Overflow: https://stackoverflow.com/users/10056034/ben-botvinick
Devpost: https://devpost.com/botv

## Selected Projects

**Pelican**
Pelican (formerly Surf) is a Chrome extension that allows you to converse with others on the same web page as you. For example, say you're chilling on Netflix, you could open up Pelican and talk to anyone else watching the same episode of Breaking Bad. Pelican also has a "Topics"

feature allowing users to create smaller discussion pages on sites. Similarly to how you may strike up a friendship discussing a painting with a stranger at the art museum, I designed Pelican to encourage conversation between individuals from different backgrounds with similar interests. In February 2019, Pelican won Amazon's sponsor prize at McHacks 6 in Montreal. (https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/surf/pbcnmcemnnpbpnbkaiigdaocoblbhghl)

### Intentions

At MAHacks in December 2018, I worked on an iMessage extension that helps people with autism better communicate their emotions digitally. By indicating to the user how they come across in their text through a simple and intuitive UI built specifically for people on the spectrum, we were able to integrate emotion-detecting machine learning that allows the user to be more aware of their tone. In late December, Intentions received a grant from StuTech. (https://devpost.com/software/intentions)

### Unblind

At MHacks in October 2018, my team built an iOS application for the visually impaired. We used a combination of the Google Vision API, Firebase and some basic natural language processing to read audio playback to the user describing their environment from a picture. (https://github.com/botv/Unblind)

### Bough

At Makeschool during the summer of 2018, I developed an iOS application that allows a user to take a picture of someone at a party or event and learn about them. On the client side, I wrote in Swift and focused on creating a nice frontend. In terms of backend, I created my own RESTful API using Node.JS that processed images for facial recognition. Bough was picked as the top app out of 150 applications built by students that summer. (https://bough.io)

### Unlit.io

During the spring of 2018, I built an online multiplayer game called Unlit.io. The game is essentially flashlight tag; the player roams around an environment looking for other players to shine their flashlight on. For backend, I wrote Node.JS code that communicated with a MongoDB database, as well as various API's such as Google Authentication and Stripe. As of December 2018, Unlit.io has over 12,000 users. (https://unlit.io)

# Employment and Engagement

2019    Intern, *EyeWire*
2019    Amazon sponsor prize, McHacks 6, *McGill University*
2018    Winner, StuTech Grants

2018    Attendee, MAHacks IV, *Boston*
2018    Attendee, MHacks 11, *University of Michigan*
2018    Counselor, Programming Camp, *Germantown Friends School*

# Volunteering and Leadership

2017-2018      Germantown Friends School Computer Science Club (founder/head)
2017-2018      Technology Tutor at Cathedral Village Retirement Community
2012-2016      First Lego League Team (founder)

# Hobbies and Interests

Programming and artificial intelligence
Business and entrepreneurship
Comedy writing
Skiing, sailing, squash, tennis
Jazz Piano

# Languages

English: Fluent
French: Conversational

# References

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