

# Ben Soyka

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## Summary

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Creative and motivated undergraduate computer science student looking forward to gaining real-life industry experience in a fast-paced team. Passionate about guiding others through all things technology and excited to leverage skills learned in classes and activities to help other people.

## Education

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**BS**    **University of Minnesota - Twin Cities**, Computer Science

Minneapolis, MN

- Cumulative GPA: 3.84
- Anticipated graduation: Dec 2027

Aug 2024 – present

## Skills

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**Programming Languages:** Python, Java, R, C, OCaml, HTML, JavaScript, CSS

**Tools:** Git/GitHub, Docker, Amazon Web Services, macOS, Linux, Windows

## Experience

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**University of Minnesota Housing and Residential Life**, Office Assistant

Minneapolis, MN

- Provide essential support at 24/7 information desks in student residential halls, ensuring efficient customer service while also responding to building emergencies.
- Work independently during overnight and late-hour shifts, demonstrating reliability and independence.

Jan 2025 – present  
1 year 1 month

## Projects

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**Wikipedia Editing Bot**

Mar 2022 – present

- Used Python to develop several scripts that perform daily automated edits on the English Wikipedia through the MediaWiki API.
- Reduced errors and mistakes to near-zero as the bot has performed over 20,000 trivial edits on live articles, saving human editors valuable time.

**Personal Website**

Aug 2020 – present

- Designed and built a personal landing page from scratch using Astro, Svelte, UnoCSS, and Motion, with a focus on accessibility, responsiveness, and mobile-friendliness.
- Manage the live deployment using Cloudflare Workers.

**Advent of Code Practice**

Dec 2019 – present

- Solved 100+ programming puzzles during annual Advent of Code events using Python, practicing dynamic programming, graph algorithms, and testing workflows.
- Learned techniques to process large inputs with efficiency and accuracy.
- Maintain a collection of public solutions with proper documentation and a focus on clean, easy-to-understand code.

## Activities and Leadership

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**UMN Twin Cities Rotaract Club**, Vice President, Past Communications Coordinator

Minneapolis, MN

Sept 2024 – present

- Assist in leading an active student organization dedicated to volunteering with various community initiatives in the Minneapolis area.
- Elected as president for the 2026–2027 academic year.
- Previously managed professional email communications to over 200 club members.

- UMN Rocket Team**, Member, Special Projects Subteam
- Research, develop, and test high-powered amateur rocketry projects focused on testing new concepts, including two-stage flights.
  - Instruct and assist team members in the use of Git and GitHub, including standard branch and commit conventions.
  - Designed, built, and launched [a personal rocket](#) used to earn a Level 1 certification from the Tripoli Rocketry Association.
- Minneapolis, MN  
Sept 2025 – present

- Verticality Casual Climbing**, Treasurer
- Serve as a founding officer of a student organization dedicated to casual rock climbing, acting as the primary contact for legal/financial matters as the club develops.
- Minneapolis, MN  
Aug 2025 – present

- UMN Science and Engineering Student Board**, Mental Health Subdirector
- Worked with other college-level student and administrative leadership to plan events that promoted positivity in the University of Minnesota community.
- Minneapolis, MN  
Sept 2024 – May 2025

## Awards

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**UMN College of Science and Engineering Dean's List**

Recognized in three semesters for "superior academic performance."

Minneapolis, MN

**Leavenworth High School Horizon Scholar**

Recognized for academic success with a 4.0+ cumulative GPA.

Leavenworth, KS  
Apr 2024

**Operation Homefront Military Child of the Year Semifinalist**

Awarded for positively impacting local military families, schools, and communities.

San Antonio, TX  
Jan 2024

**Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout**

Demonstrated long-term leadership, initiative, and commitment to community service.

Fort Leavenworth, KS  
Oct 2023

**US Army Civilian Service Achievement Medal**

Awarded for supporting morale activities for thousands of military family members.

El Paso, TX  
Apr 2022