

Ben Soyka

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Summary

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

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

Minneapolis, MN

- Cumulative GPA: 3.84
- Anticipated graduation: Dec 2027

Aug 2024 – present

Skills

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

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

Experience

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

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

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

- UMN College of Science and Engineering Dean's List**
- Recognized in two 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