

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

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| BS | University of Minnesota - Twin Cities , Computer Science | Minneapolis, MN |
| | • Cumulative GPA: 3.82 | Aug 2024 – present |
| | • Anticipated graduation: Dec 2027 | |

Skills

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. | Jan 2025 – present |
| • Work independently during overnight and late-hour shifts, demonstrating reliability and independence. | 1 year |

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. | |

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| 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. | |

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| 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 |
| • Assist in leading an active student organization dedicated to volunteering with various community initiatives in the Minneapolis area. | Sept 2024 – present |
| • 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

- 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