

# Colton Gray

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## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Languages & Runtimes:** JavaScript, TypeScript, Node.js

**Libraries & Frameworks:** React, Express.js, Tailwind

**Databases, DevOps & Tools:** MySQL, MongoDB, AWS S3, Sequelize, Mongoose, AWS EC2, Google Cloud, NGINX, DNS Management, Git, GitHub Actions, Mocha, Jest

## PROJECTS

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**Flare** | *Social platform to overcome anxiety with daily tasks, local events, & AI-powered coaching* Feb 2025

- Built a venue data system using TypeScript & Express that combines Foursquare & Google Places APIs, with user flags for missing data
- Implemented error handling & retry mechanisms for external service failures, ensuring graceful degradation & data consistency across API calls
- Developed an event creation system with React, featuring a multi-step form with validation & a geolocation-based venue search using `navigator.geolocation.getCurrentPosition()` for native browser location
- Built an avatar creation interface using DiceBear, implementing real-time preview generation & state management for customization options through React's `useState` & `useEffect` hooks
- Designed Sequelize schema tying venues, events, & user data

**Dogagatchi+** | *Enhanced legacy virtual pet simulator with voice-command capabilities* Jan 2024

- Implemented Web Speech API & JSFGF-based voice recognition for real-time training commands
- Developed React interface with real-time progress tracking & modal-based training system
- Built RESTful endpoints with Express & MongoDB to manage pet stats & customizable voice commands

**Digi-Cry** | *Mental health journaling application featuring sentiment analysis & local event discovery* Dec 2024

- Built a sentiment analysis system using Google's Natural Language API, implementing custom data normalization algorithms with min-max scaling to convert raw sentiment scores into a standardized scale, with personalized user baselines based on historical emotional expression patterns
- Implemented a geolocation service using Google Maps API for reverse geocoding, converting user coordinates into city-level data, enabling personalized local event recommendations through SERP API integration

## EXPERIENCE

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**Co-Founder** Aug 2020 – Sep 2024

*Flipped Car Marketing*

*New Orleans, Louisiana*

- Led marketing project management for NOLA Capital Partners' Holy Waters initiative, crafting strategies, campaigns, & a long-term roadmap
- Built & maintained Webflow websites for clients using tools like Finsweet & custom JavaScript to implement advanced functionality & improve user experience
- Delivered marketing solutions for businesses like ERG Enterprises, Houston Tea & Beverage, International Coffee Company, & more
- Designed & executed targeted ad campaigns for venues & events, including concerts for artists like Sabrina Carpenter, Death Cab for Cutie, Steve Lacy, Ween, & more

**Marketing Coordinator** May 2019 – Mar 2021

*The Dupuy Group*

*New Orleans, Louisiana*

- Assisted IT in deploying a Warehouse Management System across multiple sites, training staff on handheld scanners
- Built an inventory system for sales support materials using Adobe Suite for content creation
- Compiled custom marketing packages for sales teams, tailoring content to highlight relevant client-specific details

## EDUCATION

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**IBC Fundamentals of JS, Functional Programming, & Web Development Level 3** March 2025

*Operation Spark*

**Coursework in Music Industry Studies**

2016 – 2017

*Loyola University New Orleans*