Amber Xiao

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Education

University of Pennsylvania   Philadelphia, PA

BSE in Computer Science   2023 - 2027

- Relevant Coursework: Programming Languages and TechniquesData Structures and Algorithms, Mathematical Foundations of Computer Science, iOS Programming, Introduction to Computer Systems, Big Data Analytics

Skills

Languages: C, C++, HTML/CSS, Java, JavaScript, Python, Swift

Tools: VS Code, Visual Studio, XCode

Design: Adobe CC (Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop, Premiere Pro), Procreate, Figma

Personal Projects

PetSteps: https://tinyurl.com/petstepsapp

- Developed a fitness game in Swift using XCode aimed at encouraging users to exercise while having fun, targeting a wide age range

MineSweeper

- Designed and implemented a version of the classic Minesweeper game using Java

Personal Portfolio Websites

- Developed two personal websites to showcase Computer Science and Illustration work from scratch using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript

Art of the Web: https://embrexin.github.io/dsgnportfolio/

- Designed a series of websites using HTML/CSS/Javascript in an exploration of art on the web

Work Experience

Various Employers   Philadelphia, PA

Personal Tutor   Jan 2023 - Present

- Delivered one-on-one tutoring to **3 students** (grades **2–9**) in writing and art, improving average grades by **1–2 letters**
- Designed customized lesson plans and learning strategies based on individual strengths
- Conducted **biweekly** sessions, reinforcing skills through targeted exercises and creative projects to boost confidence and engagement

Tous Les Jours Bakery and Cafe   Philadelphia, PA

Barista and Assistant Manager   Sept 2022 - Sept 2023

- Prepared **100+** specialty drinks and pastries daily, handled cash register operations and performed end of day reconciliation
- Trained **3+** new hires on using the POS system, drink preparation, and customer service protocols

VEX Robotics Summer Camp   Austin, TX

Coach   July 2021

- Guided and mentored **15** middle/high school students in designing, building, and programming competition-ready robots using VEX components.
- Led hands-on workshops on mechanical design, sensor integration, and autonomous coding
- Organized weekly robotics challenges to reinforce STEM problem-solving and teamwork, providing personalized feedback on robot performance and iterative design

Clubs and Organizations

UPGRADE   Philadelphia, PA

- Developer and artist for UPGRADE, the game development club at the University of Pennsylvania   Sept 2023 - Present

Pencilbite Studio   Philadelphia, PA

- Character artist for Pencilbite Studio, the student-run animation studio at the University of Pennsylvania   Sept 2024 - Present

Awards

Adobe Digital Edge Awards Winner 2024

Spotlight Award

- Won the Spotlight Award for creating PetSteps, a mobile fitness app designed to encourage exercise in a fun and engaging manner

National Honor Society 2022 - Westwood High School

- Member of the National Honor Society at Westwood High School, graduated early with 4.0/4.0 GPA