

THE // FLATIRON SCHOOL

#ScienceFAIR

Summer 2013
August 15, 2013
33 West 26th St, 2nd FL
New York, NY 10010

CLASS OF SUMMER 2013

Adam WAXMAN

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Alisa CHANG

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Meetup Presentation:
Blog: awaxman11.github.io and <https://medium.com/@ajwaxman>

**Bio**

Adam is a philosopher turned banker turned programmer. After graduating from Emory University in Atlanta, GA he chose to dive head first into the business world as an investment banking analyst. Yearning to learn more and be closer to building a product vs. analyzing numbers, he decided to quit his job in January to learn to code full-time.

Born outside of Cleveland, OH, he appreciates meeting fellow Midwesterners and is an avid Cleveland sports fan. He also enjoys playing sports and is currently trying to prolong his college soccer career w/ pickup games around the city.

Interests

- + Soccer
- + Mobile apps
- + Running
- + Mashups
- + Settlers of catan
- + Sustainable food

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Twitter: [@alexausays](#)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: <http://surrealdetective.github.io/>

Bio

While attending the The University of Texas at Austin, Alex read a book that changed his life, "The Underground History of American Education." Having his interest stoked, he investigated different avenues for improving education, including helping to start an alternative school and working as an education policy analyst. He eventually became critical of his own abilities to effect change and vowed to become a programmer, in part, by attending the Flatiron School. He hopes to build great things that help people through his budding code skills.

In his spare time, Alex can be found scribbling notes on the subway, reading the latest issue of "One Piece," or grooving to a tune on Hype Machine. He's a huge fan of Seth Godin, Peter Drucker, and Jorge Luis Borges. After Flatiron School, he's an even bigger fan of programming.

Interests

- + Education
- + Manga
- + Writing
- + Dancing
- + Cats
- + Karaoke

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Twitter: [@laptitenyc](#)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: laptite.github.io



Bio

Educated in the United States and Switzerland, Alisa speaks fluent English, French and conversational Italian. She has undergraduate degrees in Art Studio and Art History, and an MBA in Entrepreneurship & Finance.

Alisa kicked off her professional life as a temp clerk at The New York Times Quality Assurance department. This was supposed to be an interim position until a graphic designer position opened up, but it turns out that clerical work consists of a lot of downtime. Wanting to know more about what she was doing and why, she became absorbed with learning all aspects of print reproduction and was soon invited to manage the QA department. This trajectory gradually led Alisa to a Senior Management position of Process Improvement Director, in which capacity she led the continuous improvement strategy and helped solve complex technical problems.

Keenly aware of the decline of the newspaper industry, she knew she had to explore opportunities in and outside of The Times to a) keep her skills up-to-date, and b) hone in on her strongest areas of interest.

While working full-time, she completed two Culinary School degrees, received an MBA, and co-launched a Baby subscription startup. This journey has led Alisa to realize that she wants to be in the business of building cool stuff that solves real problems, and this is how she ended up at the Flatiron School. When she's not learning how to code, you'll likely find Alisa in her aquaponic greenhouse or cooking up a storm.

Interests

- + Drawing
- + Animation
- + Cooking
- + Aquaponics
- + Snowboarding

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:
Blog: anishavasandani.github.io

**Bio**

Anisha Vasandani is a recent LA transplant who is falling in love with Ruby on Rails and New York. You can find her frequenting indie concert festivals, sipping espresso, and tweeting on the regular.

In her former life, Anisha was a Big 4 tax accountant in the media & entertainment industry. She prepared tax returns and consulted for companies such as Lionsgate, Summit Entertainment, and MGM. Prior to accounting, she founded a company that managed the social media platforms of popular restaurants. Anisha was also a junior board member of the greater LA chapter of Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship.

Interests

- + Indie music
- + Coffee
- + Food writing
- + Social media

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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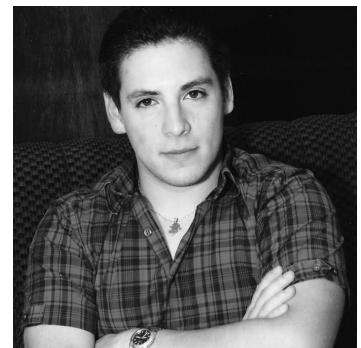
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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: cjlwired.github.io



Bio

When he was five years old, Carlos knew he wanted to be an engineer. Immigrating from El Salvador at the age of two, his parents pushed him academically and encouraged him to pursue a career in science and technology. During his undergraduate career, Carlos interned for three summers at both Metlife and Lockheed Martin in application development and systems engineering. After graduating from college in 2008, Carlos was accepted into the Engineering Leadership Development Program at BAE Systems, Inc., where he spent 5 years adding value to the United States' missile and RADAR defense systems. Carlos holds two engineering degrees - a B.S. in Computer & Systems Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a M.S. Electrical & Computer Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Carlos realized that technical growth opportunities within the defense market were limited. He took his career into his own hands, and is now learning the ropes of web development full-time at the Flatiron School in the great city of New York. Using his previous work experience, cultural / global mindset, and his passion for catalyzing change, he looks forward to using his newly attained web programming powers to solve different engineering problems that plague the planet today.

Interests

- + International Travel
- + Karaoke
- + Making the World a Better Place
- + Martial Arts
- + Snowboarding
- + Teaching

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:
Blog: codercorral.com

**Bio**

Chris Gonzales graduated from the Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley in 2011 after finishing his Portuguese minor in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. After completing his studies and teaching English to children in the favelas, he found his way to New York City at the Goldman Sachs Product Control group, where he spent two years managing a structured debt portfolio of \$11B.

The San Diego native enjoys exploring the concrete jungle via bike and skateboard, sampling (indulging, really) in its libations and delicacies and writing catchy ditties on his acoustic guitar. Despite overwhelming demand for a revival of his previous musical effort, The Witch Doctors, Chris denies any plans of a reunion at this time.

Interests

- + Exploration, both foreign and domestic
- + Devouring books
- + Puzzles n' games n' code
- + Learning new languages
- + Live music

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: <http://chhhris.github.io/>



Bio

For the past 6 years at McKinsey & Company and at Unigo.com, a McGraw-Hill venture-backed startup, Chris has helped launch innovative consumer products and led large, complex, high-intensity initiatives to success.

Chris loves learning to hack Ruby at The Flatiron School.

Born and raised in NYC, converted Brooklynite, husband, dog owner, traveler, writer and lifelong student.

Interests

- + Reading
- + Writing
- + Traveling
- + Street Food
- + The Giants Knicks and Mets
- + Wiffle Ball
- + Brooklyn.

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: <http://dfriedm.github.io/>



Bio

Dan's been trying to fix problems, help people, and save the world since he was a little kid. He graduated from Williams College and Johns Hopkins SAIS (Nanjing), worked in national policy and politics, and has extensive international work and study experience. He was a firefighter and emt when younger, started an animal rescue non-profit in Taiwan, and loves you. Not like that. In a good way.

He taught himself enough Chinese in one year to do his graduate work on law and politics entirely in Mandarin, and returned to the US to support the first Obama campaign. Later he stuck his nose into dirty, dark corporate places on three continents as an investigator/analyst with an international consulting company run by the former director of the FBI, and solved puzzles filled with complex networks of people, behaviors, and laws.

After starting a startup that aimed to democratize access to wifi connection points, he began learning code. All the lights clicked and haven't stopped since.

Dan's a fixer, a creative problem solver and builder by nature, and now happily and irreversibly obsessed with code and contributing to the coding community.

Interests

- + Distilling spirits
- + Volunteering
- + Climbing and mountaineering
- + Literature & philosophy
- + 3d printing
- + Sculpture
- + Getting lost in foreign countries
- + Outdoor sports
- + Politics

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Twitter: [@dmanaster](#)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: <http://blog.manaster.com/>

Bio

A NYC native, David graduated from Binghamton University with a degree in economics, but soon caught the entrepreneurial bug.

After a short stint at Monster, he founded ERE Media. The company grew to become the leading independent publisher and conference organizer for the recruiting profession before David passed the baton to a new CEO in September 2012.

David has a passion for building. He joined Flatiron School so he could bring ideas to life.

Interests

- + My dog, Cirri
- + Traveling
- + Skiing
- + Hiking

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:
Blog: rodriguezd.github.com



Bio

Nothing makes David happier than collaborating side-by-side with bright, creative people building very cool things while learning as much as he can in the process.

Originally from South Florida, David attended the University of Florida (after brief stints pursuing becoming an airline pilot and a marine biologist) where he earned a degree with honors in electrical engineering. After graduating, he moved to Dallas to work for Accenture, where he quickly moved up the ranks as a technology consultant. At Accenture he worked on wide variety of large scale IT design and integration projects for Fortune 500 companies. Following Accenture, David joined Bank of America's Technology Operations group where he managed technology implementation projects at the two largest check-processing centers in the United States. (Los Angeles and San Francisco, if you're wondering.) After Bank of America, David performed a career "pivot" moving back to Florida and becoming a high school mathematics teacher. He taught AP Calculus at a large, public high school in Miami and later moved to New York City where, until recently, he taught at a private high school in Brooklyn working with students with documented learning disabilities. Today, David, spends his time (a lot of it) at the Flatiron School working hard to sharply hone his software and web development skills and knowledge - all in preparation for soon joining an innovative, cutting-edge company in defining and building the future of the Internet.

When not coding, debugging, experimenting, tinkering, reading, or trying to come up with the next big thing, David enjoys technical photography, watching food shows with his beautiful fiancé, and exploring the world around us.

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: www.desmondrawls.com



Bio

Desmond is not a house cat. He's never met an adventure he didn't like. If he could live forever he would and he would try everything twice. So far some things he's tried are Tae Kwon Do, mechanics, chess, moving from Seattle to Louisiana with a backpack and no plan, scaling castle walls in Belfast, and living with three girls.

Desmond left school to pursue working with hands. He attended Georgetown to study really abstract things like math and philosophy. Then he left to take a year off and discovered that you don't need to understand those abstract things to participate in the real world. He worked for a year in the offshore oil-field as a mechanic until he started to miss his friends and family. His best friend convinced him to move to New York. In New York he found he could make a living woodworking and delivering diapers at night. He made french polished veneered furniture for penthouse apartments and live-edge solid wood furniture for family-members. Then at night he listened to rock biographies in fast-forward while navigating the 5 boroughs with a truck full of dirty cloth diapers. When he got tired of working two jobs he tried web development and fell in love with it.

Every morning he wakes up feeling like a champ ready for the best day of his life.

Interests

- + Motorcycles
- + Chess
- + Comic-books
- + Cooking
- + Writing

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Twitter: [@gmlin](https://twitter.com/gmlin)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: gmlin.github.io



Bio

George is an MIT Chemical Engineering graduate turned management consultant turned coder. He came to the US from China at age 6, and has lived in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Boston, and NYC. Favorite places visited include: Barcelona, Huangshan, San Francisco, Paris, and Arras.

George is interested in innovation, startups & entrepreneurship, data visualization & analysis, and application of technology to other disciplines.

Interests

- + Traveling
- + Eating
- + Games
- + Boston Sports
- + Fantasy/SciFi
- + Karaoke/Dancing

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: jakealtman.com



Bio

Jack is currently an investor at Hydrazine Capital, where he makes investments in seed stage companies across a number of different verticals. Before Hydrazine, he had a brief stint as an investment banker. Jack graduated from Princeton with a degree in Economics.

Interests

- + Startups
- + Hardware
- + Music
- + Scotch
- + Chess
- + Settlers of catan

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: jeneisenberg.com



Bio

Jen Eisenberg is a rising senior at the University of Michigan studying Linguistics & Spanish - though the majority of her learning takes place outside of the typical classroom setting. As an enthusiastic tech team member of MPowered organization on campus, she pounces on the opportunity to help foster student entrepreneurship and pursuit of opportunity via start-up bootcamps, hackathons, pitch summits and more.

During her summers here in NYC, she hasn't ever strayed far from the buzzing tech scene. She was a product management intern for both Animoto and Grovo analyzing inventory statistics, running user tests, and whatever else these go-getter companies needed. When she's not running between events, she loves to strum her ukulele, start and finish a book in one sitting, hum acapella harmonies, kickbox early in the day, travel like anything but a tourist, and of course, enjoy all the food along the way.

Interests

- + Positive psychology
- + Polyglots
- + Biking
- + Clean eating
- + Michigan Football
- + NY Giants
- + Viral marketing
- + User interfaces
- + Happiness

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History



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Github:

Twitter: @_

Meetup Presentation:

Blog:

Bio

Interests

+ -

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Phone: 617-671-5993

Github: [jgtr](#)

Twitter: [@jordangtrevino](#)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: jgtr.github.io

Bio

Jordán attended kindergarten in Indonesia, and studied Anthropology and other esoteric topics at Yale University. As a management consultant, he has advised clients in the US, Switzerland, Germany and Austria focusing on growth strategy in the healthcare and food industries.

Recently he has bootstrapped and produced several web products, such as a mobile application for photocontests on Instagram. He enjoys ruby immensely, and believes code that dispenses with excessive adornments (such as semi-colons!) can be elegant.

Jordán enjoys animated discussions involving concept and speculation. He is a slowly improving guitarist, an enthusiastic but frequently defeated tennis player, and a writer of obscure essays. He is fluent in English and Spanish and a passable German speaker.

Interests

- + Guitar
- + Tennis
- + Creative writing
- + Philosophy
- + Traveling
- + Consuming non-fiction books
- + Learning new skills

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Twitter: [@joegiralt](https://twitter.com/joegiralt)
Meetup Presentation:
Blog: <http://www.tumblr.com/dashboard>

**Bio**

Joseph Giralt is known among friends as the most interesting man in the world.

During his time in the US Army, he became airborne qualified and passed the Special Forces Assessment & Selection course.

He loves kittens, but adores all animals.

Joe has earned a living as a stained glass mosaic artist, bartender, dj, boxing instructor, Muay Thai fighter, and most recently a director of operations for a hardware start-up - but most recently, he's been veritably glued to his computer screen.

Interests

- + Thai boxing
- + Slide blues guitar
- + Political intrigue
- + Building robots

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Github: <https://github.com/jcalebcollins>

Twitter: [@jcalebcollins](https://twitter.com/jcalebcollins)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: [don't have one](#)



Bio

Joshua Collins is an Entrepreneur-in-Residence and Solution Catalyst for Ashoka's Youth Venture, a global organization that promotes cultivating a global culture of young people initiating positive change. Prior to his tenure with Ashoka, Josh founded the Student Volunteer Foundation® and worked for the Points of Light Institute where he served as the Director of Partnerships and Special Projects for generationOn.

His professional experience spans both the nonprofit and private sectors. In addition to launching nonprofit and for-profit social ventures, his experiences include research and capital-raising for private equity, financial planning for commercial real estate investments, facilitating volunteer operations at major nonprofits, and advising on nonprofit boards. Josh earned his bachelor's degree from Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California, where he graduated cum laude with three degrees in economics and business, communication studies, and social science.

Interests

- + Playing Kubb
- + Running
- + Biking the cit
- + Startups
- + Social Change.

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Phone:

Github:

Twitter: @_

Meetup Presentation:

Blog:

Bio

Interests

+ -

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Github: <https://github.com/katieishibashi>

Twitter: [@floggingkatie](#)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: katieishibashi.github.io



Bio

Katie Barry Ishibashi has been a preschool teacher in Vietnam, a concierge in Vermont, and, for the past seven years, worked in online media in New York, where she also completed a graduate degree in International Relations. After working with web technologies for seven years, Katie recently decided to delve much deeper into code, and has been thrilled to learn Ruby at the Flatiron School.

When not writing descriptions of herself in the third person, Katie enjoys traveling, long brunches, theater, train rides to Montauk, and learning new recipes. Her favorite flavor of ice cream is mint chocolate chip, and her techie-to-English translation skills are excellent.

Interests

- + Ruby
- + Yoga
- + Backpack trips through random nations
- + Theater
- + Determining the identity of my CSA vegetables

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: <http://kirinm1.github.io/>



Bio

Kirin is passionate about solving problems, from solving Sudoku puzzles, to explaining the finer points of American pop culture to her curious foreign grandparents, to developing programs in Ruby.

Born and raised in New Jersey, Kirin attended Vanderbilt University in Nashville, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Public Policy and Political Science. During undergrad, Kirin studied and researched the American government, and closely followed the Arab Spring Revolutions - which involved translating masses of information such as tweets, articles, and plays from Arabic to English. A political junkie, Kirin is lucky to have worked as an analyst in the BGOV sector at Bloomberg LP, for Message & Media, and for a representative to the US Congress in her home state.

Interests

- + Cooking
- + Travel
- + Reading Fiction
- + Arabic Calligraphy
- + Golf
- + Badminton

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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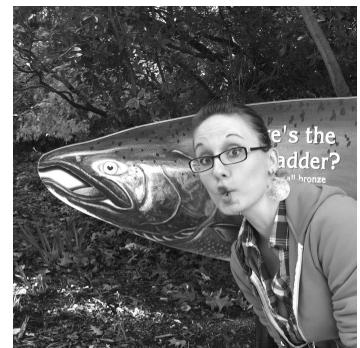
Phone: 503-537-7883

Github: <https://github.com/picodegallo>

Twitter: [@picodegallo](https://twitter.com/picodegallo)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: <http://picodegallo.github.io>



Bio

Kristen Curtis knew she was destined for a life of awesome after having won a Scrabble Tournament in 6th grade. It didn't end there... She went on to win other things: A baguette eating contest, a Nickelodeon Sweepstakes, Bad Christmas sweater 2007, design awards. In between winning things she attended the University of Oregon.

Eventually she went to work in advertising as an Art Director where she rose to the position of ACD over the past 6 years. In just the past 3 years has been contracted out at over 30 agencies, won awards, taught classes, worked on kickass brands, watched all 50 years of Doctor Who, and ate a lot of burritos.

Interests

- + Art directing
- + Finger portrait painting
- + Dinosaur enthusiast-ing
- + Chemistry set abusing
- + Robot building
- + And dancing to Bruce Springsteen.

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Twitter: [@mschmaus201](https://twitter.com/mschmaus201)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: <http://mschmaus201.github.io/>

Bio

Matthew Schmaus has always gravitated to hobbies that required analytical and structured reasoning skills. As a young child, Matt spent countless hours building with Legos, assembling backyard furniture sets sans instruction manuals, wiring his childhood home for internet and cable, and taking apart (and improving!) the family computers. Those pastimes led him to enroll in the Academy for Telecommunication and Computer Science, a Bergen County Academies high school. There, Matt's technical exposure began with Java, HTML/CSS, Oracle database design, and Cisco networking fundamentals.

After graduating high school, Matt attended the Olin Business School at Washington University in St Louis, majoring in Economics and Entrepreneurship. Outside of class, he owned and operated Bears' Bikes bicycle shop, served as president of his fraternity (Sigma Chi), and was the co-founder of the WashU Student Entrepreneurial Program's Chamber of Commerce.

During his senior year, Matt and his friend Brian developed a business plan for Flash It, LLC, a company focused on offering consumer tracking services to small businesses for customer management and individualized marketing. Brian was in charge of the technical side of the business; Matt was responsible for sales and operations. Unable to test and release a solid product, Flash It failed (fast). Realizing he wanted to be the one building, failing, and building again, Matt returned to his first love, technology, to arm himself with the skills to make it happen.

Interests

- + My dogs
- + Car and technology (consumer/hardware tech and web-tech) industries
- + Learning anything new
- + Food
- + Snow and water skiing
- + Scuba diving
- + Car racing

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: <http://maxjacobson.github.io>

Bio

Max grew up in suburban Westchester, New York and had a solid public school education which included just a little computer science. Mainly a typing class. That was great. He liked to type fast before he knew what to type. There was also an introductory C++ class which he did pretty well in. Then he and a friend made a Mario rip-off game in a pirated copy of Flash which didn't get "blammed" from Newgrounds, which he figured was his peak as a programmer, so he went to The University of Vermont and made a bunch of short films and wrote a bunch of short stories and maybe one poem.

After college, in the "real world", programming slowly crept back into his life. A few of his high school friends had stuck with it and were now working in the industry and it seemed very exciting to dust off the old keyboard and see if any of the old concepts had stuck to his ribs. Besides, during those years, software had become the most exciting popular expressive medium to him. The same way, when he first got an iPod with a hard drive he suddenly had a furnace to feed albums into and a way to care deeply about more artists (one of the best compliments he's every received: 'wow, you have the best iTunes library I've ever seen'), iOS and the new age of web applications opened the doors for him to care about independent developers and tools that seemed tailor-made for him and people like him. So whenever he wasn't working for his dad at the ribbon company, he was reading and experimenting and eventually attending meetups and doing a little tutoring and now he's at Flatiron School, where his learning has hyper accelerated.

Interests

- + Loud music
- + Weird twitter
- + Vegetarianism
- + Film and television
- + Apps
- + The internet

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Twitter: @_

Meetup Presentation:

Blog:

Bio

Interests

+ -

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog:

Bio

Interests

+ -

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Twitter: [@mendelk](#)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: mendelk.github.io



Bio

Mendel Kramer was born in Montreal, Canada. At the age of 15, he went to study at a pre-rabbinical school in Paris for four years. He completed his studies and earned his Rabbinical degree in Brooklyn, NY.

Mendel has traveled around the world as part of his studies, including trips to Europe, Africa and Australia. Mendel enjoys reading, playing music, and spending time with his family.

Interests

- + Reading
- + Photography
- + Playing the Keyboard
- + Anything Tech Related
- + Anything relating to Judaism

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Twitter: [@micahcorn](#)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: micahrcorn.github.io



Bio

Micah was born in South Carolina and has lived in Queens NY for twelve years. He has been married for eleven of those years and is a father of two girls. He enjoys family life, and especially, teaching his daughters new things.

Micah comes from a diverse blue collar background and has a love for art. He has graduated from CUNY Queens with a degree in Graphic Design and has recently moved into the web development field. On very diverse teams, with different types of people, in varying environments. Ask him about it - he can be productive just about anywhere.

Interests

- + I really enjoy listening to diverse types of music.
- + I love watching good movies and talking about them.
- + I love sports, but mainly out of town (non-NY) teams.
- + I am a fan of good barbecue.
- + I enjoy reading but have been listening to audio books lately.
- + I love to paint and draw.

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: ningbit.github.io



Bio

If you told Ning that after 10 weeks of coding at The Flatiron School, he'd be presenting his group project, BikeWithFriends, at the world's largest tech meetup for an audience of 1,000+ people, he would say... 'it's certainly in the realm of possibilities'. No, honestly, Ning had no idea how fascinating coding could be, nor how far it might take him. Ning's path has always been to challenge himself and tackle the most interesting problems, solving them in unique ways. A Westchester native, his curiosity led him to complete a Music Industry major at the University of Southern California in LA. There he explored his passion in music, joining the Trojan Marching Band on saxophone, while also playing piano, violin, and writing and producing electro-pop for fun. Later, he would teach himself how to play cello by buying one off of Craigslist (he's resourceful).

Always interested in media and the creative industry, he would return to NYC and intern on the Broadway show Xanadu, work as a production assistant on shows such as VH1's "Who Wants to Work for Diddy", and even play piano for babies at Kidville/Little Maestros. Ning's technical skills are nothing to sneeze at. Realizing his knack for troubleshooting technology, he took on IT support roles at Halcrow, an engineering firm and then at large ad agencies Grey and JWT as a consultant working through Mike's Tech Shop (a boutique tech firm located in the Flatiron District). Armed with skills to be a full-stack web developer, Ning feels there is no limit to what he can achieve in the near and distant future. Also, Ning visited Egypt this past November, and it was awesome. He feels everyone should visit as soon as possible!

Interests

- + Playing Cello
- + Snowboarding/Skateboarding
- + CitiBiking
- + Bouldering
- + Traveling

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Twitter: [@1](#)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: [1](#)

Bio

Things

Interests

+ Stuff

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: ruthienachmany.github.io



Bio

A native New Yorker, Ruthie is optimistic about the energy and creativity of the city's emerging tech scene, and looking forward to become a part of it. Prior to The Flatiron School, Ruthie was a research analyst on the digital strategy team at Publicis Kaplan Thaler, an advertising agency in New York. She graduated from Princeton in June 2012 with a B.A. magna cum laude in Anthropology and Certificates in Environmental Studies and Film/Video Production. While at Princeton, she conducted original research for her senior thesis on climate change in the Maldives, filmed and produced documentaries on bellydancing in Alaska and jewelry in Israel, led peers on civic engagement trips across America, and organized events at the Princeton University Art Museum. In her summers, she helped develop a platform for user-generated climate content; and worked as a consulting intern for the International Water Management Institute in India, interviewing stakeholders and conducting user experience surveys for knowledge product development. She has always been interested in how people engage with information that challenges them, and in bridging between technical and non-technical thinkers. She is excited to leverage those experiences and interests as a developer.

Interests

- + International development
- + Filmmaking
- + Story slams
- + Art museums
- + Traveling
- + Civic engagement

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: sgrshah.github.io



Bio

Although Sagar spent the majority of his childhood in New Jersey, he still likes to believe that the first three months of his life in Queens qualify him as a true New Yorker. After a brief stint attending school in Boston, Sagar had enough of life outside of the tri-state area and transferred to New York University's Stern School of Business.

Although New York always feels like home for Sagar, he does love to travel. While at NYU, Sagar got the opportunity to travel to Buenos Aires, Argentina and Mumbai, India as part of his curriculum. In Mumbai, Sagar participated in an exchange program and learned about economic development in the complicated and chaotic country that is India. In Buenos Aires he just partied for a week and it was awesome.

Sagar graduated NYU in 2010 with a degree in finance and economics. Afterwards, he worked in consulting helping clients make financial decisions using valuation techniques. Sagar could value almost anything for you. Ultimately, Sagar realized that he had a real interest in programming. He can't resist the joy of building fun programs and solving the interesting problems that come along with them.

When Sagar is not programming, you can find him playing basketball against people a foot taller than him, decompressing with a good sitcom, or listening to TED talks or This American Life.

Interests

- + Travel
- + Finance
- + Economics
- + Television Sitcoms
- + Podcasts

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: <http://blog.samantharadocchia.com/>

Bio

Everything can be found here: <http://samantharadocchia.com/> I started out my teen years as an Abercrombie-and-Puka-Shell-Wearing youth. In 2002 (that long ago already?!), I enrolled in The Loomis Chaffee School, a boarding school in Windsor, CT and was changed forever--into a Polo-Wearing prepster... Kidding. At Loomis I found my passion for film, music, and the digital arts, as well as an irrational love for risk taking. At sixteen, I was selected as one of twenty people in the country to take part in an exchange program with Oxford University, where I took college-level courses in Psychology and Social Behavior. At the time, the only use I could see for these classes was perhaps as a cure to my social awkwardness. These classes, however, would soon prove to be instrumental in my future understandings of markets and demographics. At seventeen, I obtained my pilot's license mainly because physics made absolutely no sense to me on paper. A year later I decided to take my little exercise in "applied physics" a step farther, getting an instrument rating for my private pilot certificate and learning the in's and out's of aeronautical engineering. After graduating from Loomis Chaffee I then went on to take a gap year in between high school and college, during which I moved to NYC to pursue a film career, worked as a ski instructor in Stowe, VT, and helped to establish an NGO in Rabat, Morocco, which sought to empower women through computer literacy training. It was during this year that I developed an affinity for skydiving, ultimately competing in four-way formation teams at the pro-level and accumulating over 700 jumps.

Sam learning to code at 5 In looking at the photo to your left, a few things are fairly obvious: (1) Computers were far more interesting to me than Hooked on Phonics. (2) I knew I wanted to go into business at a very young age. (3) Apparently I envisioned the adult version of myself as having a beard and abnormally short legs.

Notes

Fortunately, all three of these things have come to fruition as I have matured into adulthood! (Do you get what I mean about that awkward moment when someone totally misinterprets sarcasm yet?) Anyways, when I sit back and think about what I'm doing and how I got here I always come back to these photographs, because they don't lie. You may ask, "Why exactly did I choose to become an entrepreneur?" and my response to you would be this: What did I choose? I was born to do this. I started out my teen years as an Abercrombie-and-Puka-Shell-Wearing youth. In 2002 (that long ago already?!), I enrolled in The Loomis Chaffee School, a boarding school in Windsor, CT and was changed forever--into a Polo-Wearing prepster... Kidding. At Loomis I found my passion for film, music, and the digital arts, as well as an irrational love for risk taking. At sixteen, I was selected as one of twenty people in the country to take part in an exchange program with

Interests

- + Skydiving
- + Flying Single Engine Airplanes
- + The Talking Heads (and music/concerts in general)
- + Legos
- + Driving with the Windows Open and the Heat on

Oxford University, where I took college-level courses in Psychology and Social Behavior. At the time, the only use I could see for these classes was perhaps as a cure to my social awkwardness. These classes, however, would soon prove to be instrumental in my future understandings of markets and demographics. At seventeen, I obtained my pilot's license mainly because physics made absolutely no sense to me on paper. A year later I decided to take my little exercise in "applied physics" a step farther, getting an instrument rating for my private pilot certificate and learning the in's and out's of aeronautical engineering. After graduating from Loomis Chaffee I then went on to take a gap year in between high school and college, during which I moved to NYC to pursue a film career, worked as a ski instructor in Stowe, VT, and helped to establish an NGO in Rabat, Morocco, which sought to empower women through computer literacy training. It was during this year that I developed an affinity for skydiving, ultimately competing in four-way formation teams at the pro-level and accumulating over 700 jumps.

By the time I arrived to Colgate University as a college freshman, I had a lot under my belt. I was traveling every weekend to compete with my skydiving team; however, after a few short weeks found a niche in the small upstate community. My love for linguistics, critical theory, and symbolic systems helped me to bridge the gap between the limited/slightly impractical liberal arts majors and I was able to find relevance in courses ranging from English to Sociology/Anthropology to Computer Science. I focused my studies on symbolic systems specifically in respect to the digital/virtual space and online communities. Unlike most college graduates who were finding it very difficult to procure employment with their liberal arts degrees, I'd seemed to have found a niche. So I continued my studies: First, at King's College in London where I studied creative approaches to Management and Entrepreneurship and co-founded my first company--a music sampling and collaboration application that enabled independent music producers to collaborate with studio-associated producers on songs and albums; and next, at New York University, where I pursued Master's Degree in Digital Media and graduated Summa Cum Laude in the spring of 2013.

In addition to my rather droll status as a nerdy academic type, I am also a self-taught web developer (proficient in HTML5/CSS3, JavaScript, Python, Django, Ruby on Rails) and am about to embark on a three month course at The Flatiron School to polish my skills. In the midst of the dense jungle that is academia, I also co-founded the clothing aggregator and social commerce platform, Stunable, during my senior year at Colgate and am still currently working there. Our company is about to do big things so follow me there -- I pretty much devote all of my time to that gig. Finally, one last thing, if you have the time to check out Machine Elf, please do! This is my second company and it's about to release its first application called Virtual Gate, an augmented reality game/training tool for recreational and competitive skiers that places virtual racing gates on trails of the skier's choice. The app works in tandem with Recon Instruments' Heads Up Display Goggles and gathers trail map data from many major US Ski Resorts in order to create a virtual race environment that is both challenging and safe.

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: sarahduve.github.io



Bio

Sarah was brought to coding by both her prior work in media and a lifelong fascination with technology and its ever-increasing impact on our lives. Though always buoyed by a great passion for the arts, Sarah eventually reached a point where her mere proximity to creativity as a sales analyst was no longer enough. This, coupled with the sneaking suspicion that there was in fact a better way to complete the repetitive aspects of her work in ebooks and ecommerce caused her to dig deeper into the world of macros, automation, and later code.

Initially it was exposure to the fields of user research and usability testing that sparked the idea of one day marrying her previous studies in psychology with her interest in digital culture. But after having personally witnessed the effects of disruptive technologies first upon music and then the publishing industry, Sarah began to see coding as more than just a passing interest and instead a downright necessity and future career path.

Ultimately Sarah hopes to work on products that harness the power of technology for good and make real life better. In her spare time she can be found preparing overly-complicated recipes and stalking the local greenmarkets for the arrival of the latest short-season produce.

Interests

- + Food and restaurants, especially vegetarian and whole foods cooking
- + Health
- + Urban living, maps, and geolocation
- + The digitization of media industries and "the evolving media landscape"
- + Human computer interaction and internet psychology
- + -----
- + These last three can totally come off:
- + Music, film, and the arts
- + Public radio
- + Cycling

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History



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Meetup Presentation:

Blog: stevenbrooks.github.io

Bio

Steven grew up in northern New Jersey with two brothers, and was raised playing as many sports as possible. He attended Wake Forest University in Winston Salem, North Carolina. After playing on the Wake Forest baseball team, he joined the Kansas City Royals as a Centerfielder.

While a member of the Royals' organization, Steven started a company that connects students and their families with discounts on goods and services. He can't wait to bring his new development chops to more, and bigger, real-world projects.

Interests

- + Programming
- + Sports
- + Entertainment
- + Exercise
- + Food
- + The financial markets

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Twitter: [@deatheragetr](https://twitter.com/deatheragetr)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: deatheragetr.github.io



Bio

Born in Philadelphia but raised in Northern Virginia, Thomas has a penchant for visiting new cities and new bars. He studied Chemistry in college and worked for short time as a chemist. Less than a year ago Thomas decided he'd pick up coding because he wanted to build cool stuff. Now, Thomas feels, rightly or wrongly, that he's reached that sweet spot in skill level where no programming challenge is too advanced. (He still thinks of himself as a beginner, though.) Thomas also has a soft spot for long-distance running--ask him to go for a run with you if you're into that :)

Interests

- + Hiking
- + Road Trips
- + Popular Science Books
- + Running

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

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Twitter: [@adf](#)

Meetup Presentation:

Blog: [asdf](#)



Bio

adfadsf

Interests

+ Adsfadfs

Notes

Technical Experience

Education

Employment History

