JACK RIFKIN

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EDUCATION

Northeastern University, Khoury College of Computer Sciences, Boston, MA　　　　September 2021 - Present
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Media Arts　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　*Expected May 2025*
GPA 3.85 / 4.00
Coursework: Fundamentals of Software Engineering, Web Development, Object-Oriented Design, Computer Graphics, Artificial Intelligence, Algorithms & Data, Database Design, Programming in C++

EXPERIENCE

Skillz, Las Vegas, NV | *Full-Stack Software Engineering Co-op*　　　　　　　　　　February - August 2024
- Enhanced mobile SDK stability by designing a stack-based modal system for React Native, resolving critical race conditions, and preventing app crashes, leading to a 10% decrease in fatal app crashes related to pop-ups.
- Led the full lifecycle development of an ACH deposit system, coordinating with cross-functional teams and external partners to ensure smooth and secure transactions.
- Developed high-performance backend services in Java and Golang, significantly optimizing the interstitial limited-time offers by reducing delivery times through Redis caching and React queries, leading to improved user engagement.

Northeastern University, Boston, MA | *Web Developer*　　　　　　　　　　　　　　August 2023 - Present
- Collaborated with a team to design and prototype a visually compelling and interactive website showcasing an art technology project, enhancing the project's visibility and engagement.
- Developed a responsive, high-performance frontend using Next.js and a backend integrated with Mux, ensuring fast, reliable media delivery and an intuitive user experience.

Wayfair, Boston, MA| *Software Engineering Co-op*　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　January - June 2023
- Optimized core Java Spring applications, fixing critical bugs, redesigning APIs, and improving performance.
- Implemented alerts, monitors, and metrics, minimizing downtime and enhancing reliability for team services.
- Identified components in a monolith for decoupling into microservices, enabling a more manageable architecture.

Northeastern University, Boston, MA | *Teaching Assistant (Fall Semesters)*　　September 2022 - December 2024
- Facilitated learning for over 40 students per lab, providing personalized guidance and ensuring a strong understanding of foundational coding concepts such as function and data design, recursion, and abstraction.
- Delivered constructive feedback on more than 50 coding assignments weekly, helping students refine their problem-solving skills and coding techniques.
- Supported over 750 students through weekly office hours, providing one-on-one academic assistance and improving overall course success rates.

PROJECTS

ShortStack | *ReactJS | MongoDB | Jest | Socket.IO*　　　　　　　　　　　　　October - December 2024
- Developed a full-stack community forum platform with user authentication, Q&A functionality, configurable notifications, community-written articles, and a challenges/rewards system, following Agile best practices.
- Integrated Socket.IO for real-time interactions and notifications, enhancing user engagement and collaboration while ensuring reliable performance through unit and integration tests written with Jest.

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

Frontend: React.js | React Native | TypeScript | Next.js | Jest | Cypress | Redux | Bootstrap
Backend: Java | Golang | Python | Spring MVC | Node.js | MongoDB | MySQL | Redis
DevOps & Cloud: Docker | AWS SQS | GitHub Actions | Jenkins | Kubernetes | JIRA | ELK