John Zhou

iohnzhou256@gmail.com * Portfolio * GitHub * LinkedIn

EDUCATION

CUNY Hunter College, BA in Computer Science

May 2025 • 3.83 GPA • Magna Cum Laude

Daedalus Honors CS Scholar • Dean's list 2022-2024

Relevant Coursework: Data Structures, Discrete Math, Linear Algebra, C++ Game Engine Creation

SKILLS

Languages C#, Lua, Python, C++

Frameworks/Engines Unity (C#), Roblox Studio, (Lua, DataStoreService, Server-client replication)

Tools JetBrains Rider, Visual Studio, Git, Trello

EXPERIENCE

EGD Collective - Game Studio Fellow -

September 2024 - May 2025 | New York, NY | Steam Link

- Collaborating with 100+ student developers in a simulated AAA game studio, developing a 3D roguelite action game with Unity (C#) within a programming team of ~15 students.
- Designed and implemented state-machine-based AI for two unique enemy types ('Charger' and 'Golem'), enhancing combat variety and player engagement.
- Developed a robust JSON-based save system, enabling players to persist game preferences across multiple sessions.
- Participating in agile development with weekly sprints, scrum meetings, and code reviews.
- Mentored and onboarded junior game programmers, improving debugging workflows and team productivity.
- Utilized Github for source control with feature branch workflow.

PROJECTS

Shroomies – Lead Programmer

Unity (C#) | *June* 2022 - 2024

- Shipped arcade shooter game with 1000+ views and 500+ plays on itch.io; 2nd place at itch.io BWGI 2022.
- Won \$1000 grand prize at RPI Gamefest 2023; showcased at GDC 2023 as one of 3 CUNY student games.
- Led GitHub codebase maintenance and Trello organization for a 4-person team, ensuring a clean and efficient development environment.

Konbini no Kage - Solo Developer

Unity (C#) | *Mar – May 2025*

- Solely developed a 3D psychological horror game, achieving 1,000+ views and 300+ downloads on itch.io.
- Created all 3D assets within Unity with RealtimeCSG and leveraged generative AI for texture creation, significantly
 accelerating the art pipeline and enabling rapid prototyping.
- Integrated complex NPC behavior into the game using Unity's NavMesh Agent, dynamically updating the NavMesh to enable realistic pathfinding and movement AI in response to changing game states.

KaBlammo Tanks - Solo Developer

Unity (C#) | *May 2025 – Present*

- Authored a 2D PvP projectile combat game, building core multiplayer functionality along with realtime synchronization from the ground up using Unity Netcode for GameObjects.
- Utilized generative AI to create art assets, streamlining the development process and enabling rapid, efficient prototyping
 of game features.

Chairs & Chairs - Programmer

Unity (C#) | *January 2025*

- Developed 2D boss rush game in 1 month for itch.io Boss Rush Game Jam (top 20% of 865+ entries, ranking within the top ~10% in boss design.
- Managed and organized codebase and game assets in a 2-person team.