

# Phoenix Sheppard

917-733-6941 | [phoenixs@umich.edu](mailto:phoenixs@umich.edu) | [sheppnix.dev](https://sheppnix.dev) | [linkedin.com/in/phoenixsheppard](https://linkedin.com/in/phoenixsheppard) | [github.com/phoenixsheppard28](https://github.com/phoenixsheppard28)

## EDUCATION

### The University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

*B.S.E in Computer Science, Minor in Geospatial Science — GPA: 3.80*

*May 2028*

- **Coursework:** Distributed Systems, Web Systems, Data Structures & Algorithms, Data Mining, Computer Organization, Unix Programming, GIS for Earth Science

## EXPERIENCE

### Palantir- Incoming Software Engineering Intern

Summer 2026

- Gotham

### Pursuit Markets- Software Engineering Intern

May 2025 - August 2025

- Saved **\$70,000+** per year in LlamaIndex and OpenAI API spend by adding content-hash-based re-extraction filters that prevent redundant web-scrapes
- Boosted platform data accuracy **40%** by architecting a Temporal-driven, distributed scraping pipeline that refreshes all contact data within a 30-day window
- Cut container memory use **50%** and saved **\$5,000** per year by replacing full in-memory S3 uploads with an async, generator-based streaming approach in ECS
- Reduced database query time by **80%** after migrating **30 million** documents and deleting **15 million** redundant rows, unlocking faster operations for users and developers
- Resolved the #1 customer pain point by building dynamic contact-status tracking by monitoring HTTP codes and content changes, contributing to the company's highest-revenue month in history

### V1 Michigan

August 2025 – Present

- Hosted Y Combinator (YC) events at the University of Michigan **twice**, bringing founders and builders together for talks and recruiting
- Led the University of Michigan's **only pre-idea incubator**, supporting teams from concept to early traction
- Mentored teams that went on to earn **YC acceptances** and secure **funding**, increasing the pipeline of student startups

### Citywide Painting Corp.- House Painter, Invoice Clerk

August 2020 – August 2024

- Painted Section-8 housing across New York City; Invoiced companies using Intuit QuickBooks and VendorCafe

## PROJECTS

### Fortnite Item Tracker | Golang, Gin, PostgreSQL, Docker, Telegram API

- Developed a Telegram Bot and web app to alert users when cosmetics they track become available in the Fortnite item shop with mobile push notifications
- Implemented a secure authentication flow that uses Telegram Login for identity verification and issues JSON Web Tokens for session management
- Optimized SQL schema using normalized join tables, enabling efficient queries on many-to-many relationships

### Raven | Python, FastAPI, Celery, Redis, SQLite, Scrapy, Docker

- Developed a distributed web scraper that identifies and prioritizes high-value links using a custom relevance heuristic powered by the ChatGPT API
- Engineered a scalable, asynchronous architecture leveraging Celery for distributed task queuing and Redis as a message broker, enabling the system to handle thousands of concurrent scraping requests
- Designed and implemented a RESTful API with FastAPI, providing programmatic access to source pages, target pages, and scraping statistics

### GhostKey | TypeScript, Plasmo, Ollama, React, Chrome Extension API

- Built a Chrome extension with Plasmo and React that enables AI-powered inline text generation across websites, using a keyboard shortcut to trigger context-aware LLM modifications in real time
- Integrated RAG based memory layer with Ollama, OpenAI APIs to provide context-aware text generation and modification, supporting both local and cloud LLM providers

## SKILLS

**Languages:** C++, Python, Golang, JavaScript/TypeScript, Java, SQL, HTML

**Tools:** MongoDB, PostgreSQL, SQLite, Docker, Git, Linux/Unix, Redis, AWS, Node.js, OAuth 2.0, Temporal

**Frameworks/Libraries:** FastAPI, Gin, Next.js, Nest.js, React.js, Plasmo, Ollama, Scikit-Learn, Apache Spark, Hadoop