

# KETON KAKKAR

[ketonkakkar.com](http://ketonkakkar.com) — 516.806.8523 — [ketonkakkar@gmail.com](mailto:ketonkakkar@gmail.com)

## EDUCATION

---

### [Swarthmore College](#)

September 2015 — December 2019

Double Major: English Literature and Computer Science, *with Honors*

Nominated for the Rhodes Scholarship; Associate Member, Sigma Xi Honors Society

Cumulative GPA: 3.7

### [Phillips Academy Andover](#)

September 2013 — May 2015

## MACHINE LEARNING, BUSINESS, TECH & SOCIETY

---

### [Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University](#)

May 2019—

*Research Assistant*

*Principal investigator: Professor Dennis Tenen*

- Using Word2Vec for large-scale text analysis to detect formulaic novels in the pulp fiction corpus
- Pushing the field of text reuse by improving fuzzy similarity matching, esp. for identifying synopsis expansion

### [Department of Computer Science, Swarthmore College](#)

May 2017—May 2018

*Research Assistant*

*Principal investigator: Professor Ameet Soni*

- Implemented convolutional neural networks in TensorFlow to predict transcription factor binding sites *in vivo*
- Co-author on [first place student poster](#) at ACMW Celebration of Women in Computing in Philadelphia

### [ASK Abstract](#)

January 2017—

*Title Closer*

*Hicksville, New York*

- Represent ASK Abstract at closings for residential purchases and refinances in New York State
- Notarize affidavits and deeds; pick up closing checks and documents for recording
- Primarily assist immigrant communities and low-credit individuals

### [Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society, Harvard University](#)

June 2016—August 2016

*Intern*

- Helped maintain the [Lumen Database](#), the authoritative archive of online content removal
- Blogged on contemporary events related to copyright, privacy, and free speech

## JOURNALISM & APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

---

### [WHYY News](#)

January 2020—April 2020

*Newsroom Intern*

- Reporting and writing on urban planning with PlanPhilly; + data reporting on eviction and infrastructure
- Showed [Fresh Air](#) how to use unsupervised clustering to improve the browsing of their new [public archive](#)

### [The Swarthmore Phoenix](#)

January 2019—May 2019

*Editor Emeritus*    *Formerly: Editor-in-Chief, Managing Editor & Treasurer, Opinions Editor, Head of Digital*

- Editor of investigation into Greek life that was circulated by the NY Times, AP, etc., & resulted in frats disbanding
- Successfully lobbied for Swarthmore to participate in the Pulitzer Center's campus consortium program
- Created a regular email newsletter; successfully lobbied the provost to invite faculty to subscribe
- Overhauled the website's full-stack and added SSL encryption
- Merged The Phoenix and the college's born-digital paper, The Daily Gazette, of which I was then the head
- Preserved all 22 years of The Gazette's archive with a database merger
- Organized three major journalism events. Linked here: [one](#), [two](#), [three](#)

## SKILLS AND INTERESTS

---

### **Relevant coursework**

Harvard CopyrightX, Spring 2016; Critical Race Theory; Acting

### **Data analysis skills**

Skilled: Python, matplotlib, NLTK, SpaCy, pandas, Excel, regex, bash

### **Business licenses**

NY State Mortgage Loan Originator; NY State Notary

### **Languages**

Limited working proficiency: Hindi, Spanish

### **Hobbies**

Top-rope & lead certified climber; enjoy running, kayaking, & pottery