

MAX KINDER

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PROFILE

Engineer and maker with broad interests as well as deep intellectual curiosity about how the world has worked and may work in the future. Seek out creative engineering challenges and enjoy multi-discipline problem solving including mechanical engineering, physics, and material science. Passionate about ancient history and archeology, including how civilizations developed and collapsed

Additional skills:

- Fusion, ChatGPT, Python, Blacksmithing, 3D Printing, Circuits, Laser Cutting, and asking questions

EDUCATION

2023-Present

CORNELL UNIVERSITY, College of Engineering

Ithaca, NY

- GPA 3.7, candidate for Bachelor of Science in less than 4 years
- Majoring in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Archeology
- Select Coursework: Statics and Mechanics of Solids, Materials: The Future of Energy, Mechanical Design, Introductory Fluid Mechanics, Mechanics of Engineering Materials, Calculus, Physics

2016-2023

MENLO SCHOOL

Atherton, CA

- Graduated top 10% of class in 2023 with a 4.0 GPA and SAT score of 1530
- Three sport varsity athlete – football, basketball, lacrosse. Elected team captain in lacrosse, won California section championship in football, and awarded defensive player of year in football

EXPERIENCE

2024-Present

CSALT, Founder and President

Ithaca, NY

- Founded and launched an engineering club focused on developing wave-powered desalination technology for large-scale sustainable drinking water solutions
- Lead 51-member team competing in Department of Energy's Marine Energy Collegiate Competition
- Awarded \$15,000 of funding from the Department of Energy and won national award for our design
- Work closely with advising professor, PhD candidate staff, and the SEA lab at Cornell

August 2025

Palo Alto Investors, Financial Services Intern

Menlo Park, CA

- Engaged in conversations with investors, founders, and experts in a variety of fields including artificial intelligence, technology, medicine, and energy
- Analyzed multiple investment opportunities ranging from early growth stage companies to public companies pivoting their growth model

July-August 2024

FORMLABS, Manufacturing Intern

Cambridge, MA

- Ran quality control tests on the newest line of 3D printers for this spinout from MIT's Center for Bits and Atoms research lab
- Ensured effectiveness of the tests and consistent quality of manufacturing process
- Helped build a redesigned levelness test to be used in the factory for product consistency
- Conducted and led a stress test of the new machines to identify issues with either the machines or prints resulting from large volume or consistent usage

2023-2025

CU SOLAR BOAT, Engineering Project Team

Ithaca, NY

- Key contributor on 30-member engineering team building a solar powered boat
- Focused on construction of the hull. Helped develop a new method of hull construction which is currently being implemented. Adapted our previous hull to fit the current needs of the other sub teams without compromising the hulls effectiveness.

Summer 2021-2023

BARNSTABLE COAST GUARD HERITAGE MUSEUM, Blacksmith apprentice

Barnstable, MA

- Led production of many small to medium-sized projects for the blacksmith shop which were sold at the museum, while maturing my self-taught blacksmithing skills
- Assisted the master smith in creation of larger, more complex projects and installations
- Invited to demonstrate my skills and explain the blacksmithing profession at the county fair

PROJECTS

- Worked on a team that successfully launched a balloon to the edge of space while conducting a series of experiments as the balloon traveled. Led the tracking of the balloon and the successful retrieval of the payload after landing. Designed multiple backup tracking systems to monitor progress and ensure success
- Designed a prototype triphammer which could modulate its speed without occupying the users' hands and consistently striking the same location on the anvil with consistent force
- Designed and built a functional electric motor optimized for RPM which achieved RPM of 11,000
- Designed and built a single occupant boat based off ancient Roman designs utilizing only ancient building tools and techniques
- Designed and built a olive press based off the design of olive presses found in the ruins of Mycenaean and Greek cities. Successfully produced a useable quantity of olive oil
- Built miniature aquaponics farm sustainably supporting a fish while growing an herb garden
- Self-taught blacksmith having experimented with multiple materials and historic methods of blacksmithing. Designed and produced many projects including a crankshaft and a replica sword

INTERESTS

- Young Men's Service League (Vice President), Junior Classics League (Sports commissioner)
- Experimental archaeology, historic travel, non-fiction, cooking, and making things