

Ned Batchelder

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Summary

Development: Deep experience building software to solve real problems using diverse technologies.

Open source: Dedicated to Python and open source, maintaining widely used projects.

Community: Committed to skillfully bringing people together and building positive culture.

Personal: Self-motivated, diligent, resourceful, helpful, intelligent, persistent and independent.

Recent career

edX / 2U

2012–2024

Non-profit running **edx.org**, the world-wide MOOC provider. **Acquired** by 2U in 2021

- **Early-stage** architect and developer, joining the LMS team in an engineering org of ~10.
- Developed test-based system for assessing student code responses.
- Designed XBlock **component architecture** for extending content delivery and assessments, enabling dozens of first- and third-party components.
- Built codejail **sandboxing** utility to safely run untrusted student code submissions.
- Consulted on Python development throughout engineering.
- Organized cross-organizational hackathons and study groups.
- Led establishment of the Open edX **open source** project spanning 150+ repositories and 300+ code authors. Developed governance and maintenance processes. Provided guidance on open source topics including code logistics and licensing.
- Primary developer advocate and community contact between edX/2U and the Open edX community. Organized nine **international conferences** and many local meetups.
- Built **developer efficiency** tooling including stats gathering, linters and contribution automation.

Stellated Software LLC

2010–2013

Solo **freelance** software consulting, specializing in Python

- Developer on a wide range of projects, from HTML5 e-book readers to Django web sites to medical cyclotron automation.
- Python training, teaching multi-day **Python courses** for all levels.

Hewlett-Packard / Tabblo

2007–2010

HP **acquired** Tabblo

- Extended the tabblo.com code to book-editing sites, social network applications, and printable web applications.
- Built **Tabblo Print Toolkit** to produce high-quality printed pages from web content.
- Built **Tabbloid**, an RSS-to-print application built on TPT including a print app running in the printer.
- Led development of **ePrintCenter**, HP's web site for consumers managing web-connected printers.

Tabblo

2006–2007

*10-person **startup** for a consumer photo-sharing story-telling site, **tabblo.com***

- Architected and led development of an early Django site for interactively creating photo-based stories and printed products including books, cards, posters, and print-at-home photo cubes.
- Built story representation with **multi-output rendering engine** capable of output to PDF, PNG, and both editable and read-only HTML.
- Built access control, database migration, back-office tools, page factory pipeline.
- Led usability testing, improved performance, established testing regimes.
- Contributed patches to the early development of Django.

Open Source / Volunteer

Coverage.py

2004–current

Solo maintainer of the test coverage measurement tool for Python

- Developer of the popular canonical test assessment tool, adopted by all serious Python projects.
- Used by **34k packages** on PyPI with 65M monthly downloads, and by **365k** GitHub repos.
- Reviewed and merged contributions from more than 200 contributors.
- Testing nightly Python builds, often writing and debugging issues in Python alpha releases.
- Recommended in the official Python documentation.

Boston Python

2009–current

Large local user meetup group with 10k members

- Head organizer, overseeing a half-dozen co-organizers.
- Often two events a month, including presentations, unstructured collaboration spaces, study groups, book groups, and a weekly office hour.

Python Community

2002–current

Wide-ranging volunteering in the Python community

- Python Documentation Editorial Board (2023–current): Inaugural member of five-person council overseeing **documentation strategy** and direction.
- PyCon US **opening keynote** (2023): [People: The API User's Guide](#).
- Ten PyCon US talks (2009–2018): Often-recommended presentations include [Python Names and Values](#), [Getting Started Testing](#), [Loop Like A Native](#), and [Pragmatic Unicode](#).
- Guest on eleven Python-related **podcast** episodes (2015–2023).
- PSF **Community Service Award** (2016). PSF **Fellow** (2011).

Brookline Sharks

2004–current

Local Special Olympics swim team

- Coaching a wide array of disabled athletes for swim competition, including my son.

nedbatchelder.com

2002–current

Personal site

- Writing on Python, technology, parenting and more.

Earlier timeline

2001–2006 **Kubi Software** — Architect of distributed collaboration product • Founding employee

2000–2001 **Blue Ripple** — Architect at content distribution web service startup

1997–2000 **Iris Associates** — Project lead for Domino Designer • Architect of Domino XML support

1993–1997 **Lotus Development** — Developer of Domino web server for Lotus Notes content

1986–1993 **Digital Equipment** — Developer of print system software • Corporate PostScript guru

1984–1986 **UPenn GRASP Lab** — System manager and developer for robotics research lab

1976–1984 **Bronx Science / UPenn** — Selective technical high school • Ivy League engineering degree