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.

Education — Enthusiastic teacher. PyCon talks and blog posts explaining Python topics.

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

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

Recent career

Netflix 2025-current

Worldwide streaming entertainment

Python language platform team.

Anthropic 2024–2025

Leading AI research and development, focused on safety

 Member of technical staff. Supporting researchers investigating improved code reasoning techniques.

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.
- 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.
- Consulted on Python development throughout engineering.
- Organized cross-organizational hackathons and study groups.
- 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.

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.

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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.
- Funded by Tidelift and GitHub sponsors.
- 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

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

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- PyCon US opening keynote (2023): People: The API User's Guide.
- Ten PyCon US talks (2009–2018): Often-recommended presentations include <u>Python Names and Values</u>, <u>Getting Started Testing</u>, <u>Loop Like A Native</u>, and <u>Pragmatic Unicode</u>.
- 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