

RYKER REED

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

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📍 Los Angeles, CA
in ryker-reed
🔗 reedr3

I am passionate about using my skills to create beautiful and meaningful things that can effect positive change in the lives of those around me. I am particularly excited to contribute to educational technologies and technologies that can directly benefit marginalized communities. I have an extensive background in Linguistics and analytical research. I enjoy tackling complex problems and working in environments that constantly challenge me.

Skills

FRONTEND

JavaScript
jQuery
AJAX
HTML
CSS
React

BACKEND

Ruby
Rails
ActiveRecord
PostgreSQL
SQLite
Action Cable
Python

PERSONAL

Public Speaking
Advocacy
Technical Writing
Teaching

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
BS Linguistics 2014

Boston University
MA Linguistics 2017

Dev Bootcamp
Computer Software Engineering 2016

Projects

Game the Progress Sep 2016 - Oct 2016
Created Game the Progress, a web app designed to give teachers a platform to custom build and play game quizzes with multiple students. Worked with a team of four other developers over an eight day period to go from initial pitch to functional product. Worked primarily on the backend ActiveRecord associations and Action Cable WebSockets interface.

My Linguistic Facts Oct 2016
Created and published a skill for the Amazon Alexa skills store. This skill allows Alexa to dynamically respond to requests for information about linguistics, spanning many sub-fields including syntax, phonology, morphology, semantics, historical linguistics, language acquisition, and constructed languages.

EmpathyQuest Nov 2016 - Present
Created EmpathyQuest, an educational adventure role playing game which introduces players to complex cultural concepts such as privilege, oppression, and microaggressions. Created the app using Javascript, Phaser, Intel XDK, and Cordova.

Pensieve Nov 2016 - Present
Created Pensieve, a web app designed to aid and increase productivity by allowing users to efficiently compartmentalize tasks. Tasks can be tagged with the timeframe in which they need to be completed as well as how much effort will be required so that users can search and sort tasks by these tags. Created the app using Rails, ActiveRecord, Javascript, React, HTML, and CSS.

Experience

Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition Aug 2014 - Dec 2014
Legal Intern, Boston, MA
Researched national and state gender identity policies. Wrote legal briefs for Massachusetts Senate Bill 2407 (passed July 2016), amending the prohibition on discrimination in public accommodations under the Massachusetts Civil Rights Act to include gender identity.

MIT Linguistics Department Jan 2012 - Sep 2013
Undergraduate Researcher, Singapore and Cambridge, MA
Led a research team examining the psychological effects of a "learning mindset" on language learning abilities at Singapore University of Technology and Design. Developed and taught an experimental curriculum on artificially constructed language.

Activities and Volunteering

MIT Splash Program Nov 2012 - Mar 2016
Teacher
Created curriculum and taught classes on Linguistics and on Gender Beyond the Binary to middle and high school students.

MIT and Dev Bootcamp Nov 2013 - Present
Workshop Leader
Led "How to be a Trans Ally" workshops for students, staff, and faculty. Created educational content and interactive activities. Spoke about personal experiences, led group discussions, and provided suggestions for making MIT and Dev Bootcamp safer, more inclusive spaces.

Boston Beantown Softball League Apr 2013 - Jul 2016
First Baseman

MIT Gender Fluidity Group May 2013 - Jun 2014
President

MIT Figure Skating Club Oct 2012 - Jun 2014
Executive Member

Awards

MIT Burchard Scholar for Excellence in the Humanities Feb 2013
MIT School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

MIT Louis Kampf Writing Prize in Women's and Gender Studies May 2014
MIT Women's and Gender Studies Department
Wrote a science fiction novella.