

Stephen Sullivan

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Introduction

My name is Stephen Sullivan and I am originally from the South Shore of Massachusetts. I have been living in Seattle for the past 7 years. My first bachelor's degree is in hospitality management with a focus on culinary arts. After many years of trying to make it in the restaurant field, I decided to pursue one of my other interests that I dabbled with in high school and electives in college, computer science. More specifically, I am very interested in the design and usability aspects of programming. Ultimately, I would like to get into UX/UI and web design and development. A mindset for building and creation that I have developed over the years through work and various hobbies has led me to this decision. My major is postbaccalaureate in computer science and though I have most interest in front end development, I find all aspects to be important. I have moved out of the kitchen field and I am currently working for a vendor company at Amazon. Though this position is not directly related to Amazon or even computer science in general, I have been able to network with many professionals in the field. Seattle is home to all kinds of companies, large and small, that need developers and I am focused on becoming a part of that field. Half of my first degree is based in management and I plan to leverage that knowledge in the future. A potential direction in 5-10 years could be in program or project management. I feel that it would be very important to gain knowledge in computer science before I try to manage other developers. Ultimately, I would love to combine all of my knowledge and build a platform that would help potential home cooks learn more and even new software to make life and work easier for current hospitality professionals.

My experience in computer science is a combination of self-taught and through schooling. The majority of my self-taught experience is based in web development and I have spent about 2 to 3 years on the subject. I started with HTML and progressed to CSS and JavaScript. Using codecademy and books that I have purchased on the subjects have helped me gain an intermediate grasp of web languages. A lot of this I built using online development platforms as well as Visual Studio. While I am hoping to move into a position in this field, I will be happy to gain any and all experience in all formats of computer science engineering. My strongest development language is C++ thanks to classes taken through OSU (CS 161 and 162) and outside sources. I have about 2 years of experience with C++ and have a fairly strong grasp of object-oriented programming. I have become familiar with several platforms including Flip, Visual Studio and notepad ++. I am excited to progress and learn other languages that I hope to use regularly in a new career.