

Christopher Huber

<https://wasuregusa18.github.io/portfolio>

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a self-taught full stack developer: a generalist and specialist combined, expert of a few select tools, proficient with many. I love to code and I love to learn. Algorithms, data structures, data analysis, automation, web scrapping, reinforcement learning: there is always some new field I am excited to explore. I want to be challenged, pushed, forced to go beyond what I already know.

Recently, I set myself the challenge of designing and implementing an intuitive, but comprehensive search engine against a database of scrapped poems, poets and anthologies. The ambition was to facilitate sql-level complexity queries in a way that required no tutorial or prior knowledge. My first iteration is visible at <https://waka-stage.herokuapp.com>. A webpack bundled React frontend calls a Flask RESTful api backend, which in turn runs queries against a Postgres database through the SQLAlchemy ORM.

In summary, I combined three qualities that would make me a long-term asset to any development team:

- The ability to self-direct:

The world of technology is constantly progressing, and a developer's current skillset counts for less than a mindset of continual improvement: the determination and perseverance to continually learn and develop. I have a proven track record of self-directed studies, having taught myself classical Japanese, classical Chinese, and Japanese calligraphy in one year to successfully pass the Kyoto University graduate school entrance exam.

- The impulse to iterate:

A working program is only a proof of concept. It needs to be reviewed, rewritten, crafted into something of elegance and purpose. As a published translator and poet, I understand the process of refining a work, of weighing every line, of always reaching after something better.

- A planning disposition:

"Weeks of coding can save hours of planning." As a junior international bridge champion, I understand the importance of a well-reasoned plan. There is always a strong temptation to dive straight into a coding project; I am a person who aims to see three or four steps ahead, someone who helps a team avoid problems before they even occur.

I mean to undertake any developer position with an analytic and reflective mindset, and an unwavering commitment to self-improvement. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,
Christopher Huber