

MAKAYLA MCKINNEY

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EDUCATION

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Graduation: May 2025

Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering

Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages and Literatures (German Concentration)

EXPERIENCE

Grace Apple Medical, LLC

Remote

Contract Software Developer

March 2025

- Designed, hosted, and implemented web solution for medical practice located on squarespace domain using VueJS, Typescript, and Cloudflare SSL. Utilized UX/UI design practices.

Electro-Mechanical Inc

Bristol, TN / On-Site

Programming Engineer Technician

December 2024 – Present

- Developed and introduced control for conducting Mechanical Switch C/O Operation Testing using SEL-849 Relay and SEL-3421 HMI. Implemented automatic and manual mode, operator safety features, and drafted proposal for future improvement. Used AutoCAD LT to create wiring and block diagrams. Used Ladder Logic, Truth Tables, and SELogic in AcSELerator to program relay.
- Designed and integrated Database of Test Reports, Test Data, Inspection Reports, and Standards Protocol using Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Forms, Power Automate, and Java. Logged contents and location of 400 documents.
- Experimented with Rockwell and Allen-Bradley components while implementing database to store functional off-book spare parts.
- Created automated Patent Analysis using Python, Gemma API, and US Patent Office API

University of Tennessee Knoxville / Vol Study Center

Knoxville, TN / Hybrid

Peer Learning Assistant / Undergraduate Tutor

November 2022 – Present

- Offered STEM coursework, including MATLAB, C, and C++, for undergraduate students via 1-on-1 30 minute or 1 hour study sessions. Led lecture-based “Review Rally” pre-exam study sessions lasting 2.5 hours.

Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)

Knoxville, TN / Hybrid

Student Software Developer / Integrator

May 2023 – September 2024

- Full-Stack development experience using Microsoft SQL, C# with RESTful API, and VueJS Javascript Framework to develop key pages of proprietary webtool. Authored comprehensive training material presented to subscribed vendors detailing V4.0 details and use instructions.
- Member of internal WATTS UP Toastmasters and Technical Women’s Network. Recipient of Toastmasters Rookie of the Year award 2023.

SOFTWARE PROJECTS

N/A (Self-Project)

Knoxville, TN

Developer

September 2024 - Present

- Personal Portfolio Website including stylized Landing Page, Project Showcase, Experience, and Contact information. Hosted through Netlify on GoDaddy Domain. Designed with ReactJS and Tailwind CSS.

University of Tennessee Knoxville

Knoxville, TN

Free Food Group Administrator / Moderator

November 2024

- Full-Stack web solution including user accounts with hashed passwords, comment and voting system.
- Backend with MongoDB hosted on Render. Frontend with VueJS hosted through Netlify. Used NodeJS with RESTful API. Used ARCGis API for map to find and share free food.

University of Tennessee Knoxville

Knoxville, TN

Machine Learning Student

August 2023 – December 2023

- Researched and developed Machine Learning model to detect credit fraud. Model written in Python implemented Random Forest Algorithm with Ada Boosting. Achieved 99% accuracy. Results analyzed further on academic poster.

University of Tennessee Knoxville

Knoxville, TN

Cyber Security Student

August 2023 – December 2023

- Clone of Canvas website to practice SQL Injection, SHA-256 hashing, and malicious downloads to attack users and harvest user data. Deployed with Apache Server, created using wget (Invoke-WebRequest alias) in Powershell

Deutsche Bank

Cary, NC

Inaugural Deutsche Bank Hackathon Invitee

October 2024

- Challenged to implement innovative reimagination of Credit Score Calculation. Project duration was limited to 7 hours. Developed website using AngularJS, Microsoft SQL, and Python.

Knoxville Minx

Knoxville, TN

Rugby Player / Volunteer

October 2024

- Python Solution for soliciting local businesses for fundraising purposes without generating spam content.
- Searched for emails associated with businesses using google API, saved the emails into Google Excel. Logged both email and source of email to simplify human check. After human interaction to verify all emails are correct, a script will send an email to all emails in the excel sheet with a personalized message.

University of Tennessee Knoxville

Knoxville, TN

Software Engineering Student

April 2023 – May 2023

- Rugby Game Engine with run/chase and collision mechanics, Start/pause menu, and timed play. Developed in Godot Engine as part of larger game. Experienced Agile Methodology including scrums and sprints.

HARDWARE PROJECTS

University of Tennessee Knoxville

Knoxville, TN

Senior Design Student

August 2024 – May 2025

- Created Wearable Allergy Alarm using I2C protocol with nRF52 bluetooth SoC and environmental/health sensors. Device will connect via Bluetooth to communicate with full-stack mobile app hosted on Google Firebase. Used Arduino IDE, Arduino, and Adafruit to program device. Used Fusion360 to design PCB.

University of Tennessee Knoxville

Knoxville, TN

Embedded Systems Student

August 2024 – December 2024

- Utilized ARM Cortex M4 Texas Instruments microcontroller to implement PIP-Boy from Fallout Franchise. Written in C. Achieved Finite State Machine to play 4bit tracks, display weather information, display time, and have explicit resting screen.

University of Tennessee Knoxville

Knoxville, TN

Digital Logic Design Student

August 2023 – December 2023

- Utilized Field Programmable Logic Array (FPGA) Basys3 board with VHDL to create Automatic Hydroponics System. Achieved nutrient solution dispensability, water aeration, and grow light toggling

LEADERSHIP

German Club @ The University of Tennessee Knoxville

Knoxville, TN

Vice President

May 2023 – August 2024

- Created and maintained German Club Social media and developed relations with German Department at the University.

Womens' Rugby Football Club @ The University of Tennessee Knoxville

Knoxville, TN

Recruitment Chair

May 2023 – August 2024

- Recruited new players and ensured retainment of rookies.

Tennessee Lunabotics @ The University of Tennessee Knoxville

Knoxville, TN

Electrical Design Lead

July 2021 – September 2023

- Led team of interdisciplinary students to design and develop hardware for lunar rover's mining mechanism, drive train, and autonomous onboard computer for NASA's Robotic Mining Competition