Cesar E Almendarez

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EDUCATION

- **California State University, Los Angeles** — Los Angeles, CA
  Bachelor of Science, Computer Science — *Expected May 2025*

PROJECTS

- **Done Did It** — Jan 2023
  iOS To-Do List Application — *App Store*
  - I launched a productivity app to the Apple App Store. I implemented **Object Oriented** principles in **Swift** to establish a solid **Model View Controller** architecture pattern which enabled dynamic interaction of user-generated Lists and Tasks throughout the entire app. I utilized **Firebase** to rapidly add phone number authentication, along with the ability for users to save/retrieve their data seamlessly.
  - Extended/Customized functionality of navigation and notifications via **UIKit** Interfacing.
  - Strengthened my confidence in deploying Object Oriented data models, working with **Xcode**, constructing optimal UI designs for a wide array of iPhone devices and gave iOS users a simple way to organize themselves.
- **NewsNova** — Dec 2022
  Live News Web App — *newsnova.vercel.app*
  - I launched a live news web app to newsnova.vercel.app. With my existing skills in **JavaScript**, I quickly picked up **TypeScript** to statically type definitions for NewsNova's data. I generated Medistack **REST API** endpoints with StepZen, then accessed them via **GraphQL** generated schemas, all to fetch timely world news data on user demand. With **Next.js**, I incorporated navigation, searching, and filtering capabilities that allow users to efficiently find the news they care about. Finally, I made the site beautifully accessible with **Tailwind CSS** and **HeadlessUI**.
- **DeepASL** — Dec 2021
  American Sign Language Gesture Classification Program — *GitHub*
  - Utilizing **OpenCV** and **NumPy**, I developed a **Python** program that can classify live ASL alphabet hand gestures. The program can interpret letters A - Y with great accuracy. I added depth perception and hand velocity tracking algorithms that embed DeepASL with an intuitive understanding of when a hand is in frame and when to trigger an interpretation.
  - Refrained from incorporating any machine learning libraries to emphasize learning the core architecture and mathematics rudimentary in **Convolutional Neural Network** models.
  - Optimized and open-sourced on **GitHub** allowing any machine with a webcam to run DeepASL.

EMPLOYMENT

- **EPIC Program @ CSULA** — Los Angeles, CA
  Data Collection & Administration Intern — *Jan 2022 - Present*
  - **Web Development**: Maintaining and building upon EPIC's **Eagle Connect** website to connect over **700** active student users with volunteer events and opportunities in and around their community. Leveraging basic **HTML** and **CSS** to promote a continuous stream of relevant and accessible content via various feeds.
  - **Data Administration & Reporting**: Facilitating the generation and reporting of site-wide user data. From user registration to volunteer time reporting, data is recorded and quantified to expedite user onboarding, outreach, and tech support efforts that have contributed to an increase of active users by **133%** and logged service hours by **60%** during the 2022 - 2023 academic year.
  - **Team Collaboration & Building**: Efficaciously working with a growing team of fellow student interns possessing a range of skills and talents from graphic design to marketing.

SKILLS & TECH

- **Languages**: JavaScript, TypeScript, Python, Java, C, Swift, PHP, SQL, GraphQL
- **Frameworks & Libraries**: React, React Native, Tailwind CSS, OpenCV, Next.js, SwiftUI, Flask
- **Other Tech**: Xcode, GitHub, Firebase, Framer Motion, HeadlessUI
- **Interests**: Computer Vision, UI/UX, Natural Language Processing, Powerlifting, Long Distance Running