

Christine Xu

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EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

B.S. in Mechanical Engineering; Conc. in Product Development & Design | GPA: 4.7/5.0

Cambridge, MA

Expected May 2026

- **Relevant Coursework:** Design and Manufacturing I & II, Toy Product Design, Mechanics and Materials I, Dynamics and Control I, Principles of Microeconomics, Differential Equations, Physics I & II, Calculus I & II, Mechanical Engineering Tools, Electronics for Mechanical Systems, How to Design, Design Studio: Objects & Interaction

EXPERIENCE

Cubimals (Toy Startup)

Co-Founder

Cambridge, MA

February 2023 - Present

- Developed original concepts and designs for an innovative block-based plush toy; led team of 6 students.
- Optimized design using user feedback from testing 5 toy prototypes with 50+ children and adults.
- Presented the product to over 1,000 viewers during a live and web-broadcasted show at MIT.
- Leading all aspects of further development, including manufacturing, marketing, legal, and costing.

Jazwares, LLC.

Product Development Intern

Fort Lauderdale, FL

June 2024 - August 2024

- Managed 6 toy brands (525+ items); earned ownership of major licensed brand (200+ items) within 3 weeks.
- Directed cross-functional & international teams (design, brand, costing) to meet 100% of deadlines.
- Provided detailed technical feedback in weekly FEP reviews to ensure products meet company quality standards.
- Pitched 2 unique product ideas to C-suite; self-driving expedited project development across multiple roles.

MIT Media Lab, Fluid Interfaces Group

Design Research Assistant

Cambridge, MA

February 2024 - May 2024

- Prototyped interactive models for user testing of an AI device designed to assist in senior safety and memory.
- Directed recruitment for gen AI & cognitive health research, surpassing goal for number of participants by 20%.
- Conducted 22 user testing studies to gather feedback to inform further development and improvements.

MIT Ideation Lab

Design Research Assistant

Cambridge, MA

March 2023 - September 2023

- Researched impact of digital design tools vs. pen-paper sketching on early-stage ideation within design.
- Analyzed 574 sketches from 40 participants to identify notable trends in concept evolution and novelty.
- Co-authored a publication, "The Influence of Digital Sketching Tools on Concept Novelty and Evolution".

LEADERSHIP & EXTRACURRICULARS

MIT Capital Partners (MIT Cap)

President

Cambridge, MA

April 2023 - Present

- Increased club applications by 2.5x and member retention by 43% through innovative community initiatives.
- Secure funding to drive club growth by fostering partnerships with executives at top firms and startups.
- Improve member education and networking opportunities by organizing targeted events and workshops.

MIT Manus Makerspace

Mentor

Cambridge, MA

September 2024 - Present

- Instruct students on how to safely and confidently operate prototyping equipment and machine shop tools.
- Maintain a high standard of safety by enforcing rigorous protocols and best practices in the makerspace.

MIT Varsity Fencing Team

Squad Captain

Cambridge, MA

September 2022 - May 2024

- Commit approximately 15 hours per week to training, meetings, travel, and competitions while maintaining a full course load in addition to fostering a social and inclusive environment within the team.
- Awarded NEIFC Team Champion (2023-24), NFC Team Champion (2023-24), Scholar of Distinction (2023-24), USFCA All-Academic Team (2022-24), 1st Place at The Big One Invitational (2022-23)

Gens Connect

Founder and President

New York, NY

March 2020 - May 2024

- Launched a volunteer program during COVID-19 that fostered intergenerational bonds and alleviated the effects of senior isolation through weekly calls and monthly shows and concerts in English and Chinese.
- Interviewed and supervised 125+ volunteers and 9 team members to support the program's mission.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Product-Related: Prototyping, User & Market Research, Cross-Functional Collaboration, Design & Development

Software: Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office Tools, Solidworks, AutoCAD, Fusion 360

Fabrication Tools: Laser Cutter, Band Saw, Cold Saw, Belt and Disc Sander, Drill Press, Lathe, Mill, Soldering Iron