Brandon Magana

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github.com/ghbrando | maganacasa.com/about/career | SMART Scholar, NSWC Dahlgren | Active Secret Clearance

EDUCATION

California Baptist University Riverside, CA
Master of Science in Computer Science (4+1 Program) Expected May 2028
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, AI/ML Concentration (ABET Accredited) Expected May 2027
Honors, GPA 3.99 | Presidential Scholar; President's List (4x); Alpha Chi Invitee; 1st Place, CBU Robotics (record score)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, Rust, Java, C++, C#, Bash, PowerShell, SQL, Cypher, Nix, Dart, XAML
AI & ML: PyTorch, LangChain, LangGraph, LlamaIndex, GraphRAG, ZeroClaw, OpenCV, YOLO, Whisper
Web: React, Next.js, .NET, Blazor, Django, TypeScript, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, Three.js, Firebase, Supabase
Inference: llama.cpp, CUDA, TensorRT, ONNX, OpenVINO
Infrastructure: NixOS, Docker, Kubernetes, PostgreSQL, ChromaDB, Neo4j, GCP, Vertex AI, SSH, WebSockets, Git, Jira

EXPERIENCE

Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division Norco, CA
NREIP Intern, Office of Naval Research — Artificial Intelligence Jun 2026 – Aug 2026

- Built a fully offline AI agent into an operations console on customer-owned hardware, serving a local model through llama.cpp with no cloud, internet, or external API calls; adopted for use cases across the command.
- Delivered autonomous fault recovery: the agent pulled the device record, scanned the network, diagnosed downed range equipment, and produced operator remediation steps.
- Authored a declarative NixOS virtual machine booting a Docker stack of the agent, PostgreSQL, and ChromaDB, rebuilding the appliance from configuration files.
- Engineered agent skills in Rust (ZeroClaw): schema-validated read-only database access, network discovery, SSH switch diagnostics, and ePDU power cycling, streaming live reasoning over WebSockets.
- Shipped a self-reflection loop proposing its own improvements under human approval and an offline Whisper voice pipeline with barge-in.

CBU AI & Machine Learning Lab — DINA (Defense Innovation Navigation Assistant) Riverside, CA
Artificial Intelligence & Knowledge Graph Intern, Team Lead Jun 2025 – Apr 2026

- Architected a Neo4j-based GraphRAG pipeline powering real-time question answering for U.S. Navy and Air Force analysts, increasing answer accuracy by 25% compared to baseline RAG.
- Developed backend integrations and automation pipelines on Google Cloud Platform (GCP) alongside senior engineers, managing scripts, APIs, and data flows supporting front-end usability.
- Directed 4 interns through Agile sprints in Jira and presented weekly to DoD stakeholders, establishing coding standards, CI tests, and rigorous code reviews.

LEADERSHIP & PROJECTS

UniCore — Peer-to-Peer Compute Marketplace (IaaS) Riverside, CA
Infrastructure Engineer, 5-Person Team Jan 2026 – Apr 2026

- Built VM migration with snapshot and volume backup on GCP, and routed consumer SSH through an FRP relay so VMs on home networks stay reachable without exposing the host machine.
- Isolated tenant workloads in resource-budgeted Docker containers with audit logging, and built the matchmaking service that places VMs by detected CPU, RAM, and GPU.

CBU ACM Chapter — Software Engineering Team (SET) Riverside, CA
Co-Founder and Team Lead Nov 2023 – Present

- Co-founded and co-lead ACM's ~10-member development team, building GUTT (Ground-Up-Trained Transformer), a framework that trains models on campus datasets, starting with a front-desk assistant.
- Pair beginners with active projects in React and Next.js under real code reviews and deadlines; built the chapter website and competed in the International Collegiate Programming Contest.