

# Thomas Breier

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## Work Experience

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### **Nexus Events | Engineering Lead | Remote** **10/2019 – Current**

- Creating an innovative online conference product, which already has multiple customers of various sizes
- Leading engineering and product efforts in evolving a Ruby on Rails legacy application
- Setting product direction through defining tasks, prioritizing efficiently, and creating specs and wireframes by incorporating user feedback, customer research, and aligning with business goals
- Hired and now managing engineering team of 3, consisting of both contractors and full-time employees
- Modernized the codebase by bringing in talent and leading efforts to add React to the legacy application
- Led project to increase test coverage of models from 0% to 75% by introducing RSpec and Capybara

### **Affinity Hive | Software Engineer | Palo Alto, CA** **03/2016 – 09/2019**

- Used Ruby on Rails, MySQL, Redis, Resque, AWS, and jQuery to build new app prototypes and brought some to market, which led to several large B2B contracts and a successful company seed round in 2017
- Took responsibility for projects from idea to release by covering data modeling, system architecture, core algorithms, database optimization, user research, UI/UX design, and iterating based on user feedback
- Managed and selected interns in engineering and marketing, which improved their impact on the company
- Supported customer management and sales, which improved relationships and closed additional contracts

### **Affinity Hive | Software Engineering Intern | Palo Alto, CA** **09/2014 – 09/2015**

- Joined pre-seed Silicon Valley startup before first line of code was written
- Built initial versions of apps that aggregated data about millions of people and then surfaced relevant information to users about the connection graphs of their networks using Ruby on Rails, MySQL, Resque
- Co-authored published Stanford research paper on unique UX of one of our apps with interesting social implications: “Founder Center: Enabling Access to Collective Social Capital.” (ACM CSCW 2017)

### **UIUC Dept. of Civil & Environmental Eng. | Undergraduate Research Assistant** **03/2014 – 05/2014**

- Experimented with different approaches to predict the location of potential taxi passengers in NYC
- Co-authored successful grant proposal for further funding of the project

## Education

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### **Technische Universität München | Informatics (Computer Science) B.Sc.** **10/2011 – 03/2016**

- Received 4 different scholarships awarded to exceptional students, GPA within top 3% of graduates (1.1)
- Minor in Psychology from LMU München with a focus on Human-Computer Interaction
- Teaching Assistant for Discrete Structures and Fundamentals of Algorithms and Data Structures
- Thesis: “MatchMaker: Framework for Three-Party Recommender Systems”, Prof. Dr. Bernd Brügge

### **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) | Year Abroad** **08/2013 – 05/2014**

Completed senior and graduate classes with GPA of 4.0 (best grade): CS473 Fundamental Algorithms, CS579 Complexity Theory, CS421 Programming Languages and Compilers, and CS440 Artificial Intelligence

## Skills

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### **Technical**

- Proficient: Ruby on Rails, MySQL
- Intermediate: AWS, JavaScript, jQuery, HTML/CSS/Bootstrap, Python, Git, Bash, UML, JIRA
- Familiar With: Android & iOS Development, Java, Swift, Haskell, C, React, AngularJS, LaTeX

### **Other**

- Sprint management, evaluating engineers, user research, customer management
- Languages: English (fluent), German (native language), French (intermediate)

## Additional Projects

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### **Anjunabeats Playlist Generator | Ruby on Rails | <https://playlist.anjunabeats.com>** **2020**

Recommends tracks out of catalog of music label “Anjunabeats” by processing and comparing audio features

### **Echolot Music | Ruby on Rails | <http://www.echolot-music.com>** **2017**

Clean, responsive UI to give users access to their most listened to tracks on Spotify

### **Aglu.de / Munich Transport | HTML, JavaScript | Android, Java** **2004 | 2011**

Built my first own website at the age of 11 and first mobile app at the age of 18