

Ava Smithing

EDUCATION

Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ

May 2023

Honors Bachelor of Science in Business Management and the History and Philosophy of Technology, Public Policy Minor

HIGHLIGHTED ENGAGEMENTS

“Children on Social Media and the Multistate Lawsuit Against Meta” *Panelist*, Hosted by ITIF

- Participated in pivotal discussion, as the only non-industry backed panelist, alongside esteemed industry experts and lobbyists on the ongoing lawsuit against Meta by over 40 state attorneys general, and kids online safety legislation.

“How are Platforms Designing for Young People Around Safety, Inclusion, and Autonomy?” *Panelist*, Hosted by ATIH

- Discussed the influence of tech platforms on youth and strategies to enhance online experiences by centering digital native perspectives in platform development and the implementation of updated safety features.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Young Peoples’ Alliance, *Advocacy and Operations Director*, Washington, D.C.

July 2023- Present

- As the sole full-time employee, I oversee a broad range of responsibilities and manage college student employees, providing support and direction for their own unique initiatives.
- Organize external stakeholders, including partner youth organizations and non-profits, to promote the safety of youth and democracy on social media through drafting and advancing legislation, conducting research, and ideating and executing campaigns.
- Distill insights from youth dialogues to advise external partners and congressional offices on integrating young people’s voices into policymaking and coalition building.

Green Hills Grille & Mere Bulles, *Lead Hostess/Server*, Nashville, TN

Feb 2013 - Present

- Systematized roles for staff to mitigate ineffective overlap in responsibilities.
- Developed communication, conflict resolution and problem-solving skills for a fast-paced work environment.

The Common Good, *Public Affairs Intern*, Remote

August 2022- Dec 2022

- Created documentation system for planning the annual fundraising gala, the organization’s sole source of revenue.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

StandardDAO, *Web 3.0 Research Assistant*, Remote

May 2022 - August 2022

- Analyzed tech policy and data privacy regulation gaps; derived insights to strengthen user privacy on social media; documented global regulatory status in a succinct report.

Summer Research Fellow at Stevens Institute of Technology, Remote

May 2021 - July 2021

- Awarded a research grant to study Amazon's expansion in Nashville, TN. Developed and proposed strategies to balance community impact, presented findings through a detailed PowerPoint and report.

ATHLETICS

Division III Volleyball Team, *Team Captain*, Stevens Institute of Technology

August 2019 – August 2023

- Lead 18 individual personalities to three consecutive conference titles and NCAA tournaments.
- Manage 21+ credits while dedicating 25-30 hours per week to practices and games during the season.

ACTIVITIES

All Tech is Human, *Affiliate*

November 2023- Present

- Member of inaugural affiliate program, representing the leading responsible tech organization by attending events, engaging in, and proliferating research projects, and founding a DC sub-network for young women in responsible tech.

Min-Aquabats Waterski Team, *Vice President of 200+ member 501(c)(3) Non-profit*.

August 2020 – August 2021

- Used Google suite to restructure internal documentation, served as main point of contact for existing club sponsors, designed and implemented strategy for acquiring six new fiscal sponsors over one year.
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