

On Technology:

As a millennial (circa 1993) I came to age with the Internet. I can still remember having a literal 100' phone line that provided internet access to our first laptop, a blue-grey Sony Vaio. I remember the dial-up tone and getting upset when someone wanted to use the phone while someone else wanted to be online. I took my first keyboarding class, with the frustrating keyboard covers, in 5th grade; And let me tell you, my GWAM defeated a lot of invading space aliens.

By High School I had learned the basics of Microsoft Office, I could manage my way around Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. Flash drives were okay but they were notorious for burning up if you filled them too much. I got my first GMAIL account in 2006, and it's still my daily email account today.

This is not to say all technology is the new flashy kind. I also submitted a college application using a typewriter (thankfully it had white-out tape).

In college I learned how to use Outlook, and Virtual Private Networks to connect to my student account on campus. My junior year I purchased my first MacBook Pro, and I got the Adobe Suite too. While I had wanted to learn all the Adobe applications, I've mostly stuck with the basic functions of Photoshop. In college I also tried my hand at iMovie-- to not much luck. Around the same time, I got my first iPhone; I haven't looked back since.

My first job after college taught me the incredible power and risk of Mail Merge. My ability to string together increasingly complex Excel functions also took off. I learned to manage an online Learning Management System and knew the basics of using a corporate database. That first job also taught me PollDaddy and BaseCamp.

Graduate school brought with it Canvas (updating my skills from D2L as an undergraduate), Qualtrics (updating PollDaddy), Canva (building off Photoshop), and Trello (building off BaseCamp). But it wasn't until most recently, as a full time professional that I have learned Microsoft Teams, Sharepoint, and Planner, as well as FluidReview (for managing online scholarship workflows). This portfolio of course remains a demonstration of WordPress.

I am also on social media and enjoy staying up to date with Technology trends. Whether it was joining YouTube (2008), Facebook (2009), Twitter (2010), Tumblr (2011), Pinterest (2012), Snapchat (2012), Vine (2013), Instagram (2013), LinkedIn (2014), or Tik Tok (2020), I have always focused on staying connected.