

# Theo Usher

[tsu2107@columbia.edu](mailto:tsu2107@columbia.edu) • [Portfolio: theousher.github.io/portfolio/](https://portfolio.theousher.github.io/portfolio/) • [LinkedIn: Theo-Usher](#)

## EDUCATION

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**Columbia University**, *Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering* Sep 2020 – May 2024  
GPA 4.07/4.0, TBP Engineering Honor Society, Mechanical Engineering Certificate of Merit, Magna Cum Laude  
Non-Standard Courses: Managing Tech Innovation, Robotics Studio, Human-Centered Design, Public Speaking

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Boeing**, *Space Electronics and Mechanical Product Design Engineer* August 2024 – Present

- Design, integrate, and support manufacturing of electronics systems and hardware
- Create multiple unconventional PCB mounting solutions to meet electrical and spatial constraints
- Responsible Engineering Authority for Preliminary Reviews, assessing flight hardware for build quality

**Airobotics Drones**, *Design Engineering Intern* May 2023 – Jul 2023

- Designed, prototyped, and constructed ground stations for autonomous, adaptable industrial drones
- Collaborated on a team to analyze, test, and optimize a drone-catching UAV's net launcher
- Optimized the design of a drone ground station, reducing its assembly time from 2 weeks to 2 days

**Terabase Energy**, *Mechanical Engineering Intern* May 2022 – Aug 2022

- Collaborated with team on an autonomous vehicle to transport and install solar panels in utility-scale projects
- Designed a panel installation mechanism that more than doubled installation range
- Built a panel stabilization system that replaced high-cost linear actuators with a cheap and durable mechanism

**Columbia Bartending Agency**, *Bartender* Dec 2022 – June 2024

## LEADERSHIP & ENGINEERING CLUBS

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**Columbia Space Initiative**, *Rockets Mission Lead* Sep 2020 – Jun 2024

- Led a 50-person team to research, design, and build a hybrid rocket to reach 30,000 ft with a scientific payload
- Organized meetings, goals, and project timelines, allowing for rapid testing of innovative designs
- Coordinated design and integration meetings, fostering cross-functional collaboration and creative ideas
- Cultivated and communicate with industry partners to raise over \$15,000 in sponsorships
- Designed, manufactured, tested, and integrated the rocket's electronics and recovery systems
- Led Rockets' first successful flight and recovery, improved engine performance by 10x, and doubled team size
- Built a talented team that later became the first US student-led group to launch a liquid-oxygen hybrid rocket

## ENGINEERING DESIGN PROJECTS

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**Automated Robotic Linkage – Machine Design** Sep 2023 – Dec 2023

- Worked on a team to design, build, and control a complex linkage mechanism to quickly press arcade buttons
- Created a detailed 3D model, programmed a control system, and manufactured on a mill, lathe, and 3D printer
- Designed a unique, cable-driven actuation system our professor hadn't seen, greatly reducing linkage inertia

**AGI – Product Design** Jan 2023 – May 2023

- Collaborated with a team to develop a pitch-level, innovative AI grader to reduce teacher workload
- Interviewed potential customers and stakeholders to identify pain points and improve user experience
- Utilized ChatGPT and other AI tools to help connect our ideas and solve design issues

**Bipedal Walking Robot** Jan 2022 – May 2022

- Designed, manufactured, and programmed a bipedal robot using Solidworks, 3D printing, and a Raspberry Pi
- Achieved the first and fastest walking robot in the class

## SKILLS

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**Technical Skills:** CAD (Solidworks, Creo, Fusion), PCBA Design (Xpediton, Eagle), MATLAB, Excel, Python, C++, FEA, GD&T, CAM, DFM, DFA, Product Design, Troubleshooting, Rapid Prototyping,

**Non-Technical Skills:** Project Management, Public Speaking, Presentations, Collaboration, Feedback, , Word