

Helen McKay

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Relevant Experience

Freelance | *Web Developer* | Houston, TX March 2026 – Present

- Building lightweight, modern websites for nonprofits and small creatives, using Astro, React, and Tailwind.

Permian Gulf Coast Coalition | *Communications Working Group* | Remote Oct 2025 – Present

Got the new permiangulfcoastcoalition.org Squarespace site ready for launch. Tightened brand cohesion. Improved Lighthouse scores in SEO, best practices, and accessibility from 50s to high 90s.

Blue Voter Guide | *Frontend Development Intern* | Remote Aug 2024 – Nov 2024

- Built new Candidate and Endorser pages, which account for 50% of organic search engine traffic to the Blue Voter Guide site, bluevoterguide.org. Built new FAQ page.
- Improved accessibility and site performance. Increased conversion to ballot guide.

Cougar CS | *Web Development Committee* | Houston, TX Aug 2022 – May 2023

- Built login portal components in TypeScript and React for the Cougar CS website, used to manage club membership for hundreds of club members.

UH ReDAS Lab | *Undergraduate Research Assistant* | Houston, TX Jan 2023 – Aug 2023

- Awarded Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship to design sample phishing email to survey students' familiarity with cybersecurity best practices.

Amigos de las Americas | *IT & Marketing Intern* | Houston, TX May 2017 – Aug 2017

- Built and styled 2018 AMIGOS Summer Programs Application (Salesforce, WordPress, FormStack), used to connect participants with cultural exchange programs in Central and South America.

Featured Projects

helenmckay.dev May 2026

- Personal web development portfolio, built with Astro, Tailwind, Motion. Hosted on Cloudflare.

Additional Experience

Leticia Gutierrez Campaign | *Campaign Manager* | Houston, TX Dec 2025 – March 2026

- Won the Democratic nomination for U.S. House, TX-09, against 5 opponents with 53.7% of the vote.
- Integrated NGP VAN, Act Blue, Action Network, Scale to Win, Designed to Run, and Google Workspace into comprehensive system for voter contact, volunteer recruitment, fundraising, and donor tracking.

Skills

- HTML, CSS, JavaScript, TypeScript, Astro, React, WordPress, Tailwind, Motion
- Git, GitHub, Cloudflare, Netlify, Continuous Integration and Deployment, Static Site Generators
- Java, Python, C, C++, C#, Unity, MATLAB, OpenGL, Data Science
- Project Management, Web Design, Web Development, Software Development

Education

University of Houston, *Computer Science and Mathematics Minor* May 2025

Interests

Community Organizing, Environmental Justice, Mutual Aid, Cooking, Creative Writing, Snail Mail, Zines