Misha Leybovich

Job title: CEO of Meograph

Job description

Can you tell us a little bit about your job? What's an average day look like for you?

I run a tech media startup called Meograph: we make it easy for anyone to create fun mashups, and for brands to engage them in doing that. It's a lot of fun making a tool that other people use to be creative. My day varies all the time, but usually I'm working on designing our product, talking to users, selling to customer, and pitching to investors.

What sparked your interest in Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM)?

In college (Berkeley) I studied Engineering Physics and in grad school (MIT) I studied Aerospace Engineering. Actually wanted to be an astronaut until I was about 25. And even though I'm on the business side of things now, it's still a huge advantage having engineering training.

How did you start on your path to a career in STEM and what did that path look like?

From when I was little I always liked math and science, it was fun to solve problems. I just kept studying more and more interesting subjects through elementary, middle, and high school, and I knew I wanted to keep going in college.

Who helped influence your choice to have an interest or a career in STEM?

My parents of course, as they both have technical backgrounds, though my mom is also more on the business side now. My teachers were also encouraging. But mostly it was just appreciating how much cool stuff there is to learn in STEM topics.

What would you say to young folks who are thinking about a career in STEM?

Go for it, 100%. A technical background is helpful no matter what you do, guaranteed.

Do you have any STEM heroes?

My original STEM hero was Donatello from the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.