



A Declaration of Independence

We will build something great with the machines, not beneath them.

When, in the age of intelligent machines, it becomes necessary for a person to reclaim the tools of creation, and to take up the agency a distant elite would prefer to keep for themselves, a decent respect for one another requires that we say plainly why.

We hold these truths to be self-evident

That humans are made to **innovate, adapt, and improve**, and any technology worth having should *amplify* those instincts, not gatekeep them.

That a life optimized only for efficiency is a life with the meaning drained out of it.

That you need not be a genius, a coder, or a chosen insider to build something real, only a plan, a tool, and the will to begin. **Anyone can do this.**

That the promised golden age, where no one works and the machines do it all, is a fable; and that even were it real, a person with nothing to build and no one to build for is not free, but idle.

We declare independence from

The mindset that measures a human being by tokens spent or output produced.

The efficiency-at-all-costs creed that trades art, family, community, and craft for a larger pool of someone else's capital.

Any future that asks us to stop being human in order to keep up.

The gatekeeping of the tools of creation by those who would rather we consume than create.

And we resolve

To use AI as a tool, never a master; the human keeps the wheel.

To spend our attention and our compute on what actually matters.

To measure success by a simple human question: *did the person end up better off?*

To learn, to make, and to teach the next person, because the door should stay open.

To stay human, on purpose.

We are not asking to halt the future. We are refusing to be written out of it. We do not fear the machine; we mean to build something great *with* it, as its authors and not its afterthought. Our independence is not from the tools, but from anyone who would use them to make us smaller.

DigitalQuill Labs

and every builder who picks up the quill.

First signer: Cody Ivy, Founder, DigitalQuill Labs - June 2, 2026