

{My Life as } a Coder }

by Stephanie Duffieux



Setting off on a journey to become a coder and my ambition to empower women in the tech industry.

“

If you keep focusing on your goals, with a willingness to put in the effort and hard work, anything is possible!

”

- Stephanie Duffieux



#{{Table of Contents}}

# About Me	p.4
# My Life as a Coder	p.5
# My Portfolio	p.8

{About Me}

Hi there, I'm Stephanie Duffieux, I'm originally from New-Caledonia, born in Noumea and raised in Australia from the age of 3 to 13. My parents moved back to New-Caledonia in the mid-90's where I finished high school. I'm fluent in both French and English and fully embrace both the New-Caledonian and Australian cultures as my own. I have experienced the work industry in both New-Caledonia and Australia and have gained extensive knowledge in Customer Service and Business Administration with over 19 years experience.



Mother to my teenage son Bradley and carer of my teenage nephew Matt, I have a loving and nurturing nature and thrive in juggling full time work whilst making time for my family.

I have always had a passion for all things arty and creative and growing up I used to admire my father's talent as an artist/illustrator and graphic designer. Moving back to Australia in 2009 I was given the opportunity to study and decided to follow my passion and so I embarked on a journey to become a graphic designer myself, following in my father's footsteps, I enrolled in full time studies at Martin College in Brisbane. I stumbled on a few road blocks along the way, mainly due to family circumstances, but today I am a proud freelancer of my own small graphic design business, Luova Design Solutions, with a strong ambition of becoming a software engineer, a dream of becoming a leader in my field and a will to empower other women to follow my path.

{My Life as } a Coder}

by Stephanie Duffieux

It's a beautiful Sunday morning, in the warm month of December 2019. As every morning I wake up and roll over to my bedside table, grab my phone and the first thing I do is check my notifications and my socials whilst taking cute morning pics of my little puppy Kobe. Nothing too exciting on Instagram or Facebook that day, however I do come across an advertisement which grabs my attention in my Facebook feed, showcasing a coding bootcamp at Coder Academy in Brisbane, leading to a nationally recognised qualification with a Diploma in IT.



I've always in the back of my mind dreamt of following a career path which didn't just involve the usual administrative work, too often seen as the typical career path for women, I've always wanted more than just blending into the masses and going to a boring and non fulfilling 9-5 type of job I'd been routinely doing for the past nineteen years, I've always wanted more than just this and so seeing this advertisement I thought to myself "Hey, could this be the opportunity I've been waiting for?". I've often found myself stuck in jobs I didn't thrive in and just thought this is how life is meant to be, we all have to work anyways. It's not until I moved back to Australia from New-Caledonia in 2009, working for a freight forwarding company in Brisbane, that I suddenly thought to myself I'm going to change my life and follow what I am most passionate about, and so I decided to study towards a career I would love working in everyday.

continued over...

{My Life as a Coder}

by Stephanie Duffieux

Growing up I admired my father's talent as a creative artist, illustrator and graphic designer, and have always had a passion for all things arty and creative which I believe have been anchored within me all my life. I've always wanted to follow in my father's footsteps, grow in a career in which I could make use of my creative side on a daily basis, which is what led me to study graphic design at Martin College in Brisbane and later on start my own small freelance business, Luova Design Solutions, in 2019.

After graduating in graphic design back in 2012, due to family circumstances I unfortunately saw myself straight back into an administrative position as most graphic design jobs advertised required a minimum of 2-3 years experience even

as a junior graphic designer, which seems pretty absurd when you think about it, and at the time I wasn't in a financial position to start a freelancing business, I was however given the opportunity to work on various design projects within the companies I have worked for since and have been grateful for this as I have been able to grow and gain experience in the design world. Each design project I have been trusted with has given me the opportunity to better myself at my craft and I have seen myself grow with my own unique creative style. Like every designer, everyone sees art and beauty differently which is what I love most in this industry.

In my previous job prior to starting my own freelance business, I worked as an Executive Assistant for a small mining company in Brisbane for two years, my boss at the time saw in me potential and the opportunity to use my design skills to offer graphic design services to our clients. I am thankful to her today for giving me the chance to push myself beyond my comfort zone which led me to the realisation that I was capable of greater things, and which I honestly think guided me to where I am today as I have discovered that creating designs and innovative concepts is what I thrive in most and where I need to be in my career.



continued over...



{My Life as a Coder}

by Stephanie Duffieux

Coming back to that morning in December 2019, I researched that whole day what it meant to be coder and how the tech industry lacked to find more women. I thought to myself “you know what, I’m going to become a coder! Why not break the usual stereotype that believes the IT world is reserved for men and why not do both coding and graphic design!”. I could see a real opportunity there for me to further challenge myself and redirect my career path to something that isn’t commonly chosen by most women. And here I am today, embarking on this exciting journey, with an ambition to one day becoming a leader in the tech world, empowering other women to follow my path, aiming at those higher paid careers which are much too often thought out of reach for women who have to juggle family life whilst proving they can fully take on more challenging and fulfilling roles in their careers.

I want to be able to look back on my life in a few years and be proud of the role model I am for my teenage son and nephew. I want to feel pride in the path I have taken to encourage other women to follow their ambitions and demonstrate that if you keep focusing on your goals, with a willingness to put in the effort and hard work, anything is possible!

I think it was my light bulb moment where I thought to myself “I don’t want to be doing admin work anymore, I want to follow my passions in life”, and this is where I commenced my exciting and slightly daunting career change.

Along my design journey I’ve often felt as a bit of a fraud not knowing or being able to code my own applications or websites from scratch, after all I’m only a designer not a coder, but these days most people are confused with the role of a graphic designer compared to the role of a web developer (or software developer), and struggle to understand the difference between the two and who does what, but they are both distinctively different roles. A graphic designer creates artistic designs for both print and digital platforms whilst using templates to build websites. A web developer codes and makes everything work in the background, creating computer softwares, applications or websites using various programming languages.

{My Portfolio}

Graphic Design
by Stephanie Duffieux



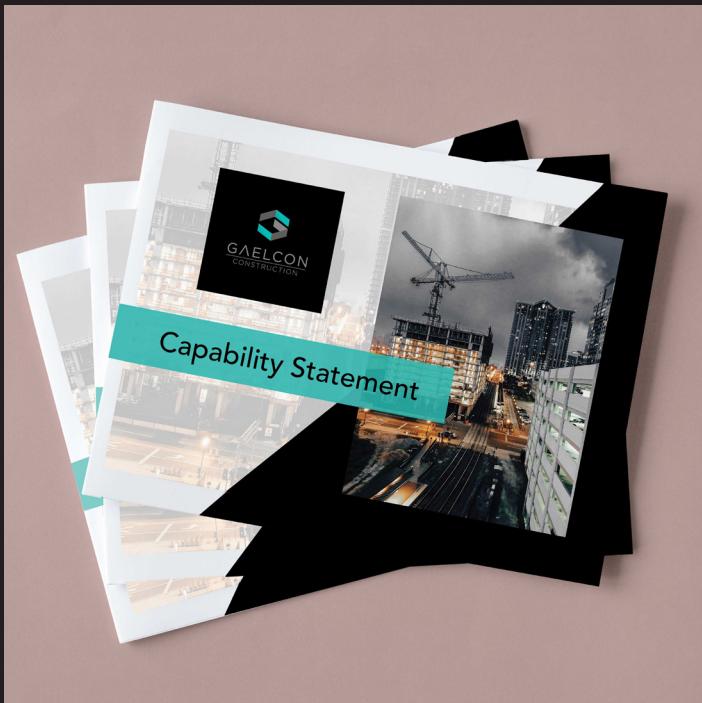
{My Portfolio}

Graphic Design
by Stephanie Duffieux



{My Portfolio}

Graphic Design
by Stephanie Duffieux



{My Portfolio}

Graphic Design
by Stephanie Duffieux

