ELYSE DAWSON

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER

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ABOUT

I'm no stranger to playing many roles, both onstage and off. After years as an actor and office administrator, I turned to my love of tech for a new part. I enjoy building software that improves the quality of life for a diverse range of users and am especially interested in XR development, both practical and game related. With my background as an actor, storyteller and casual graphic designer, I believe that UX, UI, and accessibility are pivotal to an application's success.

EDUCATION

NASHVILLE SOFTWARE SCHOOL

Full Stack Developer

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

BFA in Acting

PROJECTS

BECAUSE I SAID SO!

GLOBAL GAME JAM 2019

VR game built with a group in one weekend.

- Tools Used: C#, Unity, Discord
- Responsible for programming
- child behavior upon voice
- command and win/loss condition
- Collaborated on game design, UI,
- environment

bit.ly/GGJ19VR

EXPERIENCE

NASHVILLE SOFTWARE SCHOOL
OCTOBER 2018 - PRESENT
JUNIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER

Intensive full-time 6-month software development boot camp focusing on full stack (Python/Django) development fundamentals and problem solving. The final half of the program executed in a simulated company environment with Scrum methodology.

Front-End Projects

Nutshell

- Tools Used: React, HTML, CSS, Javascript, Grunt, ESLint, Browserify, Materialize
- Single page social network application with News, Events, Chat, and To Do list
- Group project, Team Lead and responsible for News portion
- As Team Lead, I was responsible for project management via GitHub, whiteboarding
- with teammates, and presenting the application to the class
- Learned CRUD functions of persistent storage, more techniques using Chrome
- DevTools, and ERD generation

bit.ly/nutshellreact

Speech Dewey

- Tools Used: HTML, CSS, Javascript, Grunt, ESLint, React, Reactstrap, Bootstrap, Web
- Speech API
- A vocabulary word to image quiz application for users with aphasia (word-finding
- difficulty)
- Solo Front-End Capstone project culmination of first three months of NSS program
- Reached MVP in 10 days
- Two difficulty levels and four categories for quizzes
- Completely randomized questions/answers
- Users are able to create, edit, and delete unique cards for quizzes
- User stat dashboard provides daily and total statistics
- Simplified UX/UI for users with reading difficulty and the elderly

bit.ly/speechdewey   speech-dewey.herokuapp.com

Back-End Project

Bangazon

- Tools Used: Python, Django, SQL, DB Browser
- HR and Commerce applications for hypothetical company "Bangazon" built across 3 sprints using Scrum methodology
- Group project, took lead on database management and migrations and worked collectively on issue tickets for feature implementation
- Built multiple iterations using Django's ORM as well as raw SQLite3

bit.ly/bangazon

THE RABBIT HOLE VR
AUGUST 2018 - PRESENT
VR ATTENDANT

VR arcade offering clients fully-immersive, interactive VR games and experiences.

- Assist clients in VR experiences by providing safety talk, equipment demonstration, and oversight during their
- experience to ensure a safe and positive playtime
- Learn troubleshooting of HTC Vive equipment, computers, and booking software
- Gain familiarity with all available arcade titles in order to provide personalized recommendations and in-game
- assistance
- Assist with implementation of membership program and created automation of administrative tasks (mailing list,
- sales tracking, etc) with Zapier

CATAPULT CHICAGO
NOVEMBER 2017 - JULY 2018
COMMUNITY COORDINATOR

A peer-selected coworking space for later stage scaling startups. Since 2012, Catapult has housed over 45 companies, offering mentorship, education, an exclusive network in the Chicago tech community, and connections to venture capital.

- Created branded content for weekly newsletter, blog, and social media channels
- Organized and moderated a diversity and inclusion in tech panel with community influencers
- Wrote and distributed press releases regarding founder's startup $50M acquisition as well as Catapult's office
- relocation. Scheduled interviews with the current Executive Manager on Bootstrapping in America and Technori
- Led brand DNA creation with Executive Director and Liquid Iron Marketing that determined voice of Catapult
- Chicago that all marketing materials will use moving forward
- Attended events in Chicago tech community as brand ambassador for Catapult in order to reach out to prospective
- tenants, sponsors, and partners
- Provided assistance to Executive Director with programming curation, alumni relations, and event hosting
- Onboarded incoming tenants and their employees; provide tours and orientation

BABES WITH BLADES THEATRE COMPANY
JUNE 2016 - JUNE 2018
CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

20 year-old Chicago storefront theatre company that uses stage combat to place women and their stories center stage.

- Lead ensemble of 22 in determining annual goals and budget
- Selected, cast and staffed 2 fully staged productions and 3 readings each season
- Organized fundraising efforts raising over $25K
- Used Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator to design promotional materials, newsletters, and web content for Facebook,
- Twitter, and Instagram outlets with over 4,000 followers
- Directed the Jeff Committee-recommended production "The Promise of a Rose Garden"

FULTON GRACE REALTY
OCTOBER 2014 - FEBRUARY 2017
OFFICE MANAGER

Founded in late 2008, Fulton Grace has grown from a one-man apartment rental service into one of the most well-respected and diversified residential real estate firms in Chicago.

- Managed daily operations, projects, and technology of an INC 5000 company with 80 employees across two offices
- experiencing 300% growth year over year
- Supervised administrative staff of three
- Distributed and tracked average of 200 leads each month to 70 leasing agents
- Oversaw implementation of digital key system; created databases and transitioned over 1000 keys across 2 locations,
- resulting in better security and tracking of assets
- Coordinated full office remodel, while maintaining full business operations
- Created automated forms to assist with lead tracking and conversions