

Kayla Ard

Full Stack Software Developer

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After a 14-year career as a college basketball coach, I moved into a career as a Software Engineer. Proficient in implementing diverse tech stacks, I am adept at leveraging my coaching background to quickly adapt to new technologies and meet project requirements effectively. With a strong foundation in leadership, teamwork, and exceptional communication, I thrive in collaborative environments, contributing to the success of the team with dedication and efficiency.

Skills

Languages: Python, JavaScript, HTML5, CSS3

Frameworks/ Libraries: React, Flask, Bootstrap, SQLAlchemy, Django

Query Languages/ Databases: SQL, MySQL, PostgreSQL

Tools/ Dev Ops: Git, Github, RESTful APIs, GraphQL, WebSockets

Design/ Prototyping: Figma, Whimsical, Canva, WordPress Divi

Certifications:

- Coding Temple – Frontend Core Certificate, Backend Core Certificate, Backend Specialist Certificate
- Co.Lab – Software Development Certificate



Projects

Advanced Blog API CI/CD (*Flask, Flask-SQLAlchemy, MySQL, PostgreSQL, GitHub Actions, Render, RESTful APIs, JWT, Swagger, unittest*)
[\[Link to GitHub Code\]](#) [\[Link to Video/Images\]](#)

- Developed a robust CI/CD blog project using GitHub, PostgreSQL, and Flask API, with unit tests implemented using unittest.
- Built, tested, and deployed the application to Render, ensuring seamless integration and deployment.
- Validated API functionality and documented it with Swagger, enhancing usability and reliability.
- Modularized the codebase, added cache and rate limit services, and implemented CRUD operations for Users, Posts, and Comments with Flask-SQLAlchemy integration while including an admin role.
- Ensured API security by implementing JWT, maintaining robust authentication and data protection measures.

Full Stack E-commerce Application (*Python, Flask, HTML, CSS, React, Flask-SQLAlchemy, MySQL, React Router, React Hooks, React-Bootstrap*) [\[Link to GitHub Code\]](#) [\[Link to Video/Images\]](#)

- Designed and implemented a robust e-commerce backend using Python with Flask and Flask-SQLAlchemy, integrating with MySQL to manage customer and product data efficiently.
- Developed RESTful APIs for customer and product management, implementing CRUD operations for seamless data manipulation and retrieval.
- Created React components and utilized React Router to build a responsive front-end interface for customers and administrators to manage products, orders, and user accounts.
- Implemented form components, validation, and utilized HTML and CSS for frontend styling and layout customization, ensuring a polished user interface and consistent user experience.
- Utilized React-Bootstrap to enhance UI components such as modals, forms, and navigation elements, achieving a modern and responsive design.

Experience

Full Stack Developer Intern: *GenAI Consulting (Startup)* | Remote

SEPT 2024 - PRESENT

- Designing and developing a YouTube-like platform for AI education, handling all aspects of frontend and backend development.
- Collaborating with the GenAI Consulting team to integrate AI-powered features and tools, ensuring a seamless user experience.
- Leading the design process from the ground up, including logo creation, color palette selection, layout design, and prototyping for the platform's MVP.
- Writing high-quality, scalable code while participating in regular meetings to contribute to the overall development and growth of the platform.

Full Stack Developer (Freelance): Fixtrackr (Startup) | Remote

JULY 2024 - SEPT 2024

- Built and deployed a tenant-facing website using JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Python, and Django, enabling tenants to submit maintenance requests and track progress, with deployment on Render.
- Developed all backend functionality for a Progressive Web App (PWA) for property managers using Python, Django, PostgreSQL, and REST APIs, allowing managers to manage tenants, units, and maintenance requests.
- Collaborated with a product manager, designer, and frontend developer to ensure seamless integration between the tenant website and the PWA.
- Implemented key features like automated emails & notifications, personalized tenant progress page links, and secure authentication using Django REST Framework & Simple JWT Tokens for the PWA.

Backend Developer Tech Residency: Co.Lab | Remote

JULY 2024 - SEPT 2024

- Blended software engineering and product development through collaboration with a team including a project manager, mentor, designer, frontend developer, while serving as the backend developer.
- Sharpened my resilience and problem-solving abilities by prioritizing the building process and navigating challenges confidently.
- Gained familiarity with Django & PostgreSQL, building and deploying projects using these tools.
- Progressed through thematic weeks covering all aspects of product development, from inception to final presentation.

Software Engineer Trainee: Coding Temple | Remote

APR 2024 - JULY 2024

- Developed full stack projects utilizing React for the frontend and Flask for the backend, applying coding principles.
- Adapted to new programming concepts and technologies, demonstrating the ability to learn and apply knowledge effectively under tight deadlines.
- Contributed to a group project that integrated third-party APIs, showcasing the ability to work with complex systems and modern tech stacks.

Head College Basketball Coach: Utah State University | Logan, UT

APR 2020 - APR 2024

- Led and motivated teams towards common goals, fostering a positive and productive environment.
 - Collaborated with diverse individuals to achieve collective success, effectively conveying complex ideas and instructions.
 - Developed strategies and made quick decisions in high-pressure situations, demonstrating problem-solving and adaptability.
 - Analyzed player statistics and game footage to inform coaching decisions, akin to analyzing data and metrics in software development.
 - Juggled multiple responsibilities, schedules, and priorities, optimizing team performance and maintaining detailed records and plans.
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Education

Coding Temple, Certification – Full Stack Software Engineer

University of Phoenix, Masters of Science in Psychology

Southeastern Louisiana University, Bachelors of General Studies