

# ELIZABETH (LIZ) AITKEN

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Creative and passionate software developer with the ability to see both the big picture and the details. Through my work with a non-profit, I have previously proven an ability to deliver high-quality solutions in a dynamic and resource-constrained environment. Being a hard-worker and a self-starter put me on the path to creating my own business. Having a resourceful nature, curious mind, and practicing perseverance has aided me in learning many new skills, including software development.

## EDUCATION

### DigitalCrafts | Certificate in Software Engineering | Atlanta, GA

*April 2019- August 2019*

Software engineering training program covering full-stack development including, but not limited to JavaScript, Python, including an emphasis on cutting-edge frameworks like React/Redux and server-side technologies including Node.js, Express, and PostgreSQL.

### Western Michigan University | BFA: Studio Art, Minor in Spanish | Kalamazoo, MI

*September 2010 – April 2014*

## SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT SKILLS

- JavaScript, Python, Node.js, React, Express, Redux, RESTful API, PostgreSQL, Bootstrap, Flexbox, AWS, HTML5, CSS, Linux, Mocha

## SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO

### SCP Organizational App | <https://github.com/LizAitken/nonprofit-organization-app>

*June 2019*

- Team lead on a project where we built a database system with a user-friendly front-end created in order to optimize efficiencies for the non-profit: Sponsored Children Project
- This application allows its users to create or update data in a quick and user-friendly way, so that the information is more readily available and collaboration efficiency increases
- Created with JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Node.js, Express, and PostgreSQL

### Traveling Tails | <https://github.com/LizAitken/RefactorTT>

*May 2019*

- Team lead on a project where we created an application built to enhance pet-friendly traveling, giving the user access to pet friendly hotels, parks, vets, restaurants, and stores within a responsive design
- Created with JavaScript, HTML, CSS; utilizing Google Maps & Places APIs, Dog Quotes API

### Cornucopia | <https://github.com/LizAitken/cornucopia>

*April 2019*

- A React application which was designed to facilitate item donations to non-profits. The non-profit uses a bookmarklet to gather data for their registry. The donator can then see and filter through the donations to see which ones to purchase.
- Created with React, Node.js, Express, JavaScript, and PostgreSQL

## CAREER HISTORY

### Program Manager | Sponsored Children Project | USA & Mexico

*July 2014 – Present*

Duties include planning for procurement and distribution of items, leading and translating for volunteer groups, managing the work of over 25 volunteers and creating processes wherever there were none. Other responsibilities include initiating social media presence for fundraising and coordinating the communications between the local community and sponsors.

- Helped scale the number of children helped annually four-fold from 125 to 500. Over 1,300 kids have been helped in total.
- Improved support for the organization by creating procurement relationships with local vendors and businesses. Ensuring that the money spent stayed locally helped develop goodwill within the community and aided the local economy.
- Focused on process improvement ideas and training to break bottlenecks. This included creating workstreams for communication with the impacted families, developing inventory classifications and centralizing the distribution of items.

### Artist & Owner | Liz Aitken Art | [www.lizaitkenart.com](http://www.lizaitkenart.com)

*Aug 2014 - Present*

Small business that sells unique artwork through an online store, fairs, exhibitions, and commissions. Focuses on translating personal memories, feelings, and emotions into one-of-a-kind inkwork, encaustic (wax), and oil paintings.

- Created partnerships with local coffee shops, galleries, fairs and exhibits to showcase art pieces.
- Drove up market visibility and sales by utilizing techniques such as SEO targeting, interviews, and analyzing social trends, people preferences and events data.
- Researched and developed a new technique with wax, that allowed for creating distinctive paintings not done before.