Makanaka Chikava

206-409-0995 | Chikavamakanaka@gmail.com | LinkedIn | GitHub | Portfolio

Passionate Software Engineer seeking a challenging role to grow and drive innovation. Focused on user-centered development and cutting-edge technology.

Technical Skills

Frontend: JavaScript, Typescript, React, Redux, Vue.js, Liquid, EJS, JQuery, Bootstrap, HTML5, CSS, TailwindCSS

Backend: Python, Java, Node.js, Express, REST, Django, FastAPI, JWT, MongoDB, PostgreSQL

Development: Git, GitHub, Jira, Figma, Visual Studio Code, PyCharm, Postman, Heroku

Experience

Mentorship Group for Aspiring Software Engineers

March 2024 - Present

Peer-Led Group

- Collaborated with fellow aspiring engineers focusing on mastering data structures, algorithms, and coding challenges.
- Engaged in group projects to enhance technical skills, including developing web applications and backend services, while refining coding practices.
- Participated in study sessions and discussions on industry-relevant technologies, benefiting from a collaborative learning environment.
- Received and provided feedback on coding exercises, project work, and interview techniques, contributing to mutual growth and improvement.
- Took part in mock interviews to practice and refine technical interview skills, gaining confidence and readiness

TechCentral Dec 2023 – March 2024

Frontend Developer volunteer

- Developed a **user-friendly** and visually appealing product page website anticipating a significant boost in user engagement.
- Developed an **interactive and responsive** website showcasing the company's product using **web development skills**.
- Implemented HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to enhance the website's functionality and user experience.
- Conducting **testing** to address potential issues, foreseeing a smooth launch process.

Evergreen Refreshments

May 2022 – Aug 2022

Talent Acquisition Intern

- Collaborated the talent acquisition team in sourcing, screening, and interviewing candidates.
- Conducted research on hiring trends and best practices.
- Applied attention to detail in creating and updating job postings ensuring clear and accurate communication.
- Enhanced job postings, resulting in a 20% increase in traffic and higher application rates.
- Coordinated interviews and maintained candidate and job data in the Applicant Tracking System (ATS).

Projects

Kicksential- React | Redux | Django | PostgreSQL

E-commerce web application for discovering and purchasing the latest trending shoes.

- Developed responsive and interactive **UI** using **React** and **TailwindCSS**.
- Utilized **Redux** to handle cart and user **state management**.
- Created robust backend **API** functionalities using **Django Rest Framework**.
- Implemented user authentication using **Djoser** and **JWT authentication** for secure user accounts.
- Leveraged PostgreSQL for efficient data storage and retrieval.

GitHub Link Live Link

Music AI Assistant

Next.js | Typescript | TailwindCSS

Your personal music discovery companion utilizing OpenAI to help find music that perfectly matches your preferences.

- Implemented real-time streaming conversations between users and the chatbot through Vercel AI SDK library.
- Trained **OpenAI chatbot** as a music librarian assistant, by specifying role in the get response from the API endpoint.
- Designed the message box interface, emulating a familiar look of iPhone's iMessage using **TailwindCSS**.

GitHub Link Live Link

Education

General Assembly Bootcamp

Certificate – Full-Stack Software Development,

Northern Vermont University

B.A. Health & Sports Psychology,

Jan 2023 – Apr 2023

Aug 2020 - Dec 2022