# **Micah Ballard Game Designer Composer**

micah.i.ballard@gmail.com Portfolio Site Itch.io Soundcloud

### **Skills**

Level Design **Project Management** Game Design Game Development Scripting 3D Modeling

**Tools** 











(Ableton)



Wwise)

#### Languages

C# **Blueprints** Java C++

Javascript, HTML, CSS **JSON** 

#### Education



Major: Games + Simulations Major: Music Composition 2021-2025 CCM Professor Ellen R. Harrison **CSO** Principal Bassoonist Christopher Sales

# **Organizations**

**Honors Student** College of Creative Arts **Advisory Board Member** Cincinnati Scholars Miami Gradu8 Scholars ASCAP Writer and Producer

#### **EXPERIENCE**

# Miami University Tutor

2024 - Present

Tutored students in Unity, C# coding, and Maya 3D modeling

### Unity Game Development Teaching Assistant

2023

Helped teach Unity and C# coding to college students in and out of class.

### **Undergraduate Summer Scholars**

2023

Independently researched first-person movement mechanics, level design, net code, and 3D modeling, working in Maya for character rigging, animation, composing music, and studying other FPS games over the summer for my game, Instruments of War.

#### Miami University Bassoon Halloween Concert "Level Up"

2023

Co-directed and arranged video game music for my bassoon professor, Dr. Aaron Pergram, annual Halloween Concert.

#### Indie Game Developer

2021 - Present

Finished over 20 released games in Game Maker Studio, Unity, and Unreal, mostly as the lead designer and programmer. I am currently working on an Online Competitive FPS called *Instruments of War,* and an artistic world exploration game named *To Aeris*.

#### **COMPOSITIONS**

Skylight

2023

Composed a piece for Soprano, Tenor, Bass Clarinet, and Percussion, performed by Unheard Of The Ship of Theseus 2024

Composed a piece for a full orchestral arrangement

Sierra Nevada

2024

Composed a piece for a Wind Ensemble for a game called Frogology, where you help preserve the frog population in Sierra Nevada from climate change-related issues.

released on Steam as a part of the IndieCade Climate Jam collection.

#### Forest Fantasie

2023

Composed a piece for Flute, Bb and Bass Clarinet, Percussion, Guitar, and Piano, performed by Dal Niente.

#### Let America Be America Again

2021

Commissioned by Erin Sales to compose a String Quartet for the ArtsWave Truth and Reconciliation project and performed by the Queen City String Quartet at Memorial Hall.

## Other Works

2021 - Present

My other compositions can be found on Soundcloud.

#### **GAME PROJECTS**

## Lead Game Programmer, Composer: P1 Games

2024

Communicated with teams to make game jams a part of the P1 Games Organization, where we won first place and many awards for two games called Rhythm of Harmony, a music-based Metroidvania, and Feast or Famine, a tower defense game with side-scrolling levels.

# Game Programmer, Composer, Project Lead: Miami University Game Design Club

lead Music Director and Programmer of the Game Design Club, developing music or code for various game projects released on Steam and Itch.io.

#### Game Programmer, Composer: Frogology

Developed an open-world exploration game for IndieCade's Climate Jam in which I helped facilitate daily team meetings, coded first-person character mechanics and UI, composed music, integrated sound effects, edited the trailer, and maintained strong communication.

# Sole Developer: Instruments of War

2023 - Present

- Coded engaging movement FPS Mechanics, dynamic weapons, Character customization, and online integration for 1v1 combat
- 3D-modeled characters, maps, weapons. composed multilayered music tracks.

#### **Other Games**

2021 - Present

You can find these games on my <a href="Itch.io">Itch.io</a>