Mikayle Despaigne

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EDUCATION

Smith College, Northampton, MA   **Expected May 2027**
Bachelor of Arts, Computer Science Major, GPA: 3.67
Honors/Awards/ Scholarships: Posse Foundation Full-Tuition Leadership Scholarship (2023)
Relevant Coursework: Intro to Computer Science, Object Oriented Programming, Data Structures, Discrete Math

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming: Java, JavaScript, React.js, Python, HTML, CSS
Relevant Skills: User Research & Testing, UX/UI Design, Graphic Design, Microsoft & Google Suite's
Developer Tools: Figma, Shortcut, Visual Studio Code,Git/GitHub,
Certifications: Google Foundations of User Experience (UX) Design (2024.)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Vivian Health, New York, NY   **June 2024 - August 2024**
UX Engineering and Research Intern
- Updated and maintained reusable UI components for the company's web application using React.js.
- Documented component usage with MDX in the Storybook documentation platform, to enhance clarity and future maintainability.
- Provided support by resolving component-based bugs, helping the team maintain momentum and meet deadlines.
- Led a UX research project focused on Storybook, analyzing user feedback to enhance usability and address pain points for front-end engineers.
- Implemented improvements and fixes using MDX and React, streamlining the documentation experience and boosting efficiency for the front-end team.

IBM Accelerate, New York, NY   **June 2024 – July 2024**
Design Track Participant
- Selected as one of the top 5% of over 10,000 applicants for an exclusive 8-week training program.
- Completed a comprehensive training covering design history, enterprise-level design, UI/UX design, research, service design, AI ethics in design and more.
- Developed a case-study redesign to improve information architecture and incorporated AI ethics principles to create a theoretical AI feature for deadline tracking.

UX Design Fellowship, America on Tech, New York, NY   **September 2022 – January 2024**
UX Design Fellow
- Learned visual design principles and acquired Figma skills to create wireframes and prototypes with a focus on usability, inclusivity, and user needs.
- Designed Figma prototypes for an Instagram redesign challenge and conducted two mock user research trials to gather and analyze feedback that was used to improve the design.
- Documented the entire design process and outcomes in a case-study presentation to put in portfolio.

LEADERSHIP & ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

SEO Scholars, *Scholar*, New York, NY   **February 2020 – Present**
Office of Student Engagement, Smith College, *Staff Member,* Northampton, MA   **August 2023 – Present**
Smithies in CS Club, Smith College, *Social Chair*, Northampton, MA   **April 2024 – Present**
IAC Fellows Program, *IAC Fellow*, New York, NY   **June 2024 – Present**

Immersive leadership program designed to develop and empower future leaders, innovators, and disruptors in digital media and technology through competitive internships, mentorship, and educational & economic opportunities.

- Developed and delivered a funding proposal to IAC Foundation Board members resulting in a $15k grant to a NYC-based nonprofit