Logo sentence: “We’re all under the same sky and walk the same earth; we’re alive together during the same moment.”

The woman warrior by M.H.Kingston

Presentation:

Welcome to my website, its purpose is to give you an idea of who I am my name is Paola.

I was born 15km north the overcrowded and chaotic city of Naples in a hot day of August, 41 moons ago. Therefore, the things I miss the most are hot weather and the seaside.

My Neapolitan background helped me to integrate and being well perceived in different environments and facilitate my integration in the three countries I lived in. (go to background) <a BTN> </a>

I could have welcome you in 6 languages Salve, Bonjour, Ola, Bomdia, and 你好, as these are the language I speak. Yes, I am a linguistic, more precisely a Sinologist, but also an Americanist. This should give you the idea about the reason why I quoted a Chinese-American author like Maxine Hong Kingston. (go to education)

I was 12yo when I decided that I need to be independent and work abroad, so I decided to learn as many languages I could. During my studies, I spent my summers working as waitress in France to improve my skills and auto-financing my study-trip in China. Thank to these experiences, after my degree I got my first job as receptionist. Finally, I achieved my first milestone “my economic independence” and my life’s project started (go to working experience)

One of the most stressful moments in a life of a receptionist, it is to have the CRM software down during the check-out, when the hotel is fully booked. I became the nightmare of our IT support team. I was calling them asking thousands of questions and procedures. I realized I needed to understand more about how to fix or reboot the general system etc. But at that time, I didn’t have the consciousness, I could be on the one on other side of the phone. (go to Why IT?)

I was lucky to have wonderful parents that pushed me to achieves my dreams or at least try to achieve them. It has been said that, we cannot decide in which family we will born, but definitely we can choose our friends, and sometimes these became your family. (go to my muses)

(go to education)

In November 2018, I have approached the coding world and in the last 3 months I learned already HTML, CSS and some basic JavaScript.

In 2006 I got my MA in Comparative Studies in Anglo-American and Chinese languages and literatures at University of Naples “L’ Orientale”.

In 2005, I succeeded to get a Chinese language certificate form “Beijing Language and culture university”.

I have learned Spanish as self-thought and applied my knowledge in customer services roles.

I am trilingual Italian, English and French and fluent in Spanish. I speak also Chinese and Portuguese.

(go to background)

I have always loved travel and the idea of living abroad was a daydream since my childhood. It is only when you live abroad that you realize how much you identify in your original culture. The first reaction to integrate into the welcoming culture it’s trying to prioritize this latter and get conformed to the society around you. What you don’t realize is that you can’t easily give up your background.

I have always felt as a citizen of the world and this facilitate my integration process in and helped me to embody other cultures and habits in my original background. I lived in Beijing, Paris and now London.

(go to working experience)

I enjoyed working in tourism and I achieved position where I didn’t need to make any effort as at a certain point everything was feeling natural like breathing. But I knew a part of me wanted to come out the closet and has been silent for long time. I am talking about my creativeness; a skill that it was never required in my previous carrier.

London gave me the opportunity to join a multinational wholesaler called Tourico Holidays, the first role I covered as Reservation Administration Agent, gave me the knowledge of their software form an inside point of view and not only as final user. (I have used their portal when I was receptionist in Paris). One year after I needed to understand why we had so many data entry errors, so I have applied for the Hotel Operation Specialist. Part of my role was to verify datas input in the software. It was really helpful to be able to understand why something went wrong.

But I realized I wanted to code with my last role in tourism as Operation Manager in a start-up. I had the chance to assist and give ideas on a real IT project our website and reservation software. It was an opportunity to see part of its development.

With my transferable skills I was able to work as a marketing assistant, part of this role was using I was happy to know how to use basic HTML , because this company provided me with a computer with a thunderbird version and the first thing I had to learn was to set my signature in HTML as this was the only way to do it.

I have also helped to fix meta and content on our website, this was my awaken call.

(go to Why IT?)

In 41 years living on this earth, I realized that I can be very stubborn when I believe in a project and I fully commit myself.

I have already started from the scratch when I moved to Paris to follow my independence and to London to find a new career path.

So, when I finished to work in June, I decided to invest in my personal development. Maybe my project is ambitious as I decided to dedicate myself to learn coding, so to find a job in tech industry. Even if my target is not fully achieved, I am really happy about the journey I made.

This website represents my commitment and achievement of what I was able to do in this summer. This gives me hope and willing to continue to escalate the coding mountain. I was not sure if and what I could do, but I did it.

I am thankful to all the students who invested themselves in this project and spent time with us sharing the knowledge. This is the best way to learn.

I spent 10 years as a volunteer at AFS/Intercultura, an ONG specialised in student exchange programs. I have learned a lot on build a network where the willingness to share an experience became more important than earn money.

In this thing I feel very close with the quote "Philanthropy, in the end, is about sharing" Harold Mitchell

I would be honoured to be passed the torch and continuing to keep FreeCodeCamp mission growing.

(go to my muses)

“I maybe ugly and clumsy, but one thing I am not, I am not retarded” (The woman warrior by M. H. Kingston)

Sometimes when you don’t conform the rest of the world and you are tagged as weirdo; you start fight and as much you fight, as stronger you get, until you became a woman warrior.

I was lucky to find on my path extraordinary people, in the darkest times of my life. Those who were at the right time to lift me up or push me forward if I was slowing down, those who were there to share their knowledge.