

Darcy Matheson

Games Programmer + Information Technology Specialist

Age: 20 years

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EDUCATION

Hillcrest Christian College, Clyde North — *High School*

2015 - 2017

- Academic Excellence Award (2016)
- Academic Excellence Award (2017)
- Science Achievement Award (2015)
- Science Achievement Award (2016)
- Science Achievement Award (2017)

St Francis Xavier College, Beaconsfield — *High School*

2018 - 2020

82.00 ATAR Score (top 18%, 2020)

40 Raw Study Score (top 9%) in VCE Systems Engineering (2020)

42 Raw Study Score (top 6%) in VCE VET Certificate III Information, Digital Media and Technology (2020)

- 1x Academic Excellence Award (2019)
- 1x Courage and Contribution Award (2020)
- 1x Courage and Courtesy Award (2020)
- 1x Student of the Term Award (2020)
- 2x VCE Academic Excellence Award (2020)

Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Docklands— University

2021- 2022

Game Programming Course (Full-Time)

- CUA51015 Diploma of Screen and Media
- ICT50120 Diploma of Information Technology
- 10702NAT Advanced Diploma of Professional Game Development

CERTIFICATIONS

Diploma of Screen and Media, CUA51015

2021

Diploma of Information Technology, ICT50120

2021

Victorian Certificate of Education 2020, 82.00 ATAR (top 18%)

2020

Certificate III in Information, Digital Media and Technology, 42 Study Score (top 6%)

ICT30120, 2020

SKILLS

Personal Skills

- Intelligent, and always willing to learn new skills.
- Cooperative team member and effective communicator.
- Great problem-solver, especially in time-pressured scenarios.
- Methodical organisational/time management skills and WHS training.
- Flexible group member, consistently able to adapt to new challenges and situations.
- Realistic goal setter and great with meeting deadlines.

Technical Skills

- Solid understanding of the way a computer functions and is assembled, set up and troubleshooted for various issues.
- Proficiency using and troubleshooting Windows 10 systems (intermediate-expert).
- Sufficient understanding of Mac systems (beginner).
- Sufficient understanding of Linux-based systems (Ubuntu, beginner).
- Effective knowledge of virtual machine creation (with VirtualBox) and use with various operating systems and specifications (intermediate).
- Basic knowledge and experience setting up networks and Windows Server OS.
- Proficient use of Office 365 Application Suite (intermediate).
- Effective use of Autodesk CAD Software (Inventor + AutoCAD) in conjunction with 3D printing and laser cutting technologies (intermediate).
- Proficient ability to debug, diagnose and troubleshoot hardware and software problems using diagnostic software tools (intermediate).
- Proficient understanding and abilities coding in C# .NET Framework (intermediate-expert).
- Proficient use and knowledge of Unity Engine (expert).
- Effective understanding and abilities coding in Visual Basic (intermediate).
- Advanced and experienced user of Google Chrome and most of the Google Online Application Suite (expert).
- Experienced user of Arduino IDE in custom-designed robotics projects (intermediate).

EXPERIENCE

Primary at Pioneers – Cafe, Berwick — *Part-Time Kitchen Hand*

Sep 2018 - Nov 2018

My first part time job was at Pioneer Park Cafe in Berwick, where I worked as a kitchen-hand for a few months. My time there taught me first-hand about how the working environment operates, how to handle goods appropriately and safely and integrating into a team to achieve a common goal, while also learning new skills quickly on the job.

Automotive Mechanic – Mark Lawrence Motors, Burwood East — Work Experience

2018

Mark Lawrence Motors is a small automotive mechanic business, run from Burwood East, which sees over 1,500 customers each year. I was offered the opportunity of work experience and learned a lot about developing new practical skills during my time there.

Skills Gained from Work Experience:

- Learning on the job
- Adapting to new situations
- Completing customer orders to a high standard

Computer System Planning, Assembly and Setup, Volunteer

2018 - Present

I have completed 5 system assemblies from start to finish, including software setup, OS installation, choosing parts and ensuring compatibility. These were completed as favours to friends or family members, as well as a method to learn and improve essential hardware skills in practice. All clients I have helped have been very satisfied with the end result of their build, and I have helped them with any issues they encounter as a result of standard system usage.

Game Jam Events – Development/Programming Competitions

2019 - Present

Game Jams are competitive group events which challenge contestants to work together in teams to design and create a video game from scratch in a short amount of time, usually 1-3 days. During these events I have acted as project manager, solo programmer and gameplay designer in teams of 2-5 people.

I have participated in several of these so far, including:

- Ludum Dare 45 (2019, 3 days)
- Game Maker's Toolkit (2020, 3 days)
- 7 Day Rogue-Like (2021, 1 week)
- Australian Global Game Jam (2022, 3 days)

From participation in these contests, so far I have learned the following:

- Leading and coordinating others in teams.

- Problem-solving under time pressure.
- Listening and adapting to feedback from others.
- Greater proficiency writing code in C# and using Unity Engine.
- Effective use of project management / version control tools (such as Trello, Microsoft To-Do, GitKraken and Google Drive).
- Simultaneous collaboration on complex projects with others.
- Independent goal/deadline setting and group workflow management.
- Accountability for failures as well as successes.

INTERESTS / HOBBIES

PC Gaming

Since I was young, I have loved the interactions which can emerge from playing games with others. This manifests in my passion for multiplayer games and community interaction. I am a clan sherpa (group leader/teacher) within a Destiny 2 group and enjoy teaching new players to complete raid encounter activities with other members from our Discord community, which now exceeds 100 active individuals.

These interactions facilitate me teaching others in intensive, small group environments about problem solving techniques, upholding an optimistic group attitude, fostering team dynamics and effective goal-oriented communication.

Programming

Since picking up GameMaker in primary school, I have been working on growing my skills in game development. Over time I came to find my preferred discipline was as a programmer, working on the mechanisms that allow games to function and be enjoyed by players. I discovered unique kinds of abstract problem-solving opportunities through programming and have only grown more fond of it since then. I love the creative freedoms that programming can bring, and all that it allows you to accomplish in the process of developing digital games. My view is that programming is the greatest kind of puzzle one can solve, as the only limit for solutions is your own imagination and lateral thinking skills.

Scouts Australia

I was a member of Scouts Australia for around 7 years, which gave me many opportunities to make connections and learn new skills while growing up. I attended many of the camps and activities which were held over the years and enjoyed leading and working together with my fellow members as a “patrol leader” during my time in Scouts. In this role I was responsible for planning and assisting with the running of group activities, as well as the coordination and welfare of those in my own group. Over the course of my time in Scouts, my main achievements are:

- Explorer (Blue) Cord and Badge
- Scout Leadership Course
- Australian Jamboree 2016 (NSW) Fundraising and Attendance
- Patrol Leader Role

Volunteer Work

I have completed volunteer work by assisting in sausage sizzle fundraisers with Scouts Australia and participating in Relay For Life (Cardinia), helping to raise money for Cancer research and treatment. These activities have taught me about handling money and food, as well as the satisfaction of helping others.

Personal Qualities

I pride myself on my integrity and work ethic, which I employ constantly through my effort and interactions with others. I am confident in my abilities and knowledge regarding Information Technology and I am diligent and driven about improving my personal and technical skills. I understand the importance of meeting deadlines within a business and delivering a quality product/service to the client.

References Available Upon Request.