Rafael Sanchez Jr.

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Education

University of Illinois Chicago | Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Graduated May 2024

• Relevant Coursework: Data Structures and Algorithms, Software Design, Systems Programming, Database Systems, User Interface Design, Concurrent Programming, Object-Oriented Programming

Skills

Programming Languages: Python, Java, C, C++, SQL, JavaScript, HTML/CSS

Frameworks/Libraries: React.js, Node.js, Spring Boot, Tailwind CSS

Tools: Git, GitHub, Postman, VS Code, IntelliJ, Figma

Databases/Cloud: MySQL, PostgreSQL, AWS

Experience

IT Specialist | Discovery Partners Institute

August 2022 – Present

- Troubleshoot and resolve software/hardware issues reported via ticketing system, ensuring timely resolution
- Ensured flawless operation of AV equipment for over 800 events, meetings, and student programs
- Streamlined the process of re-imaging, relabeling, and profile setup on devices, contributing to a seamless on-boarding experience for new users and improving overall operational efficiency
- Developed comprehensive technical documentation and user guides for AV handling, laptop applications, and device imaging, reducing support requests and improving user experience
- Prepared and deployed over 1,000 laptops for employees, teachers, and students, enabling efficient workflow completion and contributing to the success of student programs
- Collaborated in a team environment that enhanced skills in communication, consultation, collaboration, organization, and problem-solving

Projects

Personal Web Portfolio | React.js, Node.js, HTML, CSS, Firebase

- Developed a single-page portfolio website using React, HTML, and CSS for dynamic and responsive design
- Deployed the website using Firebase Hosting, with custom domain configuration and HTTPS enabled
- Managed version control using Git and GitHub, ensuring continuous updates

Full-Stack Spotify Project | React.js, Node.js, AWS RDS, PostgreSQL, Spotify API

- Developed a full-stack web app allowing users to pair songs for automatic queueing using Spotify's API
- Designed dynamic data tables for managing song pairs, with real-time UI updates and button state logic
- Developed RESTful API endpoints to fetch, insert, and delete user-specific song pairs with duplicate prevention logic using SQL constraints

LearningBook | HTML, CSS, JavaScript

- Collaborated in a four-person team to develop an application aimed at improving English proficiency for non-English speakers through reading, vocabulary building, translating, and audio books
- Conceptualized application through paper prototypes, storyboards, Figma wireframes, and user interviews
- Performed user testing, amended, and improved application through heuristic evaluation and user feedback

OutThere | Java, JavaFX | UIC SparkHacks Hackathon

- Collaborated in a three-person team to develop a project aimed at enhancing community engagement by increasing visibility and participation in local events and pop-up activities
- Conceptualized features and decided on which are needed and which to develop in the future
- Secured second place on the Community Resilience category of the hackathon