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EXPERIENCE --

Computer Science Instructor| August 2014 - present

Chicago Tech Academy: CPS contract school focusing on STEAM & PBL
 • Planned equitable, engaging projects that covered standards & produced popular exhibitions
 • Diversified lessons to include cross-curriculum skills from carpentry & mathematics
 • Sponsored & ran the "Tech Club" after-school program
 • Attended grammar school recruitment fairs & influenced students to apply
 • Held "ChiTechathon" recruiting event where 8th graders competing in (dis)assembling desktops

Code. Play. Learn.: teaching students to program through creation
 • Taught 4th-9th graders Ruby by recreating games such as war & "heads or tails"
 • Effectively educated 4th-6th graders in HTML & CSS

Northwestern, Center for Talent Development: gifted summer programs
 • Lead full-time 3-week day camp for students interested in HTML, CSS, & Javascript
 • Managed 2 teaching assistants

Full-Stack Web Developer | April 2012 - present

FearlessFinance: financial health management software
 • Used time_value gem to calculate financial goals such as saving for college, cars, home, etc.
 • Fixed bugs & completed small set of features to complete demo
 • Proposed codebase enhancements such as validations, testing, helper methods, concerns, & STI.

ConnectedHealth: private online health insurance market
 • Communicated with product & QA teams to deliver spec-filled issues to production.
 • Coded models, controllers, rake tasks, views, helpers, specs, & assets, committing with git.
 • Wrote failing tests, using Rspec & Jasmine, running tests continuously through Travis CI.
 • Participated in daily standup's, IPM's, & Retro's.
 • Assisted in documenting & establishing release cycle, occasionally managing releases.

PairSeed: connecting troubled coders with mentors
 • Created original concept. Built wireframes using Balsamiq.
 • Wrote rake task & scheduled a job on Heroku Scheduler to send out pair appointment reminders.
 • Studied polymorphic relationships & tagging, implementing acts_as_taggable_on.
 • Implemented friendly_id to replace numerical id's & pretty up URL's.

PhotogFind: connecting event organizers with photographers
 • Mentored 2 beginner developers.
 • Studied & used Nvie's git workflow, organizing deployment environments.
 • Implemented gems such as state_machine, metamagic, exception_handler, & safety_mailer.
 • Organized code my moving obtrusive JavaScript to Asset Pipeline.
 • Upgraded to Rails 3.2.13 for security holes.

AgentMooney: local band in need of an online presence
 • Made style tile to kickstart design.
 • Worked with musician to understand needs & technically guide them.
 • Wrote custom CSS & began using indentation benefits of SCSS.
 • Implemented jQuery carousel & used Twitter Bootstrap's responsive grid layout.

Otabo Shoes: small biz using Shopify, seeking automation
 • Listened to client needs. Engineered Shopify API solution, delivered "AutoTagger" to client.
 • Setup transaction webhook on Shopify, tested webhook online using requestb.in, setup CNAME &
   pointed to dev environment via home router port forwarding.
 • Parsed JSON data, checked against Shopify smart_collections, & tagged customers accordingly.

SnapClass: startup offering online classes of any sort
- Provided testing coverage to make product stable using RSpec.
- Refactored codebase to take advantage of object oriented principles.
- Used Guard, AutoTest, & Growl to run tests & display results automatically so time was spent focusing on code.

Blosm: marketing website for an internal product
- Straightened up site layout & page flow using UX design patterns within Twitter Bootstrap.
- DRY'ed up pages controller code so that it was easier to read & made coding quicker.
- Switched from TextMate to Sublime for split-panes & package control to increase productivity.
- Implemented form for prospective customers to inquire about becoming a customer.
- Inserted a mailer to send an email to the sales team with customer information.

I.T. Systems Engineer | June 2003 - Aug 2011

Echo Global Logistics: leading provider of tech-enabled transportation
- Supported over 1000 user infrastructure (hardware/software break-fix, user admin)
- Presented "Help Desk Improvements Proposal" to CTO & Manager of Infrastructure

Traditum Group: proprietary trading company
- Managed team of 3, recruiting individual technicians, saving $20,000 in headhunter fees
- Facilitated all issues with vendors, major exchanges, & U.S. regulatory agencies
- Researched, purchased, benchmarked, & installed stronger technology
- Managed 200 Windows boxes, 35 servers, 400 monitors, 10 smartphones, & battery backups
- Implemented & managed Google Apps; maintained DNS records; setup phpBB forum
- Supported 70 traders, 3 executives, & 7 staff members
- Racked, cabled, & designed server room; orchestrated moving office locations

Independent Contractor
- Dispatched to businesses & homes to train staff, & fix & set up consumer technology

EDUCATION --

Code Academy / Starter League | Mar 2012
- Web Development Course - MVC concepts, Rails framework, full-stack basics
- User Experience Course - new design patterns & UX best-practices
- Tuning Rails Course - performance testing, SQL query analysis, full-stack caching

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | May 2003
- BA in Psychology (concentrating in HCI); Usability Analyst Intern @ Inventables
- Minor in Information Technology Studies; TeacherLink Team Project

SKILLS/TOOLS ---

Ruby/OOP, IRB, Rails, MVC architecture, RSpec, TDD, git, Github, HAML, CSS, HTML, SASS/SCSS, wireframing, Balsamiq, Javascript, JSON, jQuery, Ubuntu, iTerm2, RVM, bash, OS X, RubyMine, performance tuning & security, Brakeman, state machines, MiniProfiler, SQL database concepts, MySQL, Postgres, Heroku, Loggly, Chrome & DevTools, Bootstrap, xray_rails, simple_form_for, devise, cancancan...

COMMUNITIES --

- Mentor at Chicago Tech Academy, RailsBridge, Startup Weekend, Dev Bootcamp, Starter League
- Meetups: ChicagoRuby, Agile Open Space, DevOps Chi, HackerNews Chi
- Open Source Committer - Rails (docs), Devise, nested_scaffold, time_value
- Taught "Cooking with Git" workshop for beginners