Nicholas "Blake" Simmons

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Experience

Arkansas State University   Feb. 2018 – Present
Lead Full Stack Web Developer, Information & Technology Services   *Jonesboro, AR*

- ❖ Proposed and created custom applications that replaced multiple vendor contracts, resulting in $100k+ savings for the university.
- ❖ Constructed a web application portal and single sign-on system, utilized by over 20,000 users across multiple campuses in the system.
- ❖ Collaborated with campus constituents to plan how our development team could implement applications to fulfill their needs.
- ❖ Developed a COVID self-check web application used by 15,000 users daily, allowing campus admins to keep a pulse on overall campus wellbeing.
- ❖ Assessed active web projects using analytics and logs, shutting down unused applications, trimming our actively supported applications by 30%.
- ❖ Maintained over a dozen Windows and Linux servers for production, testing, and devops uses.
- ❖ Migrated university-critical web properties to utilize AWS's EC2 and Lambda services
- ❖ Mentored other developers on our tech stack as well as requesting feedback on how to improve internal processes.
- ❖ Assisted the team in managing over 30 single sign-on implementations for third-party vendors and internal applications.

Arkansas State University   Feb. 2016 – Feb. 2018
Front End Developer, Marketing   *Jonesboro, AR*

- ❖ Developed and maintained all CSS and JS as the sole developer for the main university website
- ❖ Created custom templates from designs provided by the Marketing team used to launch auxiliary websites
- ❖ Interpreted analytics data to make informed decisions about content and usage across the site
- ❖ Maintained existing components and crafted new ones using front-end languages and Velocity code

Flower Shop Network   July 2015 – Feb. 2016
Web Developer   *Paragould, AR*

- ❖ Assisted in developing an internationalized e-commerce platform for clients
- ❖ Identified potential issues and devised comprehensive solutions
- ❖ Pioneered additional tools to expedite development workflow
- ❖ Supported senior developers in removing technical debt

Arkansas State University   Oct. 2012 – July 2015
Website Developer/Editor   *Jonesboro, AR*

- ❖ Communicated with campus liaisons to determine requirements
- ❖ Developed communication skills through team interaction

Hillcrest High School   Oct. 2011 – Sept. 2014
Website Administrator   *Strawberry, AR*

- ❖ Developed new site with custom CMS and campus email alert notification system using MailChimp

Freelance Experience ⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯

2021 - Utilizing the TALL stack, I created a responsive, user-friendly web application, acting as a database for a local freight company to handle their customers, orders, and various rate data.

2018 - Built a web app for a local construction company that allowed their clients to upload project documentation. Office staff at the construction company could then view those documents in a checklist type view and make notes both internally and to the client.

2017 - 2019 - Created a web app that stored and processed data that admins could import from an external system. Leveraging the Mailchimp API and the imported data, each customer on their mailing list would receive an email containing a unique QR code embedded for them to redeem inside the business.

Education ⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯

Arkansas State University   **May 2015**
Bachelor of Science, Computer & Information Technology   *Jonesboro, AR*

- ❖ Member of Honors College and Association of Information Technology Professionals
- ❖ Honors certificate recipient

Skills & Interests ⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯

- ❖ **Skills**: PHP, Laravel, Tailwind, Livewire, HTML, CSS and SCSS, Git, Javascript, AlpineJS, jQuery, Bootstrap, SQL

- ❖ **Working knowledge**: VueJS, Linux and Window Server administration, Docker, AWS services and components, WordPress theming

- ❖ **Interests**: 3D printing, building PCs, home automation, PC gaming (FPS, RTS, simulation), homelab