

Brendan Ward

brndnwr@gmail.com

btward.com

847-373-0365

Education

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science

GPA: 3.2

Significant Coursework

Design/Thinking/Communication 1&2

3D Computer Animation

June 2021 (anticipated)

B.S. Computer Science

Media Arts & Game Design Certificate

Computer Graphics

Data Structures and Data Management

Experience

Independent Technical Art & Character Art

Summer 2020

Technical projects explored during COVID

- Collaborated with indie artists to create a MAXScript that automates their workflow for mirroring skins
- Developed a Blender add-on which recreates the unique material inputs of Final Fantasy XIV, creating a more accurate preview for artists to work with
 - Implemented i/o for material input binary data, which is compatible with engine tools
 - Reviewed code from open source modding projects to create compatible tools
- Created custom character models, becoming familiar with processes of sculpting, normal map baking, material creation, texture painting, and skinning in 3ds Max, Blender, and Substance Painter/Designer

Data Management Tools Intern

Summer 2019

RWTH Aachen, Aachen, Germany

- Integrated with existing Robot Operating System setup to continue work on a seven-year project
- Implemented Pyside interface for initiating and evaluating data recording across four networked robots, for integration into future modular testing software suites
- Designed future-proof sensor data storage procedures, enabling future cooperation between mechanical and computer science departments on data analysis for up to a decade
- Collaborated in an international workspace, adjusting to various levels of language proficiency and cultural familiarity for cooperation on a team project

Media and Design Studio

Summer 2017– March 2020

Northwestern Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Evanston, Illinois

- Restored outmoded digital archives for Picpus, Walled Garden of Memory in order to enable access on modern machines for teaching and research
 - Updated image details for IIIF implementation, creating an automated script to generate manifests from SQL data linked across multiple tables
 - Customized Omeka-S themes and plugins, using the Omeka PHP API and Omeka server events to streamline the user experience and add intelligence to the webpage
- Upgraded existing python scripts for syncing data between university registry and WebCheckout user/patron databases, streamlining the process to run automatically via cron with minimal impact

Activities

Northwestern University Athletic Bands

August 2017 – present

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity, Iota Chapter

January 2018 – present

- Executive Committee, Warden: managed personnel, properties, and venues for events

Boy Scouts of America

February 2011 – May 2017

- Eagle Scout: organized a large volunteer service project and studied life skills

Skills

Computer – C, C#, C++, Assembly, Unity, Python, 3ds Max, Maya, MEL, MAXScript, Substance, SQL, QT, Pyside

Languages – German (intermediate)