Brian R Zaik

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Summary

As a designer and front-end developer I am driven to design and build highly functional software products that are simple, familiar to users, and extremely pleasing. Opportunities to grow products from conception to final execution excite me and allow me to apply my diverse design and engineering skills.

Education

Class of 2010: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy NY

M.S. Human-Computer Interaction Design, May 2010 (GPA: 4.00 / 4.00) B.S. Computer and Systems Engineering, May 2010 (GPA: 3.63 / 4.00)

Software Skills

Languages & Frameworks: Other Software: JavaScript (¡Query, traditional), HTML 5, CSS, Java (Spring MVC, JSF), Ruby on Rails, C++, Qt 4, Python Twitter Bootstrap and other UI toolkits, Adobe Design Suite (CS6), Balsamiq Mockups, Git, Svn

Work Experience

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) Albuquerque, New Mexico 2010 - Present

Lead User Experience (UX) Designer, Software Research & Development

- » Led User Experience design and front-end development for two prominent internal web products.
- » Conducted user research through contextual inquiries, site visits, and persona development.
- » Developed wireframe storyboards and tested interaction alternatives with target users.
- » Translated User Experience requirements into final user-facing views and interactions.
- » Created front-end development toolkit to help reduce the time and complexity of developing great interfaces for SNL web applications. Extended CSS precompiler mixins and JavaScript plugins.

Intellidemia, Inc. Troy, New York 2007 - 2009

UX Designer, Product Marketing

- » Designed and implemented an elegant, functional user interface for a novel syllabus manager with which instructors are comfortable within 30 minutes. (http://intellidemia.com)
- » Planned and executed successful marketing strategies to sell the product to education professionals.

Leadership

Concerto Digital Signage 2007 - Present

Product Designer, Marketing

- » Led the design and interface implementation of an open source digital signage platform that is today downloaded by people in over 50 countries. (http://concerto-signage.org)
- » Helped grow the first Concerto advertising network at RPI to include nearly every on-campus organization. Expanded network to include \$65,000+ of hardware for displaying content.

Recognition

- » Employee Recognition Award for Significant Contributions, Sandia National Labs (2012)
- » NCIIA E-Team Grant (\$16,000, 2008) and RPI Class of '51 Entrepreneurship Award (\$5,000, 2009)
- » Competitor, Rice University and Carnegie Mellon International Business Plan Competitions (2009)
- » Rensselaer Union Executive Board Member of the Year (2009)
- » Member, Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Honors Society (2007-Present)

Special Interests

Stanley Kubrick movies, skydiving, designing cities, interactive games, architecture, meditation. Building great businesses from the ground up.