

# Dara Yazdani • Full-Stack Software Engineer

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Full-stack JavaScript software engineer with a unique background in theater arts and speech-language pathology. Proven ability to blend technical expertise with exceptional communication, collaboration, and creative problem-solving skills. Committed to creating accessible technology that enhances user experiences and meets diverse user needs.

## Skills

**Languages:** JavaScript | TypeScript | HTML | CSS | SQL (PostgreSQL)

**Libraries & Frameworks:** React | Jest | Redux Toolkit | Node | Express | Prisma | Chakra UI | Material UI | Knock.js

**Tools:** Git | GitHub | Jira | Docker | Postman | Continuous Deployment

**Soft Skills:** Communicating with Empathy | Cross-Functional Collaboration | User Advocacy | Creative Problem Solving

## Projects

**Trac (Goal-Tracking App)**, Lead Engineer | <https://trac-kl33.onrender.com> | <https://github.com/dyazdani/trac> 2024

A goal-tracking app with social accountability features to increase goal achievement.

JavaScript/Typescript, React, Redux Toolkit, Node/Express, PostgreSQL/Prisma, Chakra UI with custom theme

**Zoop (Messaging App)**, Lead Engineer | <https://zoop.onrender.com> | <https://github.com/dyazdani/zoop> 2023

A lightweight social messaging app.

JavaScript/Typescript, React, Redux Toolkit, Node/Express, PostgreSQL/Prisma, Material UI with custom theme

**Avocado UI (React Component Library)** | <https://bit.ly/avocadoui> | <https://github.com/dyazdani/avocado-ui> 2023

Sole engineer for Avocado UI, a React component library.

JavaScript/Typescript, React, CSS, Storybook

## Experience

**Educational Sabbatical** | *Software Engineering Training* 2022 - 2024

- Intensive self-directed training in **software engineering** to transition careers.

**Intentional Career Break** | *Full-Time Dad* 2021 - 2022

- Primary caretaker for our two young children, supported my wife's career in writing and illustration.

**Allina Health**, St. Paul, MN | *Speech-Language Pathologist* 2018 - 2021

- **Managed** ~50 patient cases.
- Directed new patient care for 10 patients per week, devising custom care plans to meet needs.
- Implemented ~1-5 care plans per week that **utilized speech-language-voice therapy software**.
- **Led community outreach** and in-service for voice therapy. **Cross-team communication** with 5+ specialists.

**The George Washington University**, Washington, D.C. | *Graduate Assistant* 2016 - 2018

- Co-authored **user advocacy research paper** on access and barriers to gender-affirming voice services.
- Phonetically transcribed 20+ audio recordings of children's speech to advance ongoing bilingual research study.
- **Led weekly study groups of 5-10 students**; answered questions about course material, exams, and lab work.
- Graded 100+ tests and assignments, facilitating students receiving scores in < 1 week.

**Professional Actor, Director, and Voice Coach**, various locations 2009 - 2015

- As a Director, **managed teams** of up to 15 performers and designers for 5 professional theatrical productions.
- Appeared in 20+ professional film/TV/theater productions.
- Provided private vocal and acting technique instruction for stage/screen actors for auditions and performances.

## Education

**Intensive Self-Directed Software Engineering Training** 2022-2024

Informal 1-on-1 instruction and mentorship from 2 ex-FAANG senior software engineers; freeCodeCamp, MDN

**The George Washington University**, MA in Speech-Language Pathology (magna cum laude) 2018

**American Repertory Theater Institute at Harvard University**, MFA in Acting 2013

**San Francisco State University**, BA in Drama (summa cum laude) 2010