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