

# Dara Yazdani • Full-Stack Software Engineer

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Full-stack JavaScript engineer with 12+ years collaborating with cross-functional teams as theater professional and speech pathologist. Proven creative and systematic thinking skills from acting in 20+ live productions and making 300+ speech diagnoses. Motivated to use a unique background to create accessible technology that meets diverse user needs.

## Skills

**Very Comfortable (★★★★★):** JavaScript, TypeScript, React, HTML, CSS, Git, Chakra UI

**Comfortable (★★★★☆):** PostgreSQL, Node, Express, Redux, Redux Toolkit, Prisma, Material UI, Jest, RESTful API

**Familiar (★★★☆☆):** Jira, Docker, GitHub Actions, Postman

## Projects

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

*A full-stack, single-page application for tracking goals and updating friends on progress directly from the app.*

JavaScript, Typescript, React, Redux Toolkit, Node, Express, PostgreSQL, Prisma, Chakra UI

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

*A lightweight, full-stack, single-page application for sending messages to other users and “fave-ing” those messages.*

JavaScript, Typescript, React, Redux Toolkit, Node, Express, PostgreSQL, Prisma, Material UI

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

*Sole engineer for Avocado UI, a React.js form component library for web-based projects.*

JavaScript, Typescript, React, HTML, CSS, Storybook

## Experience

**Educational Sabbatical** | Intensive Self-Directed Online Software Engineering Training 2022 - 2024

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

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

- Primary caretaker for two young children. Supported wife's career in writing and illustration.

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

- **Managed** 50+ patient cases and grew department caseload by >12%.
- **Directed** patient care for 5+ new patients per week, devising custom care plans to meet patient needs.
- **Improved patient outcomes** by utilizing 5+ speech-language pathology **desktop/tablet applications**.
- Spearheaded **community outreach** to 2+ major LGBTQIA+ centers/events to promote Allina speech services.
- Developed and taught voice therapy in-service to 30+ **cross-team** colleagues and specialists.

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

- Implemented national survey with 25+ participants to gather insights for **user advocacy** research paper.
- **Analyzed** phonetics of 20+ audio speech samples to advance ongoing university research.
- Instructed lab class, and **led** weekly study groups that **accelerated learning** for 30+ undergraduate students.

**Professional Actor, Director, and Voice Coach** | Freelance, SF Bay Area/NYC/Baltimore/D.C. 2009 - 2015

- As Director, **managed teams** of 15+ actors, designers, and technicians for 5 professional theatrical productions.
- Created roles in 20+ professional film/TV/theater productions with **quick turnarounds** and **hard deadlines**.

## Education

**Intensive Self-Directed Software Engineering Training** | Informal 1-on-1 instruction, freeCodeCamp, MDN 2022 - 2024

**M.A. in Speech-Language Pathology (magna cum laude)** | The George Washington University, D.C. 2015 - 2018

**M.F.A. in Acting** | American Repertory Theater Institute at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 2011 - 2013

**B.A. in Drama (summa cum laude)** | San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA 2007 - 2010

## Certifications

• **Responsive Web Design** | freeCodeCamp | [freecodecamp.org/certification/dyazdani/responsive-web-design](https://freecodecamp.org/certification/dyazdani/responsive-web-design) 2024