Virginia (Gina) Costanzo

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OBJECTIVE

To leverage my experience as an accomplished teacher with a passion for technology and recent training in full-stack web development to transition into a rewarding career as a developer. With a solid background in education and a versatile skill set, I aim to merge my pedagogical expertise with coding proficiency to create intuitive user experiences and contribute to the development of interactive and modern websites. Committed to continuous learning and adaptable problem-solving, I am excited to make a valuable impact in the dynamic world of software development.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Teaching (Special Education)
The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ
August 2017- May 2018

Bachelor of Science in Integrative STEM Education
The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ
August 2013 - May 2017

CERTIFICATIONS & TRAINING

Full Stack Web Development, *Codecademy 2023*
CS50W - Web Programming with Python and JavaScript, *Harvard University 2022*
CS50P - Introduction to Python Programming, *Harvard University 2022*
CS50X - Introduction to Computer Science, *Harvard University 2022*

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Nanny, *Multiple Families,* San Diego, CA & New York, NY July 2020-Present
- Demonstrated adaptability and strong organizational skills by accommodating varying scheduling needs and providing reliable care and supervision for children as a nanny
- Planned and facilitated engaging and age-appropriate activities during school breaks, fostering the children's cognitive and social development while promoting creativity and critical thinking skills
- Assisted with homework assignments, utilizing effective teaching strategies to enhance the children's academic progress and understanding of key concepts
- Maintained open and proactive communication with parents, ensuring they were regularly updated on the children's daily activities, progress, and any other relevant information
- Effectively managed challenging behaviors, implementing positive behavior management techniques and promoting a structured and supportive environment for the children

First Grade Teacher, *Sylvia Rosenauer Elementary School,* Jackson, NJ Sept 2018-Present
- Taught full-time in a first grade classroom with general education, special education, and English Language Learner students
- Designed and implemented a cross-curricular STEM enrichment program, utilizing web-based resources and activities to cater to individual student needs through the WIN (What I Need) program
- Delivered comprehensive instruction on fundamental coding principles for elementary-level students
- Leveraged technology to create and execute Distance Learning plans during COVID-19 school closure, ensuring continued educational engagement
- Collaborated with a state reading coach to improve district literacy instructional practices
- Engaged families through online communication, student portfolios, and classroom events
- Incorporated various responsive design principles and interactive elements, while integrating mindfulness practices, to promote social and emotional skills development and create an inclusive learning environment
- Participated in a yearlong mentorship program with a veteran teacher, gaining insights into effective instructional techniques and applying them directly to my own teaching

- Conducted Fountas & Pinnell reading level assessments and DIBELS assessments, utilizing this data to inform and tailor small-group instruction for optimal student progress

TECHNICAL SKILLS
Experienced: React with Redux, JavaScript, HTML, CSS with Bootstrap,
Proficient: Git version control, Object-Oriented Design, Django, Flask, Python, REST APIs
Familiar: Object-Oriented Design, WCAG

PERSONAL PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS
'The Best of Reddit' Front-End Web App
React with Redux
Live Site || GitHub Repository
The Best of Reddit is a responsive web app that uses the Reddit API to fetch posts from the most popular pages and subreddits. Users view the "best" page on Reddit by default and then can select one of the most popular subreddits. They can enter a search term or select "top" or "hot" buttons to filter the posts within the selected subreddit.

'Traveler' Full Stack Web App
Django, Python, SQLite, Javascript
Video Walktrhough || GitHub Repository
Final project for CS50W. Traveler is a responsive web app that allows users to upload different travel itineraries and view the itineraries others have uploaded to help plan their next trip. Users can register for accounts, plan trips, browse others' plans, sort and filter their feed, search the trips database, create and manage custom lists to organize trips, and explore locations using the Google Maps feature integrated with the Google Maps API.

'Cocktail Codex' Web App
Flask, Python, SQLite, Javascript
Video Walkthrough || GitHub Repository
The Cocktail Codex web app allows users to build their home bar online. Users can register for accounts, customize their "bar" by adding and removing ingredients based on what they have on hand, browse recipes based on available ingredients or any ingredients, explore detailed recipes for various cocktails, and favorite recipes to access them easily in the future.

COLLEGE HONORS & LEADERSHIP
Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education
Golden Key International Honor Society
Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honor Society
Humanitarian Yoga Club, *President & Founder*
Teachers of Young Children Association, *President (16-17), Secretary (15-16)*