

KAREN HICKEY

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[LinkedIn](#) | [GitHub](#) | [Portfolio](#)

An inventive problem-solver with a creative mind, I am driven by the intersection of design and technology. My journey into Software Development began with a deep curiosity about how digital experiences shape the way we interact with the world. Through an intensive bootcamp, I discovered my passion for crafting intuitive and visually compelling web applications, merging technical precision with artistic vision. As a Junior Software Engineer seeking an entry-level role, I am eager to transform ideas into seamless user experiences that engage, inspire, and leave a lasting impact.

SKILLS

JavaScript | Python | HTML | CSS | React | Next.js | Flask | Tailwind CSS | Node.js | Express | PostgreSQL | SQLite3 | SQLAlchemy | Sequelize | React Redux | Redux Toolkit | Amazon Web Services (AWS) | JSON Web Token (JWT) | BCrypt | Auth.js | Cross-Origin Resource Sharing (CORS) | GitHub | VSCode | Postman | Insomnia | RESTful API | Alembic | Point of Sale (POS) Systems | Quickbooks | Microsoft Office | Canva

PROJECTS

PokeNote (Python • Flask • Alembic • SQLAlchemy • React • Redux Toolkit • AWS) | [Live](#) | [GitHub](#)

- Designed and developed a Pokémon Trainer journaling app, allowing users to add pokemon to their collection, log their training journey, and interact with community posts.
- Built a fully searchable Pokédex using SQLAlchemy and Flask, enabling users to find Pokémon data efficiently.
- Configured AWS S3 buckets to manage image file uploads for secure and scalable file handling

Lovely Paws Pet Hotel (Python • Flask • Alembic • SQLAlchemy • React • Redux Toolkit • AWS) | [Live](#) | [GitHub](#)

- Built a pet hotel booking app where users can create accounts, book stays for their pets, and manage reservations
- Streamlined state management with Redux Toolkit, leveraging its simplified syntax for creating slices, reducers, and asynchronous logic, resulting in cleaner code and improved developer productivity
- Utilized advanced CSS techniques for fully responsive and visually dynamic user interface across various devices

WaterBnB (JavaScript • Express.js • Sequelize • SQLite3 • React • Redux) | [Live](#) | [GitHub](#)

- Developed a full-stack Airbnb-style platform that allows users to create spot listings, manage spots, and post reviews
- Created and managed relational databases with SQLite3, using Sequelize as an ORM to define models, handle migrations, and perform complex queries with ease and efficiency
- Implemented custom secure authentication using BCrypt for password hashing and Auth.js for session management, ensuring robust protection against unauthorized access and data breaches

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Financial Controller, M&M Appliance | 2020 - 2024 | Washington DC

- Managed accounts payable/receivable and financial reporting for a \$20M+ company, improving invoice processing efficiency and reducing reconciliation errors
- Single-handedly designed marketing materials (banners, signs, posters, business cards), enhancing brand consistency and supporting sales efforts

Lead Server, Firebirds Wood Fire Grill | 2017 - 2019 | Woodbridge VA

- Supervised and trained a team of 8+ servers, improving service efficiency and retaining customer satisfaction
- Managed large party logistics, coordinating seating and service to maximize revenue and streamline operations

EDUCATION & TRAINING

App Academy | Aug 2024 - Jan 2025 | Certificate of Completion | Software Engineering | Test Score Avg: A+

Northern Virginia Community College | Aug 2015 - March 2017 | AS - Business Admin | Woodbridge, VA