

JESSE A. CORTEZ

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PROJECTS

Ugly Bois Polo Club – *Web Designer & Developer*

May 2021 – Present

- Designed and developed a full-stack [webstore](#), built with Next.js, Stripe, and Node.js
- Advertised first product drop for the start up, which helped sell over \$1000 of clothing in first 2 days.

lol idk! – *Web Designer & Developer, Magazine Editor*

Feb 2018 – Aug 2019

- Designed and developed a (now-defunct) website (HTML/JS/CSS) to host works in video, photography, writing, and web art
- Organized, hosted, and photographed 2 local social events and 1 gallery show to fundraise \$2000 for video and print projects
- Produced and co-edited the 100-print release of *AmeriZine!* a magazine highlighting the works of friends

EXPERIENCE

FUSE Studio – fusestudio.net – *Research Aide, Challenge Design and Media Team*

Dec 2018 – Sept 2021

- Researched, developed, and wrote Science, Technology, Code, and Arts-based curriculum geared for K-8 students
- Wrote, narrated, filmed, and edited video tutorials on coding, game design, 3D printing, and making “video magic tricks”
- Increased average video engagement from 40% to 82% over 2 and a half years

iD Tech Camps – *Instructor, Camp Counselor*

June 2019 – Sept 2019, Mar 2020 – Sept 2020

- Taught and chaperoned week-long summer camps with classes of 12 students, ages 7-9, 10-12, or 13-17
- Developed & presented curriculum for Python Machine Learning, C++ Game Design, Minecraft Mods in Java, and Videography

WNUR FM 89.3 – *“Rock Show” DJ*

Sept 2017 – Dec 2019

- Curated and hosted a weekly, hour-long music program alongside co-DJ’s
- Mediated on-air banter with listeners and incorporated community music recommendations on air

McDonald’s – *Crew Member, Drive-Thru Operator, Food Prep*

June 2018 – Sept 2018

- Autonomously delegated and multitasked in a fast-paced, understaffed, team-based environment; usurped manager in a month
- Exercised emotional labor and customer service skills in high-pressure situations and quickly defused inter-team conflicts

Northwestern University Department of Theatre – *Clerical Aide*

Sept 2017 – Dec 2018

- Communicated with professors and prospective students to organize talks and class visits
- Operated Northwestern Theatre’s Email Inbox and Social Media Accounts

LEADERSHIP

Independent Filmmaker and Crew Member

Jan 2018 – Present

- Cinematographer for 3 NU Senior Thesis projects; Produced 1 NU Senior Thesis; worked on 20+ projects as Gaffer, Best Electric, Assistant Camera, Grip, Production Assistant, and Talent
- Produced, wrote, and directed a 17-minute comedy short film; hosted a premiere to local filmmakers, community members
- Nurtures positive and efficient on-set environments; organized logistics and precise time-tables for shoots

Chapin Humanities Residential College at Northwestern University – *Vice President*

April 2018 – Mar 2019

- Monitored and worked to increase students’ and faculty’s participation in community events
- Redesigned and updated [college website](#) to include points-based participation system and advertise weekly community events
- Spearheaded participation campaign and filmed ad for *Res College Field Day*, where we won 1st place Spirit Award.

EDUCATION

Northwestern University – *Evanston, IL*

Sept 2017 – June 2021

- **School of Communication: B.S. Communications** in Radio/Television/Film, **Minor** in Computer Science
- **Certificates** in Media Arts and Game Design; and Comedy Arts (RTVF)
- **Relevant Coursework:** Web Development, Computer Systems and Networks, Internet Art, Lighting and Cinematography

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Skills: Cinematography, HTML, CSS, JS, React, p5.js, Node.js, C#, Unity, Adobe Premiere Pro, Photoshop, Illustrator, Lighting,

Interests: Video games, new media arts, video production and editing, screenwriting, directing, acting, laughing with friends

Languages: English, Native Spanish Speaker