Howard Jess

Web Application UI/UX Developer

hjess@mail.com
linkedin.com/in/hjess
206.412.9924

Brief

I really enjoy working in a small collaborative team environment; after many experiences in desktop applications, system programming, and networking infrastructure, I settled into web application UI development as an interesting intersection of them all. I'm especially interested in user experience, elegant design, and accessibility.

Skills

Tools:
  Bourne shell, GIMP, Git, VIM
Languages:
  Javascript, Typescript, HTML, CSS (*Less*, *SASS/SCSS*), TCL, C
Systems:
  Linux, Unix, Mac OS/X, Windows
Technologies:
  Vue.js, Bootstrap, Element UI, DOM, HTTP, i18n/l10n, jQuery, MVC, REST, TCP/IP,
Development:
  Agile, Scrum, Kanban

Experience

Trupanion
Front-end Web Application Developer
April 2017 → June 2023
Javascript, Typescript, Vue, SCSS, CSS, Bootstrap, HTML, Razor (C# templates), SignalR, ASP.Net, Git

Projects

- Member Portal (lead UI dev): provides customer access to their account. VanillaJS/Typescript/jQuery/Vue, Sass
- Website 3.0 (UI team member): main public-facing website; part of a rewrite team. VanillaJS/jQuery, Sass, Sitecore
- VetPortal (lead UI dev): veterinary hospital software. Full rewrite from VanillaJS/jQuery/KnockoutJS/Kendo to Vue/Bootstrap, reduced network payload by 50%
- Hospital Management Tool (sole UI dev): internal support for VetPortal. Vue, Element
- Partner Portal (sole UI dev): allows State Farm agents to create & manage their portfolio of Trupanion policies. Vue
- Agent Reassignment Tool (sole UI dev): allow State Farm managers to manage policy re-distribution among agents. Vue

Navigating Cancer (contract position)
Front-end Web Application Developer
June 2016 → February 2017
Bootstrap, Coffeescript, Backbone.js, HAML, JSON Schema, JSON Editor, Mocha, Ruby on Rails, SASS

Developer for Navigating Cancer's suite of Patient Care Management software, dedicated to improving and streamlining the relationship and care experience for cancer patients and oncology clinics. Achievements and projects completed include:

- Complex Triage Pathways: implemented a set of JSON Schema+JSON Editor-based dynamic forms to standardize symptom data recording for cancer patients
- Living Style Guide: continued work to maintain and upgrade the development group's style and component library

Rosetta Stone (after April 2013 Livemocha aquisition)
Front-end Web Application Developer
November 2012 → April 2016
AngularJS, CouchDB, HTML, Javascript, Mixpanel, SCSS, Sproutcore

Developer for Rosetta Stone's Advanced English for Business language-learning application, and Livemocha, a social community-based language-learning application. Achievements and projects completed include:

- Password reset/recovery
- User profile management
- Partner connections
- Analytics, using Mixpanel Analytics
- System rewrite from Sproutcore to AngularJS.

Optify, Inc.
Front-end Software Engineer
September 2011 → October 2012
Backbone.js, HTML, Javascript, LESS, Mixpanel

UI developer for Optify's *Inbound Marketing* software suite, a *SAAS* tool for B2B marketers. Achievements and projects completed include:

- Customer site "Landing Page" editor/publisher
- Contact Manager & Email Manager tools
- Analytics, using Mixpanel Analytics
- Rewrote UI coding standards document, and overhauled the Javascript library namespace

Cobalt.com, Inc.
Senior UI Developer
September 2009 → September 2011

Lead UI developer on Cobalt's *New Products* team, charged with creating and delivering innovative website products for sale to auto manufacturers and dealers. Achievements and projects completed include:

- Embedded Google maps for location pages
- Facebook and Twitter publishing and feed widgets
- Embedded YouTube player/playlist handler
- Initial implementation of front-end unit testing using jstestdriver

Wetpaint.com, Inc.
UI Web Developer
September 2008 → July 2009

UI developer for Wetpaint's "*build your own wiki*" system. Achievements and projects completed include:

- Enhanced messaging forum system
- Access to PayPal's recurring billing system
- User authentication using Facebook Connect
- Conversion from home-grown library to jQuery

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Cardomain Networks, Inc.
Web Developer
September 2006 → September 2008

Front-end specialist for Cardomain's "*facebook for car enthusiasts*" applications. Achievements and projects completed include:

- Homepage and navigation overhaul, with complete site re-layout for uniform ad placements, using Perl/TTK
- Member group subsystem, using Ruby on Rails
- Immersed in all aspects of Agile development, including story estimation, pair programming, TDD, sprint demos, and frequent releases

Education

Northwestern University
B.A., Economics