DONNIE HICKS
FULL STACK DEVELOPER*

Summary

I completed a History degree with highest honours before working in communications and sales for the second largest telecom in the world. After relocating to Canada I continued as a professional communicator at the City of Toronto for nearly a decade as an Advanced Emergency Medical Dispatcher. Wishing to grow outside of that role and inspired by the potential of working with software professionally, I transformed my hobby in computers into a career as a Full Stack Developer.

Goal

I am seeking a positive work environment that appreciates my broad skillset and diverse experience, and gives me an opportunity to work with Javascript, React and GraphQL. I am particularly interested in writing code using the Functional Programming paradigim, and generating blazing-fast, static, low maintence, secure web applications with the JAM Stack and Serverless architecture.

Employment

Hyxos — Toronto
Cofounder/Full Stack Developer — March 2013 to Current

In 2013 I cofounded Hyxos Inc. with my wife in order to pursue business projects. In our most recent endeavor I designed and produced the first edition of a card game called TZI using Python to programmatically generate image assets. I created our product website by coding in Javascript and using the Gatsby static site generator library, utilizing React components and querying content data through the GraphQL API.

The Brewbox Company — Toronto
Full Stack Developer — Sept. 2016 to March 2017

I organized and automated the process of syncronizing customer data with Mailchimp through their API for email marketing purposes. I worked with Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL and Javascript to maintain and extend administrative and other backend support features of the company web portal.

The City of Toronto — Toronto
Advanced Emergency Medical Dispatcher — Sept. 2006 to Oct. 2015

Following established medical protocols, I determined the prioritization of incoming 911 calls and administered first-aid and CPR instructions over the phone. Through radio and telephone channels I dispatched ambulances crews and strategically managed departmental resources to ensure paramedic safety and produce optimal patient outcomes.

AT&T (formerly SBC) — Tulsa, Oklahoma
Billing Specialist — Sept. 2002 to May 2003

Fielding inbound calls regarding billing questions, I explained policies, billing procedures, and presented product offerings as solutions to customer needs based on personalized profiles.

Projects

www.tzi.cards — February 2019 to Current

A card game inspired by the lunar calendar. TZI Cards reimagines traditional playing cards and explores the ancient Chinese system of Heavenly Stems and Earthly branches. I built the product home page using the Gatsby static site generator library, and deployed it through Netlify. I also designed and produced all of the digital art assets for the product and site.

1hx.ca — October 2009 to Current

A short-link generator based on YOURLS. I have used open source software to keep this personal project alive and running on the internet for almost ten years. Originally served on a shared hosting platform, I have migrated it through different backend configurations multiple times. Currently running on Ubuntu in a VPS, routing through Nginx, SSL through letsencrypt, and data storage with MySQL.

Contact

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Education

Oral Roberts University — Sept. 1997 to May 2001

Bachelor's of History 2001

3.97 GPA
Summa Cum Laude
Academic Peer Advisor
Minors: Philsophy, Modern Hebrew

Lighthouse Labs — Oct. to Dec. 2015

Web Development Bootcamp

Ruby on Rails
PostgreSQL
Javascript

Advanced Analytics and Research Lab — Jan. 2018

Citizen Data Scientist I - III

Introduction to Data Science
R Programming Language

Skills

Frontend
HTML
CSS/SCSS/SASS
Markup

Programming Languages
Javascript
Python
Ruby

Libraries
Gatsby
React
GraphQL

Frameworks
Rails
Django

Backend
Linux/Unix
PostgreSQL/MySQL/SQLite
MongoDB
SSL/TLS

Hobbies

Playing Guitar and Drums
Singing and Songwriting
Playing Video and Board Games
Bee-Keeping