Joshua Walcott-Mason
Full Stack Web Developer

New Zealand Citizen

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About Me

Hi there! I am a web developer who is deeply passionate about being creative and curious, as well as compassionate to others.

Tech has always played an influential role in my life. One of the happiest memories from my childhood was making my own 2D fighter game on the M.U.G.E.N engine and playing it with my best friend. More recently I've reflected on the myriad ways in which tech has shaped me as a lifelong musician - largely through the use of Digital Audio Workstation software. I love the marriage of art and science when it comes to audio engineering. When considering a new career path, I wanted something that had substantial opportunities for learning and growth. I began smashing my way through some online courses on FreeCodeCamp during the winter evenings of 2022, and was thrilled to be accepted into the January 2023 cohort of Dev Academy later that year.

Experience

Dev Academy Aotearoa - Software Development Bootcamp | Student - Jan - May 2023

This was an intensive 17 week program that took a small group of individuals from zero to full stack web development. We learned key programming languages such as HTML, CSS and Javascript, but also a lot of important soft skills. We had much practice with working in small and large groups, giving and receiving feedback, as well as embedding software development concepts like Agile and Scrum.

- For my final group project a team of six worked on a social networking app called 'Buddy', designed primarily to help international travellers connect with local Wellingtonians who are interested in showing them around.

- Assisted with making a detailed kanban board, getting the database set up, testing the routes, working on how to best implement filter functionality, and linking up user profiles and data via authentication.

- Due to the size of our group, I had to pay special attention as to how we would manage our workflow, morale and who was doing what. There were times when certain people felt like their contributions weren't being acknowledged, and I had to actively listen and suggest group stand up sessions to make sure these were shared with the group.

Ministry of Health - Official Information Act team | Advisor - Fixed term - Nov / Dec 2022

I managed multiple requests from the public under the OIA, which required exceptional time management skills and personal responsibility to ensure the sign off process was correctly adhered to and a response was issued within 20 working days.

- Proactive communication skills: I would need to find Subject Matter Experts, relevant managers, liaise with third party organisations such as Pharmac or other government departments, as well as the Minister's Office.
- High-responsibility role that involved precise attention to detail to ensure any sensitive information was redacted before my response was issued to the requestor.

Seasonal work - Miscellaneous | Grape Pruner - Fixed term - Feb - Sep 2022

I worked for two different vineyards (Alandale Orchards and Seifried Estates) carrying out various physical labour duties in the viticulture sector.

- Duties included removing nets, chopping out dead grape trees, stacking boxes onto pallets at assembly line speed, operating the depalletizer machine, planting new plants.

Music Resource Assistant - Radio New Zealand | Casual - June 2020 - November 2021

This was a flexible role helping to digitally archive RNZ's substantial CD collection. Due to changing COVID restrictions this work was put on hold a couple of times.

- Meticulous data entry work ensuring music files were properly transferred across to the organisation's servers.
- Other administration tasks such as compiling spreadsheets for APRA, as well as having to complete timesheets and manage my own time.

Skills/Technology

Git, Github, Node.js, SQLite, Knex, Superagent, React, Redux, Typescript, SCSS, Jest, Supertest, and Nock. [Dev Academy]

Cubase, Pro Tools, Logic, Virtual DJ, Sibelius, guitar, piano, drums, composition.
[University of Otago, self-taught]

Education

New Zealand Certificate in Applied Software Development - Dev Academy Aotearoa
Bachelor of Music (MusB) - University of Otago. Spent one semester on a student exchange to Falmouth University, UK.

Hobbies & Interests

I love making things and trying stuff out, and have worn many artistic hats over the years: from drawing manga and writing sci fi stories as a child, to recording my own albums, performing in bands on guitar, keys, and drums (not simultaneously), to writing and illustrating a children's book for a friend during lockdown. I also care a lot about mental health issues and have contributed a piece of writing for the organisation Voices of Hope.

References Available on Request