

Sura Karnawi

Full Stack Developer | Studio Lead

A passionate full-stack developer with over 10 years of experience designing and delivering scalable, innovative cloud-based solutions and adept at integrating modern technologies. Experienced in leading cross-functional teams, mentoring developers, and driving product success.

Experience

Studio Lead & Fullstack Developer, Orangutan Matter Studio, Toronto 2021-2024

- Developed responsive services and applications using HTML5, CSS, JavaScript, and integrated APIs, leveraging cloud services for scalability..
- Contributed to developing gameplay features using C# and unity
- Integrated products across environments using GDK, API interactions, sandbox testing.
- Directed end-to-end full software development cycles, from research, analysis to deployment and post-launch support, ensuring high-quality deliverables.
- Managed project deliverables, milestones, timelines, and roadmaps in an Agile environment, aligning with business goals
- Orchestrated the successful launch of *Unleaving video game*, achieving client satisfaction, a stable build, and a bug-free player experience.
- Wrote comprehensive technical guides and documentation
- Managed and mentored a development and design team of 8, fostering collaboration and technical growth, best practises like code reviews.
- Translated product vision into actionable technical requirements, bridging the gap between stakeholders and development teams.
- Conducted extensive user research and playtesting to refine system functionality and enhance usability.

Software Engineer, British Broadcasting Company, Media City, UK 2019 - 2021

- Delivered scalable and robust solutions using JavaScript, React.js, and Node.js, delivering high-quality applications for millions of users globally.
- Developed high-profile scalable applications for BBC platforms, including innovative solutions for BBC News and iPlayer
- Participated in infrastructure scaling for major events without downtime such as elections, sports, and royal events.
- Monitored & utilized tools like DataDog for metrics collection, reducing operational costs and increasing performance
- Participated in engineering meeting, decisions around improving performance
- Improved accessibility standards across BBC News and iPlayer platforms.
- Participated in infrastructure scaling for major events without downtime.
- Led live demos, retrospective meetings, and performed as a scrum master
- Reviewed and provided constructive feedback on code/ github
- Worked on BBC's Cosmos deployment system, CI/CD automation i.e Jenkins

Frontend Engineer, Transport for Greater Manchester, UK 2016 - 2019

- Developed and maintained websites and applications in test driven development mode in Javascript, Angular and utilizing cloud services

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SKILLS

JavaScript, React, Angular, HTML, CSS, Typescript, Next.js Node.js, Flask, C languages, GraphQL, RESTful APIs AWS, Azure, CI/CD (Jenkins)

Agile Methodology, Scrum, Project Management, Strategic Planning, User Research, Mentoring, Accessibility, MVP Development

EDUCATION

B.Sc. in Computer Science - Baghdad University, Iraq
PM & Website Development Certificate - Seneca College, Canada
Microsoft Certified: Azure AI Engineer Associate (in progress)

ACHIEVEMENTS

Released Unleaving with 92% positive user reviews.
Nominated for Canada Indie Cup Rising Star (2023).

Recognized in BBC Employee Spotlight for software engineering contributions (2019)

Launched multiple BBC platform features, including profile personalization on bbc.co.uk (2021)

Delivered an award-winning accessibility-focused transport application.

Launched CMS solution for PAN AM Games Toronto 2014

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">Designed and maintained accessible, test-driven websites like tfgm.com using Python, JavaScript, and Angular.Migrated applications to modern frameworks leveraging Azure cloud services.Streamlined workflows by modernizing build and delivery processes.Key Achievements: Contributed to an Accessibility Award-winning application for Transport for Greater Manchester (tfgm.com)	COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT In STEM Dev.to developer advocate 2025 Women Representation in STEM Speaker e.i BBC WiStem, London Tech, Pixelles, 2019 - Present London Startup Speaker, Hackathon Judge and Panelist Guided teams toward innovative solutions, 2019–2021
Developer, Self Employed, Sura Creativity Ltd., Manchester, UK 2014 - 2016 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed websites using headless CMS websites i.e. Wordpress, Contentful.	Others Raised £20,000 for TFGM charities (2016–2019). Barnardo's Believe in Children Fundraiser Volunteer, Manchester, UK, 2016 - 2018 Art Battle Volunteer & Artist, Toronto, ON, Canada, 2014 Salvation Army face painter volunteer, Toronto, 2009 Outreach Worker & Designer United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Damascus, Syria, 2009
Front End Developer Developer, Soft Gravity, Toronto, ON, Canada 2012 – 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Designed and developed websites and mobile apps, including the Pan Am Games CMS solution for the 2015 event.Developed client-facing application code for web applications, websites, and mobile apps, collaborating closely with clients and end users to gather and renew business and technical requirements, workflows, content maps, and wireframes; performed functional and usability testing and created effective documentation throughout the development process.	
Application developer, Drive Medical Canada, Markham 2009 – 2011 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Automated SAP manual reports using VB.NET and ABAP, reducing operational costs by 20%.	
Other Jobs in the STEM field, 2008	