Kate Ray

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Brooklyn, NY

I am a programmer and product manager, experienced in lean development at startups and full-stack engineering. I'm interested in projects around science, museums, improving cities, and technology that cultivates intimate, satisfying interactions.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Engineer, Experiment.com (2015-2017)
The largest open platform for funding science research. $7.5M pledged, 40k backers, 700 funded projects. YC W13.
- Responsible for backend & frontend engineering
- Architected a complex payment flow using Stripe that handled accounting records, an email reminder system, managed accounts for NGOs, and payouts to international banks
- Built a CMS and feed for scientists' project updates
- Improved workflow for non-technical team members, by studying and building internal tools based on their process
- Transitioned front-end code from Backbone to React/Redux
- Trained and mentored junior engineers

Team Leader, *Automattic* (2014-2015)
The company behind Wordpress.com, serving 181 million monthly uniques
- Led an overhaul of WordPress.com's new user experience
- Managed a team of engineers and designers
- Designed and built a theme editing interface for mobile browsers

Co-founder and CTO, *scroll kit* (2010-2014)
A flexible, in-browser design tool that makes building a webpage feel more like drawing.
- Built a JavaScript-based webpage design tool used by Smithsonian, Esquire, the WSJ
- Raised $222k in funding from the Knight Foundation
- Acquired by Automattic

OTHER PROJECTS

Bookshelf (2017) — web platform for making book-mixtapes
Where is Williamsburg? (2016) — mobile app for finding the hipster neighborhoods of every city
Alongside (2013) — tool to visualize your relationships via Foursquare checkins
Teach Yourself to Code (2012) — link-sharing site for programming resources
Web 3.0: a story about the semantic web (2010) — short documentary about the Semantic Web, featuring Tim Berners-Lee, Clay Shirky, David Weinberger, others

SKILLS

Technical: JavaScript / React / Redux / D3.js / Node.js / Ruby / Rails / Heroku / Open Street Maps / PHP / WordPress / iOS / Objective-C / React Native / Python / pandas
Product: User research, initial product design & prototyping, planning project timelines and specs

EDUCATION

Recurse Center (Summer 2017) — self-directed programming retreat
New York University (2006-2010) — B.A. Psychology & Journalism, *summa cum laude*
Honors/Awards: National Merit Scholar / U.S. Presidential Scholar / Phi Beta Kappa / James Fenimore Cooper Prize for Journalism