

Kris Szafranski

I'm a dedicated leader with a wide variety of technical and soft skills from a long career in software development, including web and indie game development. I'm not afraid to dive in and figure it out - I'm awesome at finding answers and applying resources to get things done. I'd love to make games with you!

Portfolio of game work
available at kdszafranski.com

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EXPERIENCE

Indie Game Development

May 2013 — PRESENT

A Druid's Duel

- Designed, programmed, and launched A Druid's Duel on Steam: http://store.steampowered.com/app/333970/A_Druids_Duel/
- Utilized the Unity game engine, SteamWorks SDK, Mono/C#, PHP, JavaScript, SQL, and other technologies
- Created web portal and REST service to fully support online multiplayer features

Other Games

- Applied programming skills to Unity and Unreal game engines using C#, C++ and Blueprints
- Implemented myriad gameplay systems and mechanics including player controllers, animations, complex sequences and event delegation, GUI, Achievements, etc.
- Built a custom 2D engine with C++/DX for a Breakout clone
- Implement a wide variety of features core to strategy, action, FPS, casual, and role-playing games in prototype projects and jams
- Research and utilize best practices around code security, performance, and architecture
- Created and edited media assets as needed (textures, audio, video, sprites)

Prime Digital Academy — *Director of Instruction, Fullstack Engineering*

Jan 2017 — May 2023

Part of the Leadership team which directs overall business strategy and staff communication. Responsible for leading day-to-day instruction operations and curriculum development for the FSE program.

- Manage, support, grow, hire and train engineering instruction staff

SKILLS

Fullstack Web Development
(JS/Node/React/SQL)

Unity, Unreal, C#, C++ - 2D
and 3D

Gameplay programming,
game design, prototyping,
UI/UX design and
implementation

Leadership, Management,
Mentoring

Documentation Ninja

Project Management

Certified ScrumMaster

Graphic Design (Photoshop,
Illustrator)

Blender (modeling/texturing)

AWARDS

A Druid's Duel was selected to
show at the Indie Megabooth
in PAX East 2015, March 2015

A Druid's Duel was voted
runner-up in all award
categories at GlitchCon, Feb
2015

- Guided transition to remote-only delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the successful return to in-person instruction
- Led faculty in major change from AngularJS to React/Redux technology stack and oversaw iterative deployment to students
- Improved curriculum through continuous iterations using agile practices

Prime Digital Academy — *Instructor/Engineer, Fullstack*

Aug 2015 – Aug 2018

Responsible for ensuring overall student understanding of the materials in my cohorts. I developed the schedule of content and ensured we covered everything needed. I delivered 90% of the lectures and content and therefore was seen as the leader of the classroom.

The Nerdery — *VP of Software Development*

Oct 2011 – May 2013

Oversaw the entire Software Development department, which accounted for 70% of the company's staff. It was my responsibility to provide strategy and leadership in support of 250+ software developers, project managers, UX designers, and QA engineers. Collectively this department annually delivered over \$50M of professional software services to clients across the globe.

- Fostered and supported a culture of open, honest communication and problem solving
- Mentored developers and project managers in delivering custom software on time and on budget
- Took point in the development and implementation of large-scale organizational changes

The Nerdery — *Director of Software Development*

Aut 2008 – May 2011

Responsible for day-to-day management of the Software Development department, largely through the Software Project Managers team. In my tenure as Director, The Nerdery grew annually at over 50%. This tremendous growth required constant adjustments and process iteration by a steady hand.

- Implemented numerous methodologies and organizational changes that allowed us to deliver consistent service to clients
- Actively managed and mentored a team of 6-20 Software Project Managers
- Managed salary increases, hiring, and performance management for the department

A FEW FAVORITE GAMES

Breath of the Wild

Alwa's Legacy

Resident Evil 7

Call of Cthulhu (PC)

Hockey (IRL)

Paper role-playing games

OTHER INTERESTS

Stories – Reading and writing

Drawing

Youth Sports Coaching

- Developed processes and tools to aid in the growth and the delivering of software at high scale
- Supported other company management and staff to win several "Best Places to Work" awards