Kirsten Demko

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Contract Web Development   **Aug. 2023 – Present**   *Remote*
Full-Stack Java Developer
- Built and deployed tailored web solutions for 10+ clients from start to finish.
- Collaborated with small to medium-sized development teams tasked with debugging and optimizing both existing & pre-launch websites to fix issues, and improve functionality, performance, and user experience.
  - o Implemented performance optimizations on a high-traffic wellness blog, reducing page load times by 30% and increasing user engagement by 20%.
  - o Identified and assisted in resolving a critical security vulnerability on a digital marketing agency's customer portal, taking measures to better safeguard sensitive user data and improve long-term security protocols.
- Developed and integrated RESTful APIs to ease data exchange between front-end applications & back-end systems, enhancing overall system efficiency, and user experience.
- Employed automated testing for key components, aiding in the assembly of ongoing integration workflows which contributed to refined code quality, and better structure for deployment processes among several projects.

Full Stack Java Developer Cohort
ChooseU (formerly Generation USA) | Participant   **Feb. 2023 – June 2023**   *Remote*

Completed an intensive 18-week, 460+ hour Full Stack Java Developer cohort, emphasizing hands-on application of technologies and practical project development utilizing the SCRUM methodology.
- Took part in daily challenges for both hard-skill and soft-skill building, weekly assignments and exams, daily group coding activities, peer code reviews/feedback, and long-term team projects to reinforce learning.
- Acquired and consistently leveraged / improved upon problem-solving skills by engaging in real-world development simulations, scenarios, and testing.

Online English Teacher (ESL/EFL)   **Dec. 2019 – May 2023**   *Remote*
italki, Preply, Skype / Zoom
- Made use of technologies (Zoom / Skype, Calendly, Heroku, Adobe) to plan & execute lessons, demonstrating adaptability and creativity.
- Managed scheduling, one-on-one & group lesson planning, and kept records for many groups & individual students up-to-date, highlighting advanced organizational skills with heavy workload.

Bartender
Nikko's Dog & Sports Bar   **Dec. 2017 – Aug. 2022**   *St Pete Beach, FL*
- Provided attentive service and professional hospitality, while maintaining the casual & fun atmosphere of a fast-paced, busy, pet-friendly sports bar environment serving a diverse clientele and seasonal tourism.

CERTIFICATIONS, SKILLS & INTERESTS
- **Certifications:**
  - o Certified JavaScript Developer, W3Schools   **May, 2023**
  - o SQL Crash Course, Uplimit   **June, 2023**
- **Skills:** JavaScript/HTML/CSS, Java, Spring (Boot, Security/JWT), REST APIs, MEAN/MERN Stack, Unit Testing (JUnit/Mockito), Tailwind CSS/Bootstrap, SQL/MySQL, Git, Heroku
- **Interests:** Nature/outdoors, animals (especially birds!), visual arts (drawing/painting), game development, learning about cybersecurity (+ related), international travel/cultures/languages

EDUCATION St. Petersburg College,   **Dec. 2018**   *Associate Degree, General Education*