karen kuzmiak

designer | developer | creative

who i am

I am a UI/UX and visual artist who has a detailed eye for design. Other talents include solving problems, organizing tons of information, and seeing the big picture while noticing the small details. My 50/50 brain loves to integrate technology with art in order to create a user experiences that transcends the 'usual.'

A little something more: Languages fascinate me, I know 10 - fluent in two, I have always wanted to learn the piano, and as a kid I wanted to be an animator.

education

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY | 2005

Bachelor's of Arts, Linguistics
Minors: Italian & French
Magna Cum Laude

certifications

INTERACTIVE MEDIA | 2019 -2020

FRONT-END WEB DEVELOPMENT | 2019 - 2020

San Diego Community College District

publications

SPEAK IN A WEEK - ITALIAN | 2005

Penton Publishing

skills

- Design systems
- Wireframing
- Prototyping
- Visual design
- Layout
- Typography
- Motion graphics
- Animation

tools | expertise

- Figma
- Adobe Creative Suite
- Affinity
- HTML / CSS / Javascript
- Version control
Knowledge of:
- React, Angular, Python

contact

KARENKUZMIAK-PORTFOLIO.NETLIFY.APP

THEKUZICREATION@GMAIL.COM

experience

227 InfoSec, Inc. | www.phish-test.com

UI / UX DESIGNER, consultant | CURRENT

- Leading design and influencing product strategy for 227's GoPhish Phishing Quiz.
- Audit needs of users and collaborate with client on product plan for best user experience.

San Diego 350 | www.semprafracksourfuture.org

UI / UX DESIGNER, freelance | 2021 - 2022

- Responsible for developing ideas and concepts for responsive web design.
- Identify and build evolving design process.

ETi Employee Training Institute | www.trainwitheti.com

LEAD UI / UX DESIGNER, contract | 2019 - 2022

- Led product design efforts: responsible for leading and inspiring project team.
- Work closely with teammates to produce design solutions using sketches, wireframes, and high-fidelity mock-ups.
- HTML / CSS / Javascript coding and responsive designing for multiple platforms and screens.
- Extensive user research, personas, and journey mapping.

BeatBabel

QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) LOCALIZATION SPECIALIST, contract | 2018 - 2019

- Verify linguistic accuracy and check for typographical, grammatical and punctuation errors in several languages.
- Translate documents from Italian to English to Italian.
- Ensure that quality standards, accuracy and consistency is maintained throughout files.

Chickrigger | www.chickrigger.wordpress.com

FOUNDER / CREATOR | 2016 - 2018

Weekly blog used for communicating with crew at the same time keeping the interested public abreast of the rigging progress of the iconic HMS Surprise, a replica 18th century frigate.

- Create graphic artwork to improve and drive audience engagement.
- Leverage advanced organizational development, business, and planning skills to conceptualize, build, and maintain this online resource for the historical ship industry.

Maritime Museum of San Diego

PROJECT MANAGER / DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES | 2014 - 2019

Manage crew to rig and maintain two iconic ships: 18th century HMS Surprise and 16th century San Salvador.

- Mentor crew members in the rigging techniques and sailing of the period.
- Support and lead the development of long-term vision and quarterly goals.
- Develop inventory system and organizational structure of all rigging parts.

PoS Pizza Lounge & Bar

GRAPHIC DESIGNER, freelance | 2011- 2015

- Implement brand strategy including creation of logo design with custom typography.
- Create visual designs for advertising and brand campaigns varying across multiple mediums.