

Lara Karki (Schenck)

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EDUCATION	Georgia Institute of Technology – PH.D. HUMAN-CENTERED COMPUTING	2022 - PRESENT
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Advisor: Dr. Betsy DiSalvo◦ Keywords: data science workforce development, broadening talent pipelines, skills integration, on-the-job learning, non-traditional educational pathways	
	School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University – BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS	2009 - 2011
<hr/> INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE	Senior Principal Software Engineer – PENSKE MEDIA CORPORATION	2018 - 2022
	Full stack web engineering and technical leadership on a product and engineering team of 80 people maintaining a network of 25+ high traffic websites. <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Architected modular user interface system, build tools, testing, and coding standards to speed up development time, reduce technical debt, and deploy shared packages across network.◦ Developed workflows to improve inter-departmental communication with engineering.◦ Led and deployed re-platform and upgrade initiatives across the network.◦ Advocated for diversity, equity, and inclusion in team culture, hiring, and compensation.	
	Lead Instructor	2013 - 2018
	Developed curriculum and instructed web development courses for adult learners with non-traditional backgrounds. <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ University of Southern California, WordPress Development – Los Angeles, 2018◦ Girl Develop It, multiple workshops – National, 2015-2018◦ Pratt Institute of Design, UI/UX Prototyping in Code and Coding I-II – NYC, 2015-2016◦ Decoded, Code in A Day Workshop Facilitator – NYC, 2014-2016◦ Noble Desktop, WordPress.org – NYC, 2015◦ General Assembly, Front-end Web Development Lead Instructor – NYC, 2014	
	Independent Consultant – LARA SCHENCK, LLC	2011 - 2017
	Contract front-end and WordPress development and training for startups and small to large businesses and web development agencies.	
<hr/> RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	CAT (Culture & Technology) Lab – GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	2022 - PRESENT
	Community-based participatory research to understand how mid-skill data work can be a pathway to technical career growth. Assume the role of Career Development Coordinator for DataWorks (https://dataworkforce.gatech.edu) at Georgia Tech. <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Develop workplace curriculum in job search and professional networking for career transitioning adults.◦ Focus on informal learning and catalyzing self-sustaining workplace communities of practice.	
	Independent	2017 - PRESENT
	Investigation into gatekeeping practices that affect informally trained developers in industry computing communities. Collaboration with Dr. Felienne Hermans. <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Mixed methods research to understand how developers construct their understanding of "real" programming.	
<hr/> AWARDS	Pathbreakers Fellowship – GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	2024
	Graduate Research Fellowship – NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION	2023
	President's Fellowship – GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	2022
<hr/> PUBLICATIONS	Peer-Reviewed Conference and Journal	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Lara Karki, Gabe DuBose, Zajerria Godfrey, Dana Priest, Annabel Rothschild, Benjamin Rydal Shapiro, Betsy DiSalvo. 2025. "A Window into Data Apprenticeship: Developing an Integrated Work-Training Curriculum for Novice Adults". In SIGCSE TS 2025.2. Lara Karki, Kayla Uleah, Carl DiSalvo, Sierra Traynail Ross, Jadin Butler, Selamawit Husein, Emanuel Bryant, Dana Priest, Justin Booker, and Betsy DiSalvo. "'I get hives when I come on here': Persisting Through Platform-Delivered Microaggressions on LinkedIn." <i>Revision Under Review for CSCW 2025.</i>	

3. **Lara Karki**, Idel Martinez-Ramos, Sabine Verdult, Dana Priest, Asher Brown, Felienne Hermans, and Betsy DiSalvo. "There Is No "Real" Programming; There Is Only Mythology of Programming." *Revision Under Review for ACM Transactions on Computing Education*.
4. Carl DiSalvo, Annabel Rothschild, **Lara L. Schenck**, Ben Rydal Shapiro, and Betsy DiSalvo. 2024. "When Workers Want to Say No: A View into Critical Consciousness and Workplace Democracy in Data Work". Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact. 8, CSCW1, Article 156 (April 2024), 24 pages. DOI (<https://doi.org/10.1145/3637433>). *DEI Recognition*.

Short Papers/Posters

1. Lara L. Schenck and Betsy DiSalvo. 2023. "From Data Work to Data Science: Getting Past the Gatekeepers." In Proceedings of the 2023 ACM Conference on International Computing Education Research - Volume 2 (ICER '23), Vol. 2. Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, 1–2. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3568812.3603468>
2. Lara L. Schenck and Betsy DiSalvo. "Computational Work + Workplace Learning: A Pathway to Computing Careers for Adults." IPaT Industry Innovation Day and the GVU Research Showcase, April 2023; CRA Grad Cohort for Women, April 2023.

INDUSTRY CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Generative Art With FizzBuzz in CSS* (invited) at CodeDay – online, 2021
CSS Algorithms at StrangeLoop – St. Louis, 2019
Is CSS a Programming Language? at Abstractions – Pittsburgh, 2019
CSS Algorithms at JS Conf US – San Diego, 2019
Writing CSS Algorithms at CSS Camp – Barcelona, 2019
Algorithms of CSS at CSS Day (invited) – Amsterdam, 2019
CSS is a Programming Language at WordCamp Montclair (invited) – Montclair, NJ, 2019
Bridging the Gap Between Design & Development at WordCamp US – Nashville, 2018
Understanding Today's CSS with Algorithms at SIGNAL (invited) – San Francisco, 2018
The Algorithms of CSS at js.la – Los Angeles, 2018
The Algorithms of CSS at CSSConf EU – Berlin, 2018
Let's Build A Gutenberg Block Workshop at WordCamp EU – Belgrade, 2018
Let's Build A Gutenberg Block at WordCamp San Diego – San Diego, 2018
The Five-figure WordPress Website at Abstractions – Pittsburgh, 2016
Vetting and Choosing Themes at WordCamp Pittsburgh – Pittsburgh, 2016
Why the Designer Failed FizzBuzz at SassConf – Austin, 2015
Sassy WordPress at WordCamp Montreal – Montreal, 2014
Freelancing, Real Talk at WordCamp NYC – NYC, 2014

SKILLS

- Technical:** Full-stack web development, software engineering and architecture, Python and pandas;
Research: Qualitative analysis, mixed-methods, ethnography, engaged scholarship;
Languages: English (Native), Nepali (Advanced)

VOLUNTEER

- CS Classroom Volunteer** – MICROSOFT TEALS 2021 - 2022
 Provide instructor support twice per week for Intro to Computer Science at Westinghouse Academy, a public school in an underserved neighborhood of Pittsburgh.
- Open Source Contributor** – WORDPRESS CORE 2011 - 2022
 Active member, organizer, and contributor in open source WordPress communities.
 - Facilitated weekly Core CSS team meetings to oversee and contribute code to long-term projects improving the maintainability of the WordPress Core CSS code-base.
 - Contribute code updates to WordPress Core.
 - Organize community meetups and conferences vital to maintaining and growing the open-source community.

INDUSTRY OUTREACH

- Mentor**, Learn Teach Code – Los Angeles and online, 2017-2021;
Co-Organizer, Global Diversity CFP Day – Pittsburgh, 2019;
Mentor, Write Speak Code – Los Angeles, 2017-2019;
Mentor, Global Diversity CFP Day – Los Angeles, 2018;
Co-Organizer, WordCamp LA – Los Angeles, 2018;
Founder and organizer, CSS.la – Los Angeles, 2017-2019;
Founder and organizer, CodePen Meetup NYC – NYC, 2014-2016;
Mentor, Presenter, WordPress NYC Meetup – NYC, 2014-2016