MAXINE ELLAH

Web Developer

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Professional profile

I came to web development in January 2016 as a complete beginner. While completing the Enspiral Dev Academy bootcamp, I discovered my love of coding and made it my goal to become the best developer possible.

What excites me the most about web development is the possibility of solving complex problems through creativity and connecting with the world around us.
I'm very passionate about food and languages, both of which have inspired the personal projects I have worked on.

As a recent graduate, I want to continue my learning trajectory in a new career and bring my love of people and problem-solving to the role.

Key skills

Collaboration	Empathy/communication	Fast learner	Creativity
Working with diverse groups of people is something I love and get satisfaction from seeing things grow from working as part of a team.	Understanding and being in tune with the people around me is something I take pride in. It has enabled me to work well with others and form strong connections.	I have a proven ability to grasp challenging concepts fast and thrive in environments where learning is continuous.	The best solutions come from unconventional ideas and I enjoy using my creativity to solve complex problems.

Projects

Project: **Tandem**
Link: http://tandem-nz.herokuapp.com
Git: https://github.com/Tandem-NZ/tandem
Skills: Project planning, time-management, presentation, Agile, Node.js, HTML, CSS, jQuery, Express.js, Nightwatch, Selenium

Tandem is a mobile ride sharing app which aims to connect travellers and drivers around New Zealand, a concept I pitched to my class mates who chose to develop it as our final, five-day group project. As product owner I provided a roadmap for the project and ensured every team member felt comfortable working on components which aligned with their learning objectives. I also helped write the search functionality allowing users to search a database of available rides, as well as writing unit and integration tests using the testing modules Tape, Nightwatch and Selenium.

As a team of six good communication was imperative. We used Agile processes such as regular standups and pair-programming to assess our progress and maintain an efficient workflow. At the beginning of the project we had quite loose roles, but soon it was clear we needed more direction as we were getting a lot of merge conflicts which took time to resolve. I took on the role of 'Gitmaster' and defined our Gitflow. As a result we had minimal conflicts and my team members were able to focus on coding rather than being stressed trying to resolve them.

Project: **Tongue**
Link: http://tongue123.herokuapp.com
Git: https://github.com/maxine-ellah/Tongue
Skills: HTML, CSS, Handlebars.js, PostgreSQL, Knex, Express.js, Superagent, jQuery, React

Tongue is an app to help new migrants practice their English and French pronunciation. Users can browse through a database of commonly used words and are provided with an image and sound clip which repeats the word. Learners of all ages can practice at their own pace and improve their language skills through repetition.
This project was hugely rewarding because I was able to target technologies I had never used before, like the PostgreSQL database, deploying the app onto the Heroku platform and using sound files. I am currently working on incorporating React into it.

Project: **Bored Banana**
Git: https://github.com/maxine-ellah/Bored-Banana
Skills: HTML, CSS, Handlebars.js, Superagent, jQuery, Express.js, Moment.js

Bored Banana is a food expiration app to help cut down food wastage. This was the first personal project I made at EDA, and I gained a great deal of confidence in using technologies I had learned, in practice. Building the project gave me a solid understanding of the Express.js server, client-side rendering with Superagent and the Handlebars templating engine. I was also glad I challenged myself further by using the Moment.js module to write the expiration-timer functions.

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Career History

Enspiral Dev Academy (EDA) *Jan 2016 - Jun 2016*
Web Development Bootcamp

This was an intensive web development course involving 9 weeks of remote part-time study, which I balanced while working, and 12 weeks of bootcamp style accelerated learning.
Prior to EDA I had no programming experience and during my time there, I built two self-directed personal projects using technologies I had never used, as well as working on weekly group projects and leading a team of 6 in our final week-long group project.

We covered the full stack in JavaScript and Node.js and the course also had a strong focus on developing soft skills. As a result I gained an enormous amount of confidence in my public speaking, approaching conversations of a sensitive nature and most vitally, understanding the importance of empathy in the workplace.

Space Furniture Group (Melbourne) *Jan 2015 - Sep 2015*
Warehouse Administrator

Main duties performed:
Worked as part of a small team to deliver large volumes of furniture across Australia and internationally. Scheduled deliveries with clients to meet strict deadlines and assisted them with detailed information on hundreds of products.
Responsible for verifying all financial transactions and reporting the company's revenue at the end of each month.

(Time gap between these roles due to travel)

Wellington City Council *Sept 2013 - May 2014*
Executive Assistant & Office Administrator

Main duties performed:
Worked closely with the manager of Parks, Sport and Recreation assisting with email and diary management, as well as arranging meetings and appointments.
Assisted his direct reports with travel arrangements, online recruitment and event organisation.

New Zealand Transport Agency *May 2013 – Sept 2013*
Personal Assistant & Technical Assistant
Main duties performed:
Assisted the Pavements manager and his team by preparing PowerPoint presentations for weekly meetings, reconciled monthly work expenses and arranged international travel, including accommodation and conference registration. Helped with new website for NZTA manuals including creation of layouts and proofreading.

Wellington City Council   *Mar 2013 – May 2013*
Public Health Administrator
Main duties performed:
Provided support for the whole Public Health department with the distribution of Health & Liquor licences, ensured the daily licence interviews went to schedule, updated the department's database software and order processing of Public Health resources to other organisations.

Health Promotion Agency   *Aug 2012 – Feb 2013*
Office Administrator & Program Support
Main duties performed:
Provided comprehensive administrative support for the HPA Board, Chief Executive, HR manager and office manager. Data entry of invoices, maintained relationships with stakeholders, responded in a timely manner to public information requests and organised conferences and seminars.

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Education

Bachelor In Creative Technologies   *Dec 2008 – Nov 2011*
WelTec

Some of my work: https://maxine-ellah.github.io/Maxine-Art

A 3-year degree which focused on the development of technical skills in Design and Visual Arts.

Practical skills gained through study:

-    Working collaboratively
-    Creative thinking and problem solving
-    Working to tight deadlines
-    Ability to give and receive feedback on work
-    Experience of Adobe creative suite programs Illustrator, InDesign and Photoshop

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Referees available on request