

# MELODY STERN

## SOFTWARE DEVELOPER

I am both creative and analytical. I have a strong drive to understand how things work and to create, and I have always been drawn to fields which allow me to best express those sides of myself. Working in a creative discipline for the last 12 years was fulfilling artistically, but I deeply missed using my analytical skills – I didn't even realize how much until I started programming. Coding allows me to put my passion for logic to use, and it feels good to do something at which I excel. I am able to marry my artistic skills with development. Since my first brush with code, I have reconnected with a very important part of myself – the side that uses logic and creative-problem solving to create something of value, and that is a strong indication that I am in the right place.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## EDUCATION

### Nashville Software School

BOOTCAMP • JAVASCRIPT • REACT • PYTHON

### Columbia College Chicago

BA IN PHOTOGRAPHY

- Participated in highly selective accelerated film program covering all aspects of film making from editing, screenwriting, directing, and sound design to film history



## WORK EXPERIENCE

### Full Stack Developer

NASHVILLE SOFTWARE SCHOOL  
OCT 2019 TO PRESENT

6-month-long accelerated, rigorous program of study focused on developing competence in Python/Django, Javascript, React, HTML5 and CSS3. Curriculum hinges on group and individual projects to cement learning.

#### Front End Capstone:

Braineaser is a single page app built with React, Material UI, Chart.js and Cloudinary designed to help users manage their anxiety through a combination of education, journaling prompts, science-backed interventions, real-time tracking of mood and mood-management strategies to help users manage their moods.

<https://github.com/melliemuse/Brain-easer>

#### Group Projects:

- Launched a single-page app with a team using React. Responsible for developing news and friends sections and styling using Material UI.
- Developed a dashboard-style single-page app with a team using Vanilla Javascript. Responsible for developing messages section, pair programming the task list section, creating containers for each component and universal css. Created an ERD and wireframes as a team.
- Executed a website allowing users to search for restaurants, concerts, parks, and meetups local to Nashville. Group project with a heavy focus on dynamic site creation using Javascript and querying information from APIs. Responsible for the meetup section. Created wireframes as a team.
- Created a tribute website for a famous artist utilizing HTML5, CSS3, and GitHub. Created career page and corresponding CSS. Pair programmed main page and main CSS. Created wireframes as a team.

### Photographer Editor

MELODY STERN PHOTOGRAPHY  
MAR 2010 TO SEP 2019

- Published photojournalist/ photo editor with the Chicagoist, an online periodical
- Transformed existing imagery into beautifully edited, client pleasing pieces using Bridge, Lightroom and Photoshop
- Created maintained professional website using Wordpress
- Optimized images for output on the web
- Studio, headshot, event, portrait, product photography

## Photo Assistant

FREELANCE

MAR 2010 TO SEP 2019

- Color-correcting and retouching images using Lightroom, Bridge and Adobe Photoshop
- Managing remote capture and QA image sharpness using Capture One
- Shooting HD video
- Steaming garments
- Preparing subjects and changing models
- Setting up backgrounds, furniture, props, lights and quick-changing sets
- Stylist assisting
- Assisting clients with image selection
- Grey carding
- Editing scripts on the fly

## Photo Retoucher • Photographer • Designer

ABBVIE

APR 2016 TO APR 2018

- Shot original photographs, combined them with existing portraits and a selection of stock photographs and transformed them into animation-ready, highly stylized works of art for award-winning and critically acclaimed videos
- Produced 40+ composited digitally painted images featuring top leadership personally requested by AbbVie's president based on the critical reception of the imagery produced for the awards video
- Contributed to internal agency brainstorming sessions, providing rapid-fire creative campaign concepts in a collaborative environment
- Consistently delivered assets against tight deadlines for print, web, and large scale applications
- Shot in-studio, and on-location product, portrait, and event photography, managing logistics, setup, and teardown
- Demonstrated expertise across Adobe suite of design tools to create and enhance design work for magazine ads, branded trade shows, and internal campaigns
- Technologies used: Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Perfect Resize, Bridge, Lightroom

## Photo Retoucher

BMG MODELS AND TALENT

MAR 2010 TO SEP 2019

- Maintained realism while optimizing the appearance of models and images
- Retouched skin and hair, removing and minimizing distractions
- Adjusted contrast and color

- Employed techniques such as compositing, cloning, healing, tonal retouching
- Demonstrated advanced skills with photo printing through the production of model comp cards
- Optimized images and resumes for model profiles on the company website

## Event Photographer

J.R. OWEN & CO.

MAR 2010 TO SEP 2019

- Executed on-location group and individual portraiture
- Staged subjects for posed images
- Lit scenes using a combination of strobes, on-camera-flash and natural light
- Employed a photojournalistic style when capturing candid/ action photographs
- Coordinated with other photographers to ensure we created a variety of images between us

## Photo Booth Operator

J.R. OWEN & CO.

APR 2013 - AUG 2015

- Managed on-site photo booth operations from start to finish
- Ensured users had a seamless and enjoyable experience
- Oversaw memory book creation
- Oversaw image delivery using an FTP server

## Event Photographer

LELAND JASON / DIAMOND EVENTS GROUP

MAY 2012 - AUG 2015

- Employed photojournalistic, action, and posed styles
- Utilized on-camera flash, natural light, and strobes
- Retouched color-corrected images, batch editing
- Optimized images for web

## Portrait Photographer (Seasonal)

VAN GOGH SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHERS

JUN 2014 - AUG 2014

- Set up and operated strobes
- Executed posed portrait photography sessions
- Created layouts for finished portraits

## Sales Associate

CALUMET PHOTOGRAPHIC

NOV 2011 - MAR 2013

- Won store-wise and regional sales contest
- Communicated customized product recommendations customer education built relationships
- Initiated training for employees on DOS POS system
- Delivered product photography for Ebay sales