NICK GERTONSON

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Independent UX Designer & Web Developer   Sept 2018 - Present
- Provided UX design and development services for multiple clients across the country, including:
  - **Poetry Foundation (UX Designer)**
    Designed wireframes, mockups, and interactive prototypes to be used in a forthcoming website for *Poetry Out Loud* - a poetry recitation contest funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. The goal for this project was to design a modern site that appealed to both students and their teachers while increasing traffic to important contest resources.
  - **Seward Johnson Atelier (Web Consultant and UX Designer)**
    Took over maintenance on a legacy Wordpress installation for a sculpture conservatory in California and made drastic improvements to site functionality and performance - refactoring obsolete PHP, HTML, JavaScript and CSS while also designing and deploying a new homepage and mobile navigation experience.
  - **Greene Advertising (Web Contractor and UX Designer)**
    Developed web projects, designed custom HTML email templates, and provided technical support for companies and individuals throughout the Denver area.

Northwestern University Academic & Research Technologies, Evanston, IL

UI/UX Designer and Front-End Developer   Feb 2013 - Sept 2018
- Led a variety of UX design efforts as the primary UX/product designer on a small and agile development team within Northwestern's Academic and Research Technologies group.
- Designed a mobile game that increased student engagement in a university-wide study of Nate Silver's book, *The Signal and the Noise,* that leveraged the familiar and easy to use UX or modern dating apps to teach Silver's statistical methodologies.
- Guided a user-centered design process for the development of a financial management system built with Vue.js on AWS.
  - Interpreted UX research data and served as an intermediary between test users, project stakeholders, and developers.
  - Crafted a flexible design system that complimented the University's central design system and branding guidelines.
  - Contributed to front-end development by writing responsive SASS/SCSS, HTML and JavaScript.
  - Recognized with a *Project Team Excellence Award* in 2016
- Consulted with an enterprise software management group to customize an Oracle PeopleSoft 9.2 installation, bringing the stock user interface into alignment with the University's central design system after briefly studying the unfamiliar technology.
  - Wrote detailed implementation documentation and created style guides for the development team.
  - Recognized with a *Project Team Excellence Award* in 2017.
- Worked across departments within the University to create animations, print materials, and presentation templates.

Northwestern Advanced Media Production Studio, Evanston, IL

Student Media Specialist   Sep 2009 - Feb 2013
- Operated camera equipment and served as a production assistant for online course videos and live-event recordings.
- Edited multi-camera video in Premiere and created motion graphics and titles in AfterEffects.

EDUCATION

Northwestern University - B.S. Communications   Graduated June 2012

SKILLS

Sketch, Figma, InVision Studio, Adobe Creative Cloud (XD, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, AfterEffects, Premiere), Framer X, SASS/SCSS, CSS, HTML, JavaScript, PHP, Vue.js, Git, Wordpress, Drupal, Keynote, PowerPoint

INTERESTS

Chicago White Sox Baseball, Road Trips, YouTube Tutorials, Bonfires, and the Wisconsin Dells.