

TODD GEHMAN

Software Humanist



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🚱 https://toddgehman.com

OBJECTIVE

Creative, seasoned web application software generalist and team/product/project manager attuned to language, design, usability, and the transformative humanist power of internet software. Having settled in New York City after extensive global travel, I'm seeking greater NYC companies who do social good (health, human rights, equality, education) or facilitate human experience and creativity (arts, music, software, travel, productivity).

EMPLOYMENT

Software Consultant at Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting

http://fair.org

Part time, pro bono software support for this excellent media

December 2015 — Present watchdog group: MySQL database manipulation, custom PHP development for Wordpress, etc.

Director of Engineering at Experi

https://experi.com

Lead greenfield development of a universal Rails web application

August 2014 — March 2016
designed to serve the public website, manage intranet and extranet systems for employees and third parties, and auto-generate design-intensive travel documents as PDFs. Hired, tutored, and managed a junior developer.

Director of Engineering at Orbridge

https://mv.orbridge.com

Operating as the entire tech team on a greenfield intranet & July 2012 — July 2014 extranet system for this global travel startup, executed all roles from sysadmin to full-stack Rails developer to project/product manager, including much of the UI/UX design. The web application managed group travel trip creation from the standpoint of employees and third parties as well as guest reservations while also integrating with the public CMS website's existing database.

Senior Web Developer at Vittana

June 2011 - June 2012

Taking the reigns on an abandoned Rails codebase and Wordpress blog, operated primarily as one-man development team for this nonprofit Microfinance startup, handling all technology tasks from sysadmin to CSS. Evangelized design, recruited and hired a designer, and launched site-wide design overhaul. Designed and built intranet and extranet system to handle data administration, metrics reporting, and student/partner information management tasks. Hired and managed three Rails developers through an outsourcing firm until and after hiring in-house Web Development help.

Senior Developer at Urban Influence Design Studio

http://urbaninfluence.com

Client-based, design-centered web development in PHP, Wordpress, and Drupal. Full-stack web app development with Ruby on Rails.

February 2010 – June 2011

Founder, Full-stack Developer & Designer at Major White

March 2007 - February 2013

Offered custom, free (and clutter-free) websites to photographers based on their select portfolios using Rails software synced with the Flickr API, served via either siloed subdomain or custom domain.

Software Development Engineer at Robot Co-op

October 2004 - July 2009

Full-stack Ruby on Rails development on our suite of "useful social-networking" sites, most notably 43 Things, one of the earliest and most heavily trafficked Rails sites. Sole developer on Neighborhood Watch, a spam and abuse policing application using automation and user consensus to vet site content.

Web Development Manager at Amazon.com

https://www.amazon.com July 1998 — September 2004

Serving as a member of Amazon's centralized web developmen team, launched dozens of customer-facing and internal web products to transition Amazon from book store to much more. Primary responsibilities included building out Amazon's template layer using a proprietary scripting language, and acting as lead developer for Amazon's product detail page. Became Lead Web Developer for Amazon's Personalization team, the first decentralized, mission-based "startup" within the broader company. Transitioned from Lead Developer to Web Development Manager, hiring and managing a team of eight developers. Launching dozens of cutting-edge web products, we ushered Amazon into its current model of serving page content that is largely personalized to each user and mostly automated to minimize employee/editorial overhead. Sole project manager and software developer on Amazon's first digital music sampler, a stand-alone web app built with Real/WMP JavaScript APIs. Lead Developer for the Digital Technology group, responsible for the digitization of humanity's published works and handling the purchase and curation of digital consumer goods.

Founder & Sole Proprieter at Hopville & Beer Calculus

February 1996 - April 2013

Created this popular geeky/social site for amateur and small-scale professional brewers. Beer Calculus (standalone from 1998-2008) provided recipe calculation tools for small-scale professional and amateur brewers. Hopville leveraged Beer Calculus into a social network centered around the creation, calculation, and sharing of brewing recipes. In 2013 the Hopville brand, database, and software were acquired by Ackmann & Dickenson, makers of competitor site Brewtoad.com.

Webmaster at Cellar Homebrew

December 1994 – July 1998

Greenfield development of the online presence and e-commerce store for this mom & pop retail shop purveying brewing and winemaking supplies. Independently created and managed all aspects, from the design to the database. Created the world's first online beer recipe calculator tool, later split off into its own service.

EDUCATION

Photographic Center Northwest

Pennsylvania State University

Fine Art Photography January 2005 — January 2009

Integrative Arts January 1988 – January 1994

HONORS

2005 Webby Award for Social Networking: 43 Things

November 2005

Awarded to the Robot Co-op for our flagship site.

Amazon "Bar Raiser" role and "Just Do It" award

October 1999

Invited and cultivated into Bar Raiser program for excellence in recruiting/interviewing. Lead several web developer interview loops per week with sole veto power. Awarded Just Do It recognition for exemplifying bias for action.

SKILLS JOB-RELATED

- Recruiting, Ruby on Rails, Ruby, Team & Project Management, SASS/CSS, HAML/HTML, CoffeeScript/JavaScript
- MySQL, PHP, Drupal, Linux, UI/UX Design, Perl, Wordpress, Amazon Web Services, Vue.js