

Richard Álvarez

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About Me

IT support specialist and web developer with experience in troubleshooting, device configuration, and cloud/web systems. Skilled in Windows 10/11 administration, ServiceNow, and full-stack web development (Next.js, Node.js). Certified in CompTIA Security+ and ITF+, with AWS Cloud Practitioner in progress. Background in film sharpened my teamwork, creative problem-solving, and ability to manage projects under deadlines.

Certificates

CompTIA Security+ Sep 2025

AWS Cloud Practitioner In Progress – Expected Dec 2025

CompTIA ITF+ Sep 2024

Work Experience

Freelance Web Developer

Remote

Self-Employed

2020 – Present

Design, build, and maintain custom web applications for clients in creative and commercial industries. Translate business needs into responsive, high-performance websites. Provide technical documentation and training as needed.

- Built a full-stack e-commerce platform for a skate brand using Next.js, Tailwind CSS, and Node.js, with Stripe API integration and secure checkout.
- Developed a dynamic portfolio site for a cinematographer with a custom CMS and optimized video hosting via DigitalOcean.
- Created GRE vocabulary flashcard app using LangChain + OpenAI, with authentication and persistent user data.
- Delivered sites with 95%+ Lighthouse scores, focused on speed, accessibility, and mobile optimization.

Competition Support Engineer

Multiple Locations

BDPA High School Coding Competition · Volunteer

Apr 2024 – Present

Set up 18 laptops for a coding competition for nine youth teams, including OS flashing and hardware configuration. Managed troubleshooting requests during the live event and supported faculty and judges on technical setup. Assisted in inventory management and system checks pre/post competition.

LEGO STEM Instructor

Chicago, Illinois

Play-Well TEKnologies · Part-time

Oct 2024 – Dec 2024

Taught STEM-focused LEGO classes to children, introducing engineering and problem-solving concepts through hands-on activities. Managed classroom engagement, ensured safety, and adapted instruction to diverse learning styles. Communicated effectively with parents and staff to provide updates and address concerns.

IT Assistant

Gambier, OH

Kenyon College Library & Information Services · Part-time

Sep 2023 – Feb 2024

I supported campus-wide technology needs by preparing workstations, moving office tech, and securely erasing and recycling equipment. I restocked printers daily. I demolished hard drives. I conducted classroom checks under the guidance of team members. I streamlined team projects by applying programming skills, in one instance by generating a spreadsheet of course meetings and classroom locations to determine when our techs could perform maintenance.

Education

Kenyon College

Aug 2020 – May 2024

Bachelor of Arts in Film; GPA: 3.4/4.0

Gambier, OH

Minor in History; Concentration in Integrated Program in Humane Studies

Skills

Systems: Windows 10/11, macOS, Linux fundamentals, Active Directory, Azure AD, Office 365, Exchange

Networking: TCP/IP, DNS, DHCP, VPN, firewalls, remote access

Security: Endpoint protection, patch management, access controls, SIEM monitoring, incident response

Support Tools: ServiceNow, Jira, Zendesk, RDP, TeamViewer

Cloud: AWS (IAM, EC2, S3), Microsoft 365, Google Workspace, VMware, Hyper-V

Hardware: Device imaging, workstation setup, printer/scanner support, mobile device management

Web Projects

Joaquin Morales <i>Portfolio</i>	Jun 2025 <i>joaquinmoralesdp.com</i>
Designed and deployed a dynamic portfolio site for a professional cinematographer. The project used Next.js for high performance, with Tailwind CSS for responsive design. Implemented a custom CMS to enable efficient content updates, managing galleries and testimonials with ease. Leveraged DigitalOcean S3 storage for scalability and fast load times for video and photo content.	
Machine Television <i>Online Store</i>	Oct 2024 <i>machinetelevision.com</i>
Developed a functional e-commerce platform for an independent skate brand. The site was built using Next.js and Tailwind CSS for an intuitive front-end, paired with Node.js for a robust back-end infrastructure. Integrated Stripe API for seamless payment processing, optimizing user workflows across desktop and mobile.	
GREasyVocab Flashcards <i>Web App</i>	Jul 2024 <i>Inactive</i>
Created a personalized GRE vocabulary tool powered by OpenAI's APIs. The application leverages LangChain to provide personalized prompts tailored to user inputted data. Developed a secure full-stack system with user authentication and database management, ensuring a smooth and customized learning experience.	

Publications

A Retrieval-Augmented Film Recommendation System Digital Kenyon	May 8th 2024 GitHub
Utilized LangChain's OpenAI integration to dynamically generate queries based on user preferences. Developed using Node.js and integrated with the OMDb and TMDb APIs to enhance movie metadata, delivering precise recommendations.	
Captivating Video Editing Secrets Digital Kenyon	May 23rd 2023 GitHub
Analyzed short-format video editing trends using PySceneDetect and Deep Neural Networks for unsupervised clustering, uncovering editing patterns and creative decisions.	