SAM MESSINA

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EDUCATION

B.S. Computer Science | Southern Illinois University Jan. 2014 - May 2018

Michigan State University Aug. 2010 - Dec. 2011

WORK EXPERIENCE

Front End Developer | TopstepTrader June 2018 - Present

- Architected **micro frontend** solution to migrate from an **Angular 2** monolith into a leaner, **React** solution
- Led front end engineering team across a tech stacks including **Angular 2**, **React**, **Python Django** templates, **Hubspot HubL**, custom **Wordpress** themes, native **HTML/CSS/JavaScript**, and custom **MJML** email templates
- Designed, developed, and implemented a reusable component library, using **Webpack** to compile modular **ES6+ JavaScript** and **SCSS** into static, cross-browser-ready **JavaScript** and **CSS**
- Improved first paint time 300% through a site migration from **Wordpress** to a faster **Node** and **Gulp** solution
- Led front end developer hiring by creating technical tests and interview processes to verify candidates' skills
- Administrated tracking pixels, analytics solutions, and attribution systems to monitor all **digital marketing** efforts

Web Developer Intern | MacUpdate June 2016 - Sept. 2017

- Designed and implemented a front end build process using **Grunt** and **Node**, which fully automated caching, bundling, and minification of front end assets, and reduced average page size by 15%, or ~250KB per page
- Organized an **SEO** audit and action plan, resulting in an organic search increase of 20%, or 30k+ sessions weekly
- Introduced the site's first responsive design with a responsive navigation bar and footer using **Bootstrap**, **jQuery/JavaScript, CSS**, and **HTML**
- Developed a customizable, metadata-driven automatic email system using **PHP** and **MySQL**, allowing better targeted email campaigns

Student Developer | Southern Illinois University Jan. 2014 - May 2018

- Authored custom web pages, forms, and apps for university departments using **HTML**, **CSS**, **JavaScript**, and **PHP**
- Designed and authored **Python** applications to automate bottlenecks in the team's recurring workflows
- Organized and led classes detailing basic **HTML**, content creation, and best **UI/UX** practices for >200 users
- Improved **SEO** site-wide through HTML meta descriptions, titles, content tags, structured data, and page content

Musician | Self-Employed May 2010 - Jan. 2014

PERSONAL PROJECTS

WAILto wailto.smessina.com 2019

WAILto is a music history analysis app. Using **Node**, **React Hooks**, and **PostgreSQL**, WAILto provides modular, extensible data analysis and **data visualizations** on Last.fm data.

personaList personalist.smessina.com 2018

PersonaList allows users to add comments to Spotify playlists, allowing for more collaborative playlist creation. PersonaList uses the **Spotify API**, a **Node server**, and **React Hooks** to acheive a functional model throughout the app.

Git Flow gitflow.smessina.com 2017

Git Flow is an interactive git tutorial that walks users through a git workflow via a step-by-step flowchart. Written in **React**, content is dynamically generated using **React** component state as users work through the flowchart.

Languages

JavaScript, HTML, CSS, SCSS, Python, PHP, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Java, Bash C

Libraries

React, AngularJS, Angular 2-4, jQuery, Bootstrap, Node, Django, Wordpress, SCSS

Tools

Git, Webpack, Gulp, Grunt, Linux Vim, Hubspot, Google Analytics & Search Console,