

RUTH WAGNER

web design and development

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I'm a developer with an eye for design who loves to take great ideas and make them real, usable, and beautiful. Most recently I worked with Chalk.com to develop their new app, Markboard. The focus was to make an online tool for teachers to plug marks into as easily as writing them down on a piece of paper. We interviewed a variety of local teachers and studied their workflows, from the oldschool to the gadget lovers. Using their feedback we designed features like attaching documents, comments, and rubrics to marks. The teachers can also track their coverage of standards by attaching them to each assessment., and they can and view a profile page of each student that compiles all their marks and teacher's comments (perfect for bringing up in parent-teacher conferences). It was exciting to watch the new release roll out cleanly, after having programmed and tested it for a tight deadline as part of a team of two. Working on education technology really opened my eyes to how much room there is for that industry to grow, and how huge of an impact well designed innovations can make on the world in the hands of passionate educators.

EXPERIENCE

Chalk.com - Software Engineer - Spring 2014

- Implemented UI redesign for Planboard app.
- Gained customer service experience answering help emails.
- Developed new app Markboard.

Communitech - Application Developer- Fall 2013

- Developed prototype application that provides analytics on relationships between user-specified events.
- Created UI wireframes for the web and mobile components of a productivity dashboard.
- Researched ideas for an iOS app making use of the new Urthecast API ("real time" space photographs).

Jugnoo - Web Developer- Winter 2013

- Led the development of the re-branded website.
- Developed a prototype application for gathering data on intent for use in natural language parsing features.
- Fixed bugs and performed updates on the application and website.

Mabel's Labels - Web Developer- Spring 2012

- Performed updates and fixes on the website.
- Developed functional test suites for the e-commerce portions of the website.
- Created graphical elements for the website.

Freelance Web Development

The project didn't end up going anywhere, but I learned a lot about how I work and communicate, as well as how to talk to and negotiate with clients who may not know much about technology.

TECHNOLOGY EXPERIENCE CLOUD

Node.js Foundation Backbone.js
HTML jQuery Sass Postgres MySQL
Photoshop CSS PHP Ruby On Rails Balsamiq Mockups
Javascript CoffeeScript Git SVN UNIX Ember.js
Illustrator Mongo.db

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Honours Psychology Major, Computer Science Minor

Computer Science - CS246: Object-Oriented Software Development, CS245: Logic and Computation, CS251: Computer Organization and Design
Research Methods - Psych291: Basic Research Methods
Psychology - Psych207: Cognitive Processes, Psych253: Social Psychology
Super Cool Elective - Fine275: Calligraphy to Conceptual Art: Text as an Image in Islamic and East Asian Visual Arts

WHAT ELSE?

I love unwinding by knitting (especially sweaters and lace shawls), reading, and playing artsy video games.

I play violin and have been a member of many orchestras. I'm currently playing principal violin for a production of Fiddler on the Roof, and a member of orchestra@uwaterloo.

I also enjoy photography, especially portrait photography, and had the opportunity to take some wedding photos over the summer. A sampling can be checked out at ruthwagner.ca