

Jake McKenna

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Summary Statement:

Game Development professional. Graduate from Drexel University, awarded a B.S. in Game Design & Production. Currently enrolled in Graduate Studies at Monmouth University. Self directed worker, excellent project management skills with a keen ability to identify and execute creative solutions to complex problems.

Professional Work Experience:

December 2022 - Present

Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX

SAIC (Air Force Research Laboratory)

Associate Software Engineer

Manager: Dr. Peter Smith (210) 367-7489

Design and develop scientifically accurate laser-glare system in Unity game engine. Debug existing simulation systems. Collect data on VR hardware to inform development.

September 2022 - Present

West Long Branch, NJ (Remote/Onsite)

Monmouth University

Graduate Research Assistant

Manager: Dr. Jiacun Wang (732) 571-4449

Developing an real-time pathfinding application for use in emergency evacuations at Monmouth University. Conducting research into the efficacy of different pathfinding methodologies. Using Unity 3D to develop and test different pathfining solutions. Documenting research in anticipation of publication.

October 2021 - October 2022

Spearfish SD (Remote)

Black Hills Information Security

Augmented Reality Developer

Manager: Jonathan Bevers (347) 345-6980

Developed, deployed, and supported an Augmented Reality experience at an internet security conference. Responsibilities included 3D design, programing, animation, design, organization and project management. Worked in a self-directed fast-paced environment.

July - September 2015, 2016, 2018

New York, NY

Zweig-Dimenna Associates

Technology Intern

Manager: Evelyn Sklar (212) 960-3269

Assisted in a rebuild of the company's computer infrastructure. Converted many on-premises computers to Azure cloud-hosted systems. Handled the identification and disposal of sensitive information on obsolete computer systems. Drafted and implemented technology compliance policies in accordance with FINRA and SEC regulations. Researched a new data-driven approach to calculating stock market indicators.

March - September 2017

Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General
Consumer Protection Intern

Philadelphia, PA

Manager: Jason Culler / Janis Parrilla (215) 560-2270

Assisted agents with investigations of local businesses. Researched cases and compiled reports on open investigations. Conducted phone interviews with consumers and businesses involved in investigations.

January 2014 - January 2015

Caffeine Digital

Manalapan, NJ (Remote)

Marketing Affiliate

Operated as a digital marketing affiliate on Twitter. Managed a network of accounts with approximately one million followers. Promoted various products as a part of online marketing campaigns. Created themed content and negotiated promotional agreements with other affiliates.

Education:

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA

Bachelor of Science June 2021 *Game Design & Production* | GPA: 3.32 / 4.0 | *Dean's List: Spring 2018, Winter 2018 & Spring 2019*

Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ

Master of Science *Expected Graduation June 2024* | GPA: 4.0

Volunteer Experience / Activities:

March 2020

Boston, MA

PAX East Panelist

Panelist, "Looting Our More Complete Selves: How Items Shape Character". Gave a panel presentation about the topic of experiential storytelling in video games with a group of game designers.

December 2019

Philadelphia, PA

PAX Unplugged Panelist

Panelist, "The Process of Evolution: Playtesting as Editing" Gave a panel presentation with a group of multidisciplinary creatives on the topic of creative process and storytelling through character creation.

May - November 2016

Philadelphia, PA

Lebow College of Business Peer Leadership Program

Underwent a highly selective interview process to serve as a teaching assistant for the Lebow freshman orientation class. Created weekly presentations for the class, offered one on one mentoring, and organized fundraising efforts for charity. Created promotional materials for the incoming freshman class.

October 2016

Philadelphia, PA

Maguire Leadership Program

Volunteered at a summer leadership program at Drexel's Lebow College of Business. Participated in a day long seminar for Philadelphia area elementary school students that included presentations and running activities.