

Aric D. Watson

5593 Morgan Road

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

aric.watson@gmail.com

734.218-4650

SUMMARY:

- 21 years of direct web development experience
- Master's degree in Human-Computer Interaction from the University of Michigan
- Bachelor's degree in History from Denison University.

CAPABILITIES:

- Has worked in Agile, EOS and XP methodologies
- Experience building, securing, optimizing, updating and maintaining websites and web-based applications in a mainly LAMP environment.
- Experienced with a wide variety of technologies including PHP, Python, Perl, Jira, Postgres, MySQL, HTML, CSS, Javascript, jQuery, React, Smarty, Magento, ColdFusion, Git, VirtualBox, Vagrant, TDD, JSON, XML, Angular, AWS – and many others.
- Years of experience developing clean, reactive, hand-coded cross-browser compliant front-end code.
- Nine years of experience maintaining, expanding and updating high-profile, high-traffic websites operating in a load-balanced cluster environment.
- Skilled at working directly and collaboratively with clients and end-users
- Highly proficient with Windows, Mac and Linux systems
- Quick learner, experienced troubleshooter
- Experienced in auditing codebases for security best practices, as well as diagnosing and responding to compromised websites
- Usability expertise, including running user tests and focus groups, analyzing results, and developing tools to facilitate testing different information architectures with users.
- Experienced podcaster and audio editor
- Experienced conference presenter and booth worker

EDUCATION:

Master of Information Science, Human-Computer Interaction Focus

University of Michigan School of Information, graduated 1999.

Coursework focused on usability, organization of information and using information technology in real environments. Courses included:

- Evaluation of Systems and Services
- Web Design and Development

- Database Design

Bachelor of Arts, History

Denison University, Granville OH, graduated 1997.

Wide variety of history courses, also some coursework in Computer Science.

EXPERIENCE:

Amber Engine – Detroit, MI – Director of Operations

October 2016 – present

- Designed and managed processes in a rapidly changing, b2b environment
- Collaboratively worked on new product using TDD based Angular.
- Worked with senior leadership to optimize process and fix issues in a dynamic environment
- As a developer, learned a new stack and several new methodologies
- Developed a good working understanding of home furnishings industry
- Managed and implemented transition to new CMS
- Developed relationships with important members of the Magento community
- Learned about and helped maintain AWS infrastructure

Nexcess – Ann Arbor, MI – Web developer

November, 2007 – October, 2016

- Developed and implemented SEO and online marketing strategies for Nexcess. Primary supporting developer for important clients with large, high-traffic websites, developed systems to integrate with existing and third-party systems.
- Primary developer and troubleshooter for X17online.com, CrazyMonkeyGames.com, JoBlo.com, duties included design, development, SEO, maintenance, major redesigns and direct client relations.
- [Lead developer on Magento Turpentine, a Magento extension allowing Magento to work with Varnish – including developer relations via github](#)
- Collaborated on development of Sentry, a two-factor authentication extension for Magento
- Conceived and developed Alarmbell, a Magento security extension
- [Assisted Nexcess clients with Mageno/Varnish/Turpentine issues](#)
- [Represented Nexcess at various conferences](#) and meetups, including writing and delivering talks
- Skilled at troubleshooting in diverse environments, requiring expertise in analyzing and fixing problems in externally-developed applications.

Snapdragon - Co-Founder

May 2002 – Present – Co-Owner and technical director

- Established a reputable web design and development company working servicing clients including the University of Michigan, Flint Ink, Amazon and Recycle Ann Arbor

- Developed software to allow for rapid iteration and testing of different information architectures to meet the requirements of the UM Comprehensive Cancer Center.
- Developed and maintained a tracking system to allow the UM Dental School to track families for a multi-year study, as well as quiz and questionnaire systems used both for the study and for classwork.
- Built and maintain custom ecommerce and CMS platforms for clients.

Diamond Bullet Design, Ann Arbor MI - Web Developer

May, 1998 – May, 1999 - Intern and part-time employee

May, 1999 – August, 2002 – Full time web developer

- Refined deep grounding in developing highly usable, professional websites
- Worked with a wide variety of technologies on which I was self taught
- Direct liaison with clients
- Developed a variety of web applications, including ecommerce systems and time-tracking systems that are still used.

REFERENCES:

Available on request.