

John Kestner

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Objective

To learn surprising things and use them to tell interesting stories through designed products and environments.

Experience

Research Assistant, MIT Media Lab

Cambridge, MA (August 2008 - August 2010)

Research Assistant in the Information Ecology group. Design and construction of working software and hardware prototypes to explore interactions between humans, information and networked objects.

Interaction Design Intern, IDEO

Cambridge, MA (January 2010 - February 2010)

Design and prototyping of physical/digital interactions for design explorations and client projects.

Design Consultant, independent

Tempe, AZ (October 2004 - present)

Design and management of print and interactive projects, including websites, digital signage, packaging, advertising, corporate identity and illustration.

Design Analyst, Target

Minneapolis, MN (summer 2007)

Research and development of new product and service concepts in the Innovation group.

Lead Digital Designer/Webmaster, U-Haul International

Phoenix, AZ (May 1997 - September 2004)

Created the central uhaul.com site from scratch and guided the customer experience for the company's online projects that followed. Analyzed usage data and applied interface principles in design decisions. Wrote the copy for uhaul.com. Created the company's first portal site for 15,000 U-Haul dealers.

Built eMove Moving Help, an eBay-like marketplace that matches moving families with customer-rated movers, growing an idea into a multimillion-dollar program. Shaped the business model, designed the interactions between customer, mover and mediator, and coded the original site.

Directed groups of designers and programmers on multiple projects at any given time, providing overall planning as well as graphics, interface and code. Worked with all departments, the CEO and other executives. Created print projects ranging from mailers and posters to a cover illustration for the employee magazine.

Education

Master of Science, Media Arts and Sciences

Media Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (completion September 2010)

Master of Design, Product Design

Institute of Design, Illinois Institute of Technology (one year completed)

Bachelor of Science, Industrial Design

Arizona State University (3.5 GPA, Cum Laude)

Awards

Exhibitee, Ars Electronica, 2009 (Proverbial Wallets, Proximeter, Daydar, Social Garden)

Honorable Mention, I.D. Magazine Annual Design Review, 2006 (The Kinesic Interface)

Notable Entry, Greener Gadgets Design Competition, 2008 (Watt Watchers)

Remo Instruments/ASU Music Therapy Design Competition 1998, 2nd place (Footnote keyboard)

Skills

Java, Python, Objective C, Cocoa, Quartz Composer, standards-compliant HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, SQL, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, electronics prototyping, sketching, writing and editing, songwriting, baking