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Richard Alvarez

PROFESSIONAL VOICE TECH INNOVATION

ACHIEVEMENTS Co-founded smart-speaker Meetup Group
<https://www.meetup.com/The-Future-is-Voice/>

APPLYING LEAN UX PRINCIPLES

White Paper documenting process for implementing lean UX strategies
<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/implementing-lean-ux-richard-alvarez/>

THE UX of UNIFIED COMMERCE

Article describing the UX learnings of implementing and delivering a common set of services across various devices with through an understanding of the customer journey
<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/ux-unified-commerce-richard-alvarez>

CAFEXPLOR.COM

Co-Founded CafeXplorer, LLC, a cloud-base suite of tools bringing scheduled live-streaming events to brands. Produced a series of virtual live-events for the Kohls Children's Museum.

AR CHICAGO

Founded the Augmented Reality Chicago Meetup Group
<https://www.meetup.com/ARChicago/>

SBC EXCELERATOR

\$10K grant recipient for the development of multimedia story content management system for digital journalist at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University

GENERATOR/FLASH WEB DEVELOPMENT

Author of the very first book on Adobe's Generator Flash published by New Riders Publishing <http://amzn.to/2lznHSz>

WORK HISTORY **UX PRACTICE MANAGER**

Sagezza, Chicago, IL | Jan, 2017 – Current

Lead internal/external cross-functional teams as well as managing outsourced resources to insure project delivery and success. Responsibilities include managing client relationships, project delivery and management of budget, forecasts, and staffing resources and roles. My goal is to always strive for collaborative UX thinking and streamline UX processes'.

LEAD UX DEVELOPER

Sagezza/RR Donnelley, Bolingbrook, IL | Mar, 2014 – Dec, 2016

Played an integral part in developing the Lean UX practice embraced by RRD Logistics. The transition called for the preparation of training materials and a series of presentations to engage and educate various team members throughout the organization. Developed a themed Bootstrap framework and .NET/Razor helper classes, tools, and documentation to enable a fast and fluid coding workflow for internal development teams. Managed offshore front-end teams to ensure best practices and standards. Collaborated with application product owners and tech leads to develop customer-focused UX using lean-UX processes.

LECTURER

Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Jan, 2000 – Dec, 2016

Taught courses in New Media and online Journalism. As a member of the New Media faculty, I was responsible for teaching and sharing my real world experience with multimedia and visual storytelling.

PRINCIPLE

CafeXplorer, CHICAGO, IL | Feb, 2014 – Mar, 2016

Provided organizations of all sizes a suite of tools and services for creating, marketing, and hosting live-streaming video events with scheduling, communication, E-commerce, and CRM tools.

Customers could embed their scheduled video event on their own site or social media, and stay on-brand.

UX DIRECTOR

Method Engine, Chicago, IL | May, 2005 – Mar, 2015

Helped form Method Engine's simple philosophy - strategic design. As the lead IT professional on our team, it was my responsibility to assist in conceptualizing and creating new

technical solutions for our clients based customer-driven best practices and cutting-edge creative.

PRINCIPLE

SurpriseMedia, Chicago, IL | Sep, 2000 – May, 2005

Co-creator of this two-person start-up that focused on strategic consulting and dynamic Flash Design. Our client portfolio included Univision, Intel, Volkswagen, and Sports Illustrated. Contracted jointly with Intel to redesign and develop a content management system and site redesign for Univision.com, the premier Internet Company in the U.S. Hispanic market reaching over 80% of the nation's Spanish-speaking online audience at www.univision.com.

SENIOR INTERACTIVE DEVELOPER

Britannica.com, Chicago, IL | Apr, 1999 – Sep, 2000

As the senior web developer for this dot-com giant, I was responsible for all interactive features created for the site. In addition, I created a workflow process, content management and online tools for management, editorial personal, designers, and development team members in order to simplify and streamline our production cycle. Our award winning projects included The Books of Hope - A Yahoo Site of the Year Selection, Macromedia Site of the Day Selection, and Print Magazine Best of 2001 Selection.

EDUCATION

B.A. ENGLISH, DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

CHICAGO, IL | June, 1991

Minored in Spanish Literature

SKILLS

Design Principles, Agile/Scrum, Lean UX, Agile/Waterfall, HTML, CSS/3, JavaScript/JQuery, JSON/XML, Bootstrap, Less/Sass, Visual Studio, WordPress, Google Analytics, Adobe CC, Sketch, Axure, Proto.io, Invision, Mural, LucidChart

Fluent in Spanish, speaking, reading and writing

Conversational in Portuguese