kevinhorek

1 Startup Acquisition, Chief Design Officer, UX/UI Prototyper, TV/Radio Host, & Published Author



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About Me

I am Kevin Horek, a Chief Design Officer, UX/UI prototyper, TV/Radio Host and a published author by Packt Publishing on Zurb's responsive framework, Foundation 5. I studied web development and design at universities across North America, including UCLA and the University of Alberta. My Radio/TV/Podcast, Building The Future, was started to get over my fear of public speaking and I continued to push myself out of my comfort zone by guest blogging for AlphaGamma, TechZulu, and SOCAP. I also recently emceed SUP-X - The Start-Up Expo as well as had a live fireside chat on stage with the keynote speaker.

For over 26 years, I have been working on web and mobile apps for some of the world's most notable and well-respected organizations. Among them are BMW, Best Buy, Apple, Adobe, Sprint, Eastlink, TD Canada Trust, Qantas Airlines, Emirates Airlines, CB Richard Ellis, Microsoft, The Home Depot, California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Singapore University of Technology and Design, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Monsanto, Cargill, Sage Therapeutics, Goshen Health, PepsiCo, The United States Defense Threat Reduction Agency, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, The Air Force Civil Engineering Center, Abu Dhabi Health Services, Abu Dhabi Tourism &

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Culture, and Janssen: Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson, Cushman & Wakefield and Colliers International.

My design and development projects have won critical acclaim and have been featured by media outlets like Hit Parader magazine.

I continue to champion superior user experiences and maintain a relentless focus on achieving my goals in all of my ventures. I have been a contributor to the open-source community on FOLIO and I co-host a monthly tech meetup in my hometown of Edmonton called Nerds Night Out.

Experience

Zept - www.zept.co

Chief Design Officer, UX/UI and Front-End Developer

February 2019 - Present

Edmonton, Canada

I handle the UI/UX design in Sketch, Adobe XD and prototyping with Material UI in React and React Native. The prototype then gets deployed to Heroku for user, device and browser testing.

Our mission is to help international students get into the best school possible. Students enter their grades and what they want to study and our algorithm begins recommending schools that best match their goals and abilities.

Building The Future - <u>buildingthefutureshow.com</u>

TV / Radio / Podcast Show Host

May 2015 - Present

A nationally syndicated TV & AM/FM radio show that reaches 3 million+ a month.

With millions of listeners a month, Building the Future has quickly become one of the fastest rising nationally syndicated programs. With a focus on interviewing startups, entrepreneurs, investors, CEOs, and more, the show showcases individuals who are realizing their dreams and helping to make our world a better place through innovation and technology.

In its first year of broadcasting, Building the Future made the iTunes New and Noteworthy front page as number 6 out of 20 in the podcast category within six weeks of airing. The show has been heard in over 150 countries across the globe.

Stacks Inc. Acquired by EBSCO

Chief Design Officer (CDO) / Full Stack Designer / Partner

October 2015 - February 2019 (3 years 5 months)

Edmonton, Canada / Boston, USA

Acquisition press release:

https://www.ebsco.com/news-center/press-releases/ebsco-information-services-acquires-leading-library-and-research-web

Since 2006, Stacks technology powers libraries and research facilities of all types including Microsoft, California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Singapore University of Technology and Design, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Monsanto, Cargill, Sage Therapeutics, Goshen Health, Pepsi, The United States Defense Threat Reduction Agency, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, The Air Force Civil Engineering Center, Abu Dhabi Health Services, Abu Dhabi Tourism & Culture, and Janssen: Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson.

Stacks research technology expertise was recognized in 2014 when it was awarded the American Library Association Award for Collaboration and the Canadian Library Association Award for Innovation in Technology.

I have created the look and feel for the platform using the Adobe Creative Suite, Sketch, InVision, and HTML/CSS/JS clickable prototypes which I helped implement in Drupal.

FOLIO Project

UX/UI Lead For the Stacks Dev Team

May 2017 - January 2019 (1 year 9 months)

Stacks Inc. is contributing to the design and development of the FOLIO Project. I have worked with the other UX Lead's to make sure our 6 apps match and function the same as the other apps in the project. I also helped to come up with new UX

patterns that the other apps can use and have contributed ideas and thoughts on a weekly basis about UX, design, and direction. I have worked in Adobe XD, Sketch, Proto.io and HTML/CSS/JS prototypes to show the dev team what they are building.

Hybrid Ventures Group of Companies

Partner

January 2016 - January 2019 (3 years 1 month)

Edmonton, Canada Area

Creating innovative solutions that solve real-world problems and enhance real people's quality of life. Our products were designed to improve access, efficiency and user experience on all screens.

Hybrid Global Inc.

Chief Design Officer (CDO) / Partner

September 2013 - January 2019 (5 years 5 months)

Edmonton, Alberta

My role was Chief Design Officer, UX strategist and I managed the design/front-end development team. We worked in Drupal, Android, and iOS. These projects were responsive and were using Omega, Zurb Foundation with SASS, Foundation for Apps, and Bootstrap. I did responsive wireframing and prototyping with HTML5, CSS3, SASS, JavaScript, and jQuery. I also used AngularJS and the Ionic hybrid mobile apps framework.

Packt Publishing

Author of Learning Zurb Foundation Book

November 2013 - August 2014 (10 months)

I wrote a book on Zurb Foundation 5 called Learning Zurb Foundation. This framework is used at Google, Apple, and others worldwide.

Inkdit

Senior UX/UI Designer / Front-End Developer

March 2011 - August 2013 (2 years 6 months)

Edmonton, Canada Area

My role was the design and front-end development of this Ruby on Rails web application. This includes: wireframing, Photoshop mockups, building the mockups with HTML5/CSS3 (using SASS and the Foundation 3 Responsive Framework) and user testing. I made sure everything worked cross-browser and across many devices. Other than some of the icons and avatars, everything was HTML5, CSS3 or SVG.

Mailout Interactive Inc.

Senior UX/UI Designer / Front-End Developer

April 2010 - January 2012 (1 year 10 months)

My role was to modernize the three .NET web apps. This included: taking out the tables and putting the 360+ pages into HTML5, CSS3, and JavaScript with all pages gracefully downgrading to IE6. I was also responsible for making the apps more user-friendly.

Incite

Senior Web Designer

January 2007 - March 2010 (3 years 3 months)

My role was doing design, front-end development and putting websites into content management systems. I used Wordpress, Drupal, ExpressionEngine, and Joomla. I also did a bit of print and logo design.

Quick-Draw

Designer / Developer

September 2004 - December 2006 (2 years 4 months)

My role was doing design and front-end development of HTML and Flash-based websites. Some of the clients included: CB Richard Ellis, Grubb & Ellis, Cushman & Wakefield, and Colliers International. I had one Jr. Designer under me.

Terra Prime

Designer / Developer

February 2003 - August 2004 (1 year 7 months)

My role was doing design and front-end development of HTML, Flash and .NET websites and applications. Some of the clients included: Qantas and Emirates Airlines. I had one Jr. Designer under me.

Multimedia Production Services - University of Alberta, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Multimedia Designer

February 2002 - September 2002 (8 months)

My role was to create Interactive CD's and websites for Doctors and their students to use in the classroom for learning. We had to shoot video, edit video, and record any audio needed.

Horek Designs

Owner

September 2000 - February 2002 (1 year 6 months)

I ran my own design company that did Flash, websites and graphic work.

Webmaster Designs

Web Designer / Developer

October 1999 - September 2000 (1 year)

My role was to do Flash, websites and graphic work for local businesses.

Education

MacEwan University

PHP & MySQL: 6 week course, Web Development · (2007 - 2007)

The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Corporate Design: 12-week course, Graphic Design · (2004 - 2004)

The University of Alberta

Typography: 5-week course, Graphic Design · (2003 - 2003)

The University of Alberta

ColdFusion: 3-day course, Web Development · (2003 - 2003)

The University of Alberta

WebBuilder 2.0 Multimedia Diploma (Honors), Web Development · (2002 - 2003)

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT)

Multimedia Technology Certificate (Honors) · (2001 - 2002)

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