

Mario Champion

mariochampion.com | 512.576.0824 | mario@mariochampion.com | Austin, TX 78704

Hello. I'm an insightful, structured, experienced and innovative Product Manager— with four patents —who fluidly guides strategic, creative and development teams.

PROFILE

My years of experience have crafted me into, honestly, a kind of certified unicorn with deep creative, technical and strategy skills, who listens, learns, and collaborates on all aspects of product development.

Insightful of how the Big Picture is made of evolving Little Pictures, I guide teams with a framework which is agile, entrepreneurial, high-value and fair. A core member of both creative and technology teams for 10+ years, I help focus diverse teams to their strengths, solving problems for users and customers, balancing user-centered UI/UX design, product scope, flexing budgets and resources to deliver high-value results.

A life-long learner, listener and leader, from front-end to back-end to use-cases to customer engagement to project management and product ownership, I advocate authentically for internal and external users.

Also, I have significant experience architecting and coding LAMP/ Ubuntu Nginx stack web apps and custom tools, using symfony, github, php, mysql, doctrine, ORMs, jquery, javascript, ajax/JSONP, REST APIs, OOP, html/css, assembla, bash, cURL, Facebook APIs, SSH, twilio, and many more tech stack tools.

RECENT PROFESSIONAL PROJECTS

CO-FOUNDER, DIRECTOR OF PRODUCT: TRAILS.BY (demo: <http://cloudschool.trails.by/get>) 2011-2016

Trails is an innovative platform to visually curate, find, and share resources, and, in the process, build a community around learning and knowledge. That is, the modern way to transform your organization into a collaborative, learner-driven community. Specifically, I created the core ideas and intellectual property, and:

- Generated innovative solutions in #edtech, leading to **two granted US patents**, one pending patent
- Provided all aspects of product dev/roadmap: guide creative and dev teams, hire and manage staff and contractors, wrangle budgets and timeline, conduct focus groups and user testing
- Guided, collaborated, approved all product and site aspects and elements, including brainstorming, budgeting, technical development, visual UI/UX design of site and features
- Wrote code and did quality control (e.g., serve as github traffic cop) of php/mysql/doctrine/javascript base in an ubuntu, nginx, github, assembla environment within a multiple developer context
- Lead customer demos, trainings, support, and feature request prioritizations

COMMON CORE SEARCH APIs: TRAILS <http://standards.trails.by> 2014

The users of Trails desired to tag their resources with standards from the Common Core, but there was no public REST API, so I built one. Now, any developer can utilize two REST APIs to search grade and/or keyword and/or component, with a JSON object result.

- Scraped open Common Core data, restructured it via script into new database
- Built and documented open REST APIs
- Released under the Creative Commons Attribution license

learn more at <http://mariochampion.com>

Mario Champion

mariochampion.com | 512.576.0824 | mario@mariochampion.com | Austin, TX 78704

RECENT PROFESSIONAL PROJECTS (page 2)

COMMUNITY STRATEGY DIRECTOR & BACK-END LEAD: MILKSHAKE MEDIA 2010

For the launch of Generation TX (<http://GenTX.org>), I worked as a consultant to Milkshake Media, serving in a variety of roles centered around launching an online and offline movement to create a “Career and College-Ready Culture” in Texas.

- Strategy and development for a state-wide field organization, including meet with stakeholders and elected officials, coordinate for the pilot market launches in San Antonio and Fort Worth
- Developed custom tech tools to manage, classify, view contacts and resources
- Researched, reviewed, interviewed tech partners to evaluate solutions
- Engaged in both architecture, UI/UX strategy and lead back-end developer of GenTX.org in php, mysql, jquery, ajax, html, css, FB connect, shell scripting, and custom WordPress & BuddyPress plugins and post types, theme development and customization.

CREATIVE & TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR: FGA MEDIA & FAIRYGODMOTHERACADEMY.COM: 2008 – 2010

FGA Media was a startup developing a trans-media life-style brand for tween girls by creating a product and community ecosystem, rooted in the Fairy Godmother Academy book series published by Random House.

- Co-developed, directed and approved company-wide creative and technology strategies, including web design, brand talking points, social media, and offline community plans
- Coordinated and approved team schedules and budgets
- Guided toy and product development for major retailer pitches
- Created structure for “Wisdom Cards” and “Wisdom Acts” online & offline projects
- Owned the major transformation of our Series A Investor Deck
- Website Product Director -
 - Set staff, budgets, schedules and adaptations to timeline and investor needs
 - Negotiated dollar-saving “co-licensing” deals with external vendors
 - Directly coded and supervised Wordpress theme customization (php, mysql, html, css, javascript/jquery)

COMMUNITY & MUNICIPAL INVOLVEMENT

URBAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER: CITY OF AUSTIN JUL 2015 - PRESENT

PRESIDENT: SOUTH LAMAR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION JAN 2014 - DEC 2015

TREASURER, STRATEGIST: TURN TEXAS BLUE PAC 2010-2012

DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY: TCDP COORDINATED CAMPAIGN & TEXANSFOROBAMA 2008

CO-FOUNDER, PRESIDENT: LATINOS FOR TEXAS PAC 2005- 2008

WAY BACK IN THE DAY

TWO PATENTS IN CASUAL, SOCIAL, STRATEGY GAMING: GRIDBLOC GAME 1999-2002

CO-FOUNDER & CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER: TEAM SMARTPANTS, INC 1996 - 2003

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE: UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN 1988 - 1994