Mario Champion

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

Hello. I'm an experienced **Product Manager** with **five Patents**, and I'd like to help you make something great.

PROFILE (of a unicorn)

Strategic Direction

Solving prioritized customer problems and generating real opportunities in a Big Picture made of evolving Little Pictures. Leading nimble, cross-functional collaborations to guide teams among the dynamically shifting timelines and resources to focused, creative, and useful strategies.

for Creative & Tech Teams,

Deeply experienced in both creative and tech teams, across all aspects of product development. Bringing often divergent team missions to a focused solution via user-centered research, development and feedback in a creative, design-thinking context.

and Technical Strengths, too.

Architecting, coding and managing development in LAMP/ Ubuntu+Nginx stack web apps and tools, front-end and back-end, and am deeply fluent to friendly with: python in artificial intelligence / machine learning contexts, (w/numpy, pandas, matplotlib, tensorflow, etc), php, mysql, javascript, github, symfony, ORMs, JSONP, APIs, AWS EC2, OOP, html/css, assembla, bash, cURL, Twilio, ssh, and more.

SELECT PROFESSIONAL PROJECTS

OPEN SOURCE MACHINE-LEARNING IMAGE CLASSIFICATION APP: ROBOFLOW 2017

RoboFlow is a semi-automated **TensorFlow** image classification explorer in a **Python** command line app. RoboFlow was created to get a better sense for TensorFlow's image classifier by making it easier to gather thousands of images by hashtag (such as "#robot" or "#robotart") to serve as the neural networks' re/training data, and to enable easy testing of different TensorFlow hyperparameter settings for creating classifiers.

- Learn more at http://mariochampion.com/roboflow/

PRODUCT MANAGER: TRAILS.BY 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 **three granted US patents**.
- 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

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SELECT PROFESSIONAL PROJECTS (page 2)

LEAD DEVELOPER: COMMON CORE SEARCH APIs 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 via custom middleware tools
- Built and documented open REST APIs, released under the Creative Commons Attribution license

COMMUNITY STRATEGIST & LEAD BACK-END DEVELOPER: 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 & DEV TEAM LEAD: 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 engagement plans
- Coordinated and approved team schedules and budgets
- Guided toy and product development for major retailer pitches for "Wisdom Cards" and "Wisdom Acts"
- 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

WAY BACK IN THE DAY

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

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

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