

# *¡Hola! I'm* **Max Starkenburg**

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## **What I can do for you:**

Translate your conceptual goals into digital deliverables by building intuitive interfaces made strong by clean, robust code and aesthetic visuals.

## **I can be counted on to bring my:**

- strong advocacy of user needs
- collaborative, detail-oriented, and holistic approach to problem-solving
- two decades harnessing the capabilities of HTML, CSS, JS, and related web technologies

I will proactively seek out the appropriate solution to each problem, be it with an Illustrator design, a Bash script, or anything in between, to give you a successful product and satisfying user experience.

**Portfolio:** <http://maxwell.fyi>

## **Work Experience**

### **George Washington University · Web Designer**

Libraries and Academic Innovation (GWLAI) · 11/2016–present

- Led design for multiple GWLAI web presences, producing interactive and responsive mock-ups, graphic assets, and production code and configuration on Drupal 7 and Drupal 8 websites to increase student access to a variety of university resources
- Created interactive SVG floor maps that link from library catalog results to show users a book's exact location on the physical shelves
- Collaborated with colleagues across GWLAI to meet their content-creation needs, consulting on accessibility best practices, CSS capabilities, and JavaScript incorporation
- Led workshops for students, staff, and faculty on Adobe Illustrator and HTML/CSS
- Produced artwork to advertise workshops, lectures, and training events (60 per semester) as well as for exhibits and handouts
- Contributed to ongoing maintenance of web presences via debugging of technical problems, design of new interfaces and special features, accessibility improvements, and QA testing

## **OERPUB · Interaction Designer**

Publishing initiative for open educational resources (OER) · 12/2011–04/2014

- Scripted high-fidelity functional mock-ups from scratch that drove the development direction of an online WYSIWYG editor allowing novice authors to edit professional-quality textbooks
- Quantified the relative success of interactive features by conducting multiple usability studies using the mock-ups themselves
- Created original open-source vector-based icon set, designed logo, and made plug-in and theme customizations for the initiative's WordPress site

## **Rice University · Designer and XSLT Developer**

Digital Scholarship Services · 11/2010–04/2011

- Implemented key navigational and branding changes to Rice University's digital scholarship archive to facilitate access to thousands of scholarly research items
- Created custom skins in CSS and XSLT for select repositories to provide a seamless experience when arriving from similarly styled external sites
- Fixed XSLT errors and added requested features to the output of 500 XML documents

## **Rice University · Web/Graphic Designer**

Connexions (now OpenStax CNX) · 01/2001–04/2011

- Led visual design on an open educational repository and authoring environment of over 18,000 pages, 2,000 users, and 1.6 million monthly visitors
- Iterated over design ideas (2,200 mock-ups in total) as needed by the team for new features such as search/browse interface, social media plug-ins, co-branding designs, user profile pages, authoring interface, homepage redesign, and tag editing/display
- Assured high quality of software by conducting thorough tests each release cycle

## **Education**

**Rice University · BA, Architectural Studies · 2003**

## **Cross-Cultural Experience and Skills**

- Fluent in Spanish at upper intermediate proficiency, both written and oral (ILR 3, CERF B2)
- Strong intercultural competencies based on 2 years residency in Chile and Mexico (2015-16)

US citizen, currently in Washington, DC, open to working in large cities around the globe