

Mark Zhdan

Chicago, IL | (331) 980-6506 | markzhdan@gmail.com
linkedin.com/in/markzhdan | markzhdan.com | github.com/markzhdan

SKILLS

Languages: JavaScript, TypeScript, Python, C++, Java

Frameworks & Tools: Vue.js, React, Next.js, Node.js, Express.js, MongoDB, Electron, LangChain

Learning: Next.js, Docker, LLM fine-tuning

WORK EXPERIENCE

Blinkfire Analytics

Chicago, IL

Software Engineer II

Jan 2026 - Present

Software Engineer I

July 2025 - Jan 2026

- Serve as de facto frontend lead following team attrition; drive architecture decisions, review all frontend PRs, conduct interviews, and establish coding standards and tooling guidelines.
- Built and scaled an internal data annotation platform used to train computer vision models, improving annotation speed by 50% and model accuracy by 30%.
- Developed and maintained 5+ analytics and media reporting features that directly supported new client acquisitions and tier upgrades.
- Integrated Ticketmaster APIs into a live stadium UI featuring section-by-section attendance tracking and sponsor asset valuation, helping clients quantify and price their brand placements.

PROJECTS

Post-Plant

Aug 2023 - Present

- Architected the end-to-end development of Post-Plant, a VALORANT analytics website, leveraging Riot Games' official API to deliver user-specific statistical insights.
- Built a robust full-stack MERN solution, managing a database of 100,000+ recorded matches, enabling scalable extraction and analysis of statistics, secured with JWT authentication.

Curriculo

May 2024 - Jan 2026

- Developed an AI-powered app for parsing large academic documents using LLMs and LangChain pipelines, fine-tuning models to improve accuracy and cut processing costs by 90%.
- Engineered a full-stack MERN solution (MongoDB, Express.js, React, Node.js) with Google OAuth and JWT-secure session cookies, ensuring reliable and user-friendly authentication.

RocketPal

Feb 2024

- Led a team of 5 to build RocketPal, a health goal-tracking web app with Gemini API-powered AI assistance, by organizing team dynamics, assigning tasks, and making critical project decisions.

EDUCATION

The University of Illinois Chicago

Graduated May 2025

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science | GPA: 4.0

- 1st Place, SparkHacks 2024 (RocketPal) - Top team among 47 at UIC's annual hackathon.
- Developer on CS Trackers Infrastructure Team, built features for the student org's Discord bot.