

Objective

I am seeking employment within the Board Games Industry at a professional level. Over the past nine years I have been working independently as a game designer, reviewer, and content creator in the industry, however I feel that now is the time to merge my professional life with my passion. Professionally, I have been working for an ecommerce development company for the past 20 years and have grown with the company from a staff of three to a global company with a staff of dozens. I started as a website developer and grew into the role of Production Manager and finally, Ecommerce Solutions Specialist. I have been in charge of project management and technical development for the entire company and worked with the sales team, clients, and partners to develop unique ecommerce solutions. I have collaborated directly with clients, led a global team of up to 12 developers, and worked closely with all of our company departments, including development, sales, networking, human resources, and management.

Within the Board Games Industry, I have maintained a media presence on my GJJ Games site for over nine years, featuring hundreds of articles, from reviews to designer interviews, and more. I have been designing games since 2014 and have attended over a dozen Protospiel events, been active in the online board game community, volunteered with publishers at conventions, and organized charity events locally. I would love the opportunity to combine my skills in board game development, project management, and technical solution in order to help your company succeed.

Summary of Board Game Industry Experience

- Board Game Design
 - 12 games and several expansions available on The Game Crafter.
 - Three titles on The Game Crafter were semi-finalists in TGC contests.
 - Winner of the 2017 Manhattan Project Dice Game design contest from Minion Games.
 - Several titles were finalists and winners in BGG community PnP contests.
 - About 100 games in various states of completion, with about 45 playable prototypes.
 - Attended 14 Protospiele plus several other game design events.
 - Attended the 2018 Maker Fair at Northern Illinois University to teach about board game design.
 - Listed in several rulebooks for my contribution to game development, including Lucidity and Runika from Foxtale Games, Cursed Court from Atlas Games, Lockup from Thunderworks Games, Flag Dash from Piecekeeper Games, Radiant from Tin Shoe Games, Robotech: Force of Arms from Solar Flare Games, and Legacies from Brookstone Games.
 - Registered Merit Badge Counselor for Game Design for Boy Scouts of America.
- Began GJJ Games board game content site in 2014.
 - Over 130 board game reviews.
 - Over 300 designer interviews.
 - Dozens of other articles, features, and more.
 - Social Media following: Facebook, over 1,800; Twitter, over 1,400; Instagram, over 550.
 - Manage the Board Game Giveaways & Contests community on Facebook with over 7,400 members.
- Events:
 - Weekly local board game nights at There's Fun In Store in DeKalb, IL since 2015.
 - Extra Life charity local event organizer since 2016 – almost \$20,000 raised for charity!
 - Thunderworks Games Demo Crew for Gen Con 2018 and 2019 and Origin's Game Fair in 2022.
 - Protospiel Designer Attendee: Madison 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018; Milwaukee 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019; Chicago 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022.

Summary of Professional Management & Leadership Experience

- Ecommerce Solutions Specialist, Production Manager, and Lead Developer for Web2Market, Inc.
 - I worked with clients and our sales team to define project requirements and build scope and proposal documents to make sure our production team has well defined projects and they are sold for a reasonable profit by our sales team.
 - I managed a global team of up to 12 ecommerce developers and a project coordinator. I also worked closely with sales, networking, HR, and clients from around the world.
- Boy Scouts of America
 - Cubmaster and Primary Unit Leader for Cub Scout Pack 131 in DeKalb, IL
 - Wood Badge Leadership Training

Summary of Technical Experience

- Ecommerce development and solutions:
 - 7 different platforms, including Shopify, Magento, and WooCommerce
 - Project Management
 - Solutions Consulting
 - Project Estimations
 - Requirements Building
 - System Integrations
 - Brand Development
 - Technical Documentation
 - Process Documentation
 - Training & Demos
 - Speed Optimization
 - Content Creation
 - SEO
- Web design & development, networking, and database development.
- Promotional and presentation graphics:
 - Info Graphics
 - Web Design & Development
 - Video Production & Editing
 - Brochures & Flyers
 - Advertisements
 - Newsletters
 - Trade Show Signage & Booth Design
 - PowerPoint Presentations w/ Animation
 - Sales Slicks & Case Studies
 - Sales & Investor Demonstrations
 - Financial Reports
 - Award Ceremonies

Work Experience

Web 2 Market, Inc. – Alsip, IL

<https://web2market.com>

Web 2 Market is a full-service ecommerce provider. The company specializes in AbleCommerce, Magento, Shopify, and WooCommerce development and hosting with a specialty in providing integrations with other business applications, like POS, CRM, Accounting, DRM, and other tools. As a turnkey solution provider, Web2Market could provide everything from design to custom development, software integrations, hosting, and general support.

December 2022 – February 2023 –Ecommerce Solutions Specialist for Web2Market, Inc.

I architected complex custom ecommerce solutions, defined project scope and requirements, estimated project costs, and more to ensure that new projects were profitable. The most recent projects were scheduled to bring in 2-4 times the rate of previously sold projects.

March 2008 – December 2022 – Production Manager

I managed a team of up to 12 global developers and worked with sales, clients, and the production team to make sure that projects were delivered according to the requirements agreed to through collaborative communication, regular standup meetings, and project documentation. I helped to define future company progress, professional partnerships, growth initiatives, and company policies.

July 2003 – March 2008 – Web Developer / Lead Developer

I worked as a full-stack designer and developer for dozens of ecommerce web sites in a variety of industries. The sites I developed and dozens of plugins I created were instrumental in helping Web 2 Market grow into the number one provider of AbleCommerce development, hosting, and support.

Additional Work:

Universal Automotive Industries, Inc. – Alsip, IL

August 2001 – June 2003 – Manager of Information Systems

March 2001 – August 2001 – Contract Technical Administrator

The Eclectic Network, LTD. – Elmhurst, IL

2001 – Director of Web Services

eParts Exchange, Inc. – Des Plaines, IL

2000 – 2001 – Technical Administrator

IBM Text/Graphics Center – Chicago, IL, Oak Brook, IL

1999 – 2000 – Text Graphics Specialist

Other

I have worked on dozens of web development and graphic design related projects for companies and organizations.

Certifications & Memberships

- Member of PMI, Chicago Chapter – 2022-present.
- Shopify Product Fundamentals Certification

Education

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, College of Art and Design.

August 1995 – May, 2000

BFA in Sculpture – Specialization in Digital Imaging, Computer Art, and Computer Programming.

Classes in Visual Experimental Technologies (3D Digital Animation), Digital Imaging, Drafting and CAD, Drawing, Design, Photography, Ceramics, Metals, C Programming, Painting, and Sculpture.

Continuing Education

Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, IL.

Professional Development Courses in: Database Applications, Desktop Publishing, Visual Basic, and Flash

Community Involvement

- Boy Scouts of America – Cub Scout Pack 131, Scouts BSA Troop 40, Three Fires Council
 - Cubmaster, Den Leader, Game Design Merit Badge Counselor, Committee Member
 - Wood Badge Leadership Training, OKPIK, CPR, BALOO, IOLS, Training Academy, and more
- Extra Life & Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals – Fundraising Volunteer, 2016-present, raised nearly \$20,000
 - Event Organizer: Extra Life Charity Auction, 24-Hour Gaming Marathon, and more
- Board Game Design groups, including Protospiel. Organizer of Totally Tabletop DeKalb Board Game group.
- Various other Volunteer Activities for:
 - DeKalb Public Library
 - Trash Squirrels, DeKalb
 - Stagecoach Community Theater and CCT (Children’s Community Theater), DeKalb
 - Feed My Starving Children
 - Feed ‘Em Soup, DeKalb
 - Many other local groups and organizations.

More details, referrals, and more available on my LinkedIn profile: <https://LinkedIn.com/in/george-jaros>.