

EDWARD FICKLIN (he/him)

Email: hello@edwardficklin.com

Portfolio: <https://dev.edwardficklin.com>

PROFILE SUMMARY

Mission-driven Senior Front-End Software Engineer with over 15 years of experience building high-performance, accessible user interfaces for enterprise media and social-impact organizations. Committed to technical leadership that fosters an accessibility-first approach and high-quality engineering culture.

SKILL AREAS

Core Front-End: HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript (ES6+), Web Accessibility

Frameworks & CMS-backed UI: React, Astro, WordPress (Headless & Multisite UI Architecture), Craft CMS, Laravel

Infrastructure & DevOps: Git/GitHub, CI/CD, AWS, WPEngine, Pantheon, WP VIP

Additional proficiencies: Technical Leadership, UI Design Collaboration, Agile/Scrum, DEIA Strategy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Independent Web Developer / Consultant | Nov 2024 – Present

- Delivering high-impact websites for advocacy and political organizations, ensuring rapid deployment and reliability in high-stakes environments
- Accessibility auditing and remediation
- Tech stacks used: React, Astro, 11ty, and WordPress

Web Developer | Friendly Design Co. (2023 – 2024) *Design agency specializing in mission-driven clients and digital public service*

- Technical UI Leadership: established agency-wide accessibility standards and training (based on WCAG conformance), ensuring all client UIs met or exceeded inclusivity benchmarks
- Design-to-Code Systems: partnered with design teams to translate complex brand systems into modular, component-based architectures for large-scale, CMS-driven organizational websites
- Front-End Tooling: developed internal frontend boilerplate libraries in use across more than 10 projects, and counting, that reduced development hours by 10-15%

Senior Software Developer | Alley (2019 – 2022) *Digital agency specializing in strategy and development for large-scale publishers and non-profits.*

- React-Driven Experiences: engineered and launched React-based video-on-demand interfaces (nesn.com/watch), modernizing the user experience for a high-traffic sports network
- UI Scalability: maintained the frontend architecture for a multisite network of 130 local news outlets, optimizing for 600M monthly pageviews with a focus on performance and cross-browser stability
- Engineering Culture: Founding member of the DEIA working group; established Employee Resource Groups and other efforts leading to higher reported job satisfaction and length of tenure company wide

Senior Software Engineer | New Music USA (2011 – 2019)

- UI Architecture & Discovery: architected the front-end evolution of a national music discovery platform, transforming complex archival data into intuitive, accessible user experiences for a community of creators and listeners
- Front-End Mentorship: led a three-person development team with a focus on modern front-end best practices, implementing responsive design patterns and accessibility standards across the organization's digital ecosystem
- UX Innovation in Grantmaking: held a pivotal role in the team that pioneered a “tech from within” strategy to modernize the grantmaking UI, simplifying intricate application workflows for artists and evaluators through user-centric design and simplified frontend logic
- Platform Modernization: directed long-term platform strategy and modernization, collaborating with executive leadership to transition legacy interfaces into modern, performant web experiences that expanded the organization's national reach

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts, University of Denver, major: English Literature, minor: Italian