

George Drag

Designer and front-end developer - Chicago, Illinois, United States

SUMMARY

I design and build websites and apps people can actually use. For fourteen years I built iOS, Android and web products at Red Foundry, a small Chicago consultancy. Small shop, so I worked with clients through the whole process: design, build, testing, launch. I was the developer, and often the designer, project manager and QA tester too.

Now I design and build my own: brokenews.co, the same story from the left, the center and the right, side by side. woke1.org, a personal radio station. What's playing, and the artist behind it. Web and iOS.

What I care about in front-end work is unglamorous: pages that load fast, interfaces built to accessibility standards so they work for everyone who has to use them, and code the next developer can read. That matters most when a site isn't one option among several. It's the only way someone can get the thing done.

I also build with AI every day: it does the heavy lifting, every change is reviewed before it ships, and I decide what gets built.

Before software, I managed a record store and toured in bands. I still write music.

TOP SKILLS

User Experience (UX), Node.js, Web Accessibility

EXPERIENCE

Designer and front-end developer, Self-Employed

June 2025 - Present - Chicago, IL

- BROKENEWS.CO - a live news site: the same story from the left, center and right, side by side
- 43 outlets across the spectrum, 5,960 tests passing
- Labeled controls, live regions, reduced motion, WCAG-guided alt text
- WOKE1 (woke1.org and iOS) - a personal radio station that presents the artist behind every song
- Colors pulled from each artist's photos, then forced to pass WCAG contrast (AAA for main text)
- SwiftUI app with VoiceOver and Dynamic Type, 711 tests passing
- MY DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM - an AI software team I designed: one agent plans, one builds, another reviews
- Every change is reviewed before it ships
- 259 reviewed changes, 60 documented decisions
- BOOP - my harness for getting the most out of AI and human work together
- 91 repositories cataloged, encrypted backups with a tested restore
- ALSO - RotoAgent: a live fantasy baseball tool
- VinylVision: matches a record cover against 8.4 million releases

Senior Software Engineer, Red Foundry

January 2018 - May 2025 (7 years 5 months) - Chicago, IL

- Designed and built iOS, Android and web products for startups and enterprises. Worked with clients from first sketch to launch: design, front-end and native development, testing and release. Often the project's designer, project manager and QA tester as well as its developer.

Software Engineer, Red Foundry

May 2011 - January 2018 (6 years 9 months) - Chicago, IL

- Built react native iOS and Android apps and web products for client projects, from first release through years of updates.

Store Manager, Transworld Entertainment

2004 - 2010 (6 years)

EDUCATION

Northeastern Illinois University -- Bachelor of Science (BS), Computer Science (2002 - 2012)