

Thompson Plyler

Full-Stack Developer | US Marine Veteran | AI Specialist

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Bio

A results-oriented Full-Stack Developer with 22 years in technology, including recent experience developing applied artificial intelligence research and training. Proven ability to lead and educate, backed by 2 years as a Lead Instructor at Flatiron School teaching enterprise software engineering to Amazon employees. Expertise in leveraging 15 years of video post-production and media skills to enhance software pipelines. Passionate about using software to solve problems observably and effectively. A US Marine Corps veteran with a strong background in network technology and information assurance. Hard-working, professional, and extremely friendly.

Technical Skills

Software Development & Tools: JavaScript, React, Ruby, Rails, Python, Flask, C++, Unreal Engine, Next.JS, Node.js, HTML, CSS, Three.js, MongoDB, SQL (SQLite, PostgreSQL), Docker, OpenAI API, GraphQL, Git, Redux, Phaser3

Media Tools: Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Premiere, After Effects, Illustrator), Da Vinci Resolve, Avid Media Composer, OBS Studio, Nuke, Blender, Cinema4D, Modern AI Image and Video Generation Tools (e.g. Flux, Stable Diffusion, Sora, etc.)

Other: Cisco Networking Hardware, TCP/IP

Experience

Developer of Applied Artificial Intelligence Research | AI-accelerator Academy (Remote) | 2022 – 2025

- Created and delivered workshops to educate executives and non-technical personnel on potential AI applications and their strategic implementation.
- Designed, developed, and implemented bespoke AI application workflows, including the creation of comprehensive training materials for those workflows.

Lead Instructor, Enterprise Software Engineering - Amazon | Flatiron School (Remote) | 2020 – 2022 (Assuming dates based on "2 years experience working at Flatiron School" and new role)

- Taught full-stack web development (JavaScript, React, Ruby, Rails, Python, Flask) to a cohort of 700 Amazon non-technical employees, transitioning them to technical roles.
- Modified consumer curriculum to meet specific Amazon enterprise needs and objectives.
- Prepared and delivered three weekly lectures featuring notes, live code demonstrations, and real-world examples.
- Guided individual and group study sessions; assessed student progress via milestone projects and coding challenges, consistently maintaining a 90% or higher rate of student satisfaction.

Freelance Post-Production & VFX Specialist | Self-Employed (New York, NY) | 2008 – 2021

- Provided VFX, editing, and compositing services for pitch projects, studio/independent feature films, commercials, and TV shows.
- Clients included Revlon, Forbes, IMG, Mercedes-Benz, Con Edison, Cadillac, Arby's, BMW, Subway, Gillette.
- **Motion Graphics Artist** at Eastern TV (Love and Hip Hop): For hundreds of episodes, keyed and rotoscoped interstitial "confessional" shots, compiled time-lapse/hyperlapse footage, generated titles, and painted out brands/offensive content in a high-pressure broadcast TV environment.
- **Graphics Assistant** at RhinoFX: Performed keying, rotoscoping, and matting in Flame, After Effects, and Nuke.

Network Technician & Information Assurance Specialist | United States Marine Corps | 2000 – 2004

- Troubleshoot and repaired end-user systems and local network servers.
- Oversaw the security infrastructure for Marine Forces Atlantic, safeguarding over 70,000 network nodes on the East Coast.

Projects

Better! Personal Productivity Tool

- Developed a personal productivity and automation hub using Python and Flask to integrate various daily workflows.
- Engineered a system to synchronize daily markdown logs from Obsidian with a central PostgreSQL database, enabling structured tracking of activities and progress.
- Implemented a "compassionate monitor" service via Google Calendar that provides gentle, configurable reminders and tracks focus by monitoring for digital distractions.
- Integrated a Discord bot, Twilio API, and API e-mail via Gmail for real-time notifications and system alerts.

Media Buddy

- Architected a full-stack, AI-powered content pipeline using Python, Flask, and PostgreSQL with pgvector to automate the transformation of text into complete, narrated video presentations.
- Implemented a multi-stage agentic workflow leveraging Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) and pgvector to synthesize an authentic user writing voice from personal documents.
- Engineered a modular service-oriented architecture using a Factory design pattern for extensible news sources and integrated Playwright and FFmpeg for robust content acquisition and video composition.

Response Vault by Voyager Scientific, LLC

- Developed endpoints and forms for a plug-in in Procore construction software.
- Handled data from external API in Rails; developed UI forms in JavaScript/React and Node.js endpoints for form submissions.

fresh Under One Sky 2021 Meeting Site

- Developed and oversaw implementation of a video conferencing site for fresh's internal annual meeting, emphasizing Chinese availability.
- React front-end, AWS Amplify deployment, AWS IVS video streaming (including operator training with OBS Studio), group chat, Rails backend for authorization, and Sendgrid integration.

Doge Quest

- A top-down, score-based game built with Phaser 3 (JavaScript)

Education

Flatiron School | New York, NY | 2019

- Software Engineering Immersive Program: OOP, database interactions, front-end design (Ruby, Rails, JavaScript, React)

New York University | New York, NY | 2008

- BFA, Kanbar Institute of Film & Television, Tisch School of the Arts.