

Sara Schnadt
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Experience

Senior Lead UX Designer, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, CA

Leads design team in the UX research, design and architecture of the ground data system for a mission to Europa
Collaborates on software system architecture design with core ground data systems engineering team
Runs critical trade studies for system software architecture design
Collaborates on design of key mission operations concepts, including the uplink concept
Led research project to evaluate usability and architecture design of multi-mission planning and execution tool suite
August 2017 - Present

Product Design Lead, Planet, San Francisco, CA

Built first design team at Planet and led UX and product design efforts
UX researcher, designer and architect for public beta platform for access to global daily satellite imagery
Oversaw design development of proof of concept interface for machine learning analysis of satellite imagery
Executive liaison and strategic design planning for development of web products
Oversight of UX and design direction for web interfaces for the company
April 2016 – July 2017

Data System Design and Civic Data Project Consultant

Various projects and organizations including: Unveillance, a machine learning and data-sharing tool backed by the Knight Prototype Fund; Knight News Challenge, reader for Elections and Civic Data rounds; InfluenceMapping.org, an international initiative to integrate corruption data network mapping projects around the globe; data2go.nyc visualization-based public data tool with Measure of America; LA cultural asset map with Arts for in LA; database design for video art archive database with Video Data Bank.
April 1999 – March 2016

UX and Software Designer, Bokeh Data Visualization Toolset, Continuum Analytics, Austin, TX

As the first designer on the company's product team, created solution to simplify the user interface
Assessed the needs and workflows of a wide range of data scientists and created user analysis resources
Developed strategic plans, conceptual interface and functional specs for new data visualization authoring tool
Developed new visual theme for software
Visual, information design, messaging and project management for new public-facing web site
May 2015 – January 2016

Technical Project Manager, OpenElections.net, Washington, DC

Project managed technical build of public-facing and administrative web sites
Collaborated with co-founders on strategic software system architecture planning
Responsible for visual, interface and data visualization design for data download tool
Supervised national network of journalists to assess and write scrapers for election results data acquisition
Promoted the project at national and international conferences

January 2013 – December 2014

Community Liaison/Designer, CensusReporter.org, Chicago, IL

Site interface co-design, visual design, and information architecture for visualization-based data exploration tool
Conducted user research, digital journalism field analysis, dataset architecture audit, and user testing
Promoted the project at national and international conferences
Produced series of articles to accompany the project in collaboration with Knight-Mozilla Open News

January 2013 – June 2014

Chief Technologist, Co-founder, Chicago Artists Resource website, Chicago Dept. of Cultural Affairs, Chicago, IL

Oversaw all aspects of the development of a robust community resource and opportunities site including:
Site software and information architecture for visual, music, dance, theater versions of the site; technical vendor procurement and supervision; strategic technology planning; user research; technical requirements definition; content development planning, implementation, editorial; staff management; outreach; operations.

February 2004 – January 2012

Education

MFA, Performance Art, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 1998
BA, Sculpture and Dance, Mount Holyoke College, S. Hadley, MA, 1992

Skills

UX research and design, information architecture, UX architecture, visual design
Software architecture
Database design
Data analysis and design
Program design, strategic planning, project management and production
Web content editorial and management
Grant, article and proposal writing
Public speaking
Strong creative, technical, curatorial, management, and problem-solving skills
Languages: fluent French, conversational German
Programs: Photoshop; Illustrator; HTML; CSS; basic D3; Processing; Drupal administration and views configuration