

Nana Kofi Okae

okaen@vcu.edu | www.linkedin.com/in/nana-kofi-okae | github.com/Nan3rOkae | nanakofiokae.com

EDUCATION

Virginia Commonwealth University

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Richmond, VA

Fall 2024

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: JavaScript, Typescript, HTML, CSS, Node.js

Frameworks & Developer Tools: React.js, Next.js, PostgreSQL, Supabase, Flask

Design Tools & Concepts: Figma, Prototyping, User Research, UI/UX Design, A/B Testing, Visual Hierarchy

WORK EXPERIENCE

Product Design Intern

Duolingo

May 2024 - August 2024

Pittsburgh, PA

- Led the redesign of the Super Subscription onboarding experience, resulting in improved user engagement and CEO approval for implementation.
- Collaborated cross-functionally with engineering, product, and UX teams to align design solutions with overall product strategy and user experience standards.
- Presented design concepts and rationales to senior leadership, securing buy-in for high-impact initiatives within the Monetization Area.

Product Design Intern

Duolingo

June 2023 - August 2023

Pittsburgh, PA

- Led the design of an innovative hands-free experience for the Duolingo learning app, collaborating closely with a cross-functional team to enhance accessibility.
- Conducted comprehensive internal UX research interviews, identifying critical user pain points and implementing targeted solutions to optimize the learning experience.
- Demonstrated strong critical thinking and adaptability by actively participating in design critiques, effectively incorporating feedback to iteratively improve designs.
- Gained valuable insights into product development processes through mentorship from diverse professionals, including senior designers and product managers.

Software Engineer Intern

Salesforce

June 2022 - August 2022

San Francisco, CA

- Developed an interactive phishing simulation feature, increasing user engagement and knowledge retention.
- Implemented a gamification system to incentivize user participation, leveraging knowledge in React.js, Express.js, Node.js, PostgreSQL, and Git.
- Implemented agile methodologies, participating in daily stand-ups and sprint demos to ensure timely delivery of project milestones.

PROJECTS

VCU Hacks Website | *Next.js, React.js, Typescript Supabase, Node.js, Tailwind*

Fall 2024

- Leading the design and development of a user-friendly interface for student registrations and submissions.
- Optimized admin dashboard for real-time data tracking and efficient event management.
- Integrated responsive features to enhance accessibility across multiple devices.

DuoSings | *Figma, Prototyping, Visual Hierarchy, Design Systems, UXR, TTS*

Summer 2023

- Developed a hands-free audio-guided singing feature for Duolingo.
- Created a scaffolded learning session to effectively teach learners the lyrics.
- Incorporated Duolingo characters to amplify learner assurance and motivation.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Computer Science Peer Leader @ VCU

Virginia Commonwealth University

Aug 2022 - Present

Richmond, VA

- Guide computer science students through academic challenges and career preparation.
- Provide one-on-one mentoring sessions, focusing on course selection, internship applications, and technical interview preparation.