Myra Manekia

✉ mmad2021@mymail.pomona.edu 📞 (909)-905-1561 in Myra Manekia 🔗 Portfolio

Education

BA Cognitive Science, *Pomona College; GPA: 3.91*
- **Related Coursework:** Human-Centered Design, Digital Art, Cognitive Neuroscience, Belief & Sound Cognition, Computer Science & AI, Statistics, Calc I & II, Language & Music, World Music, Ethnomusicology
- **Honors:** Pomona College Scholar for Outstanding Academic Performance

05/2025
Claremont,
United States

High School, *Roedean School*
- **Honors:** Math, AP Math, Physical & Life Sciences, English, French, Zulu
- **Leadership Positions**: Head of Orchestra, Head of Social Responsibility, Public Speaking Spokesperson

2017 – 2020
Johannesburg,
South Africa

Professional Experience

Product Design Intern (Full-Time), *Payfast by Network* ⧉
~ *Fintech company ranked as the second-largest online payments platform in the region* ~
- Designed screens & banners using Figma for the company's merchant app listings on Google Play & App Store (for both mobile & web platforms), optimizing visual hierarchy to enhance user engagement; designs selected for the final listings and currently live
- Conducted user research to develop reorganization strategies for the company's Knowledge Base platform, thereby improving information structuring, visual presentation, & user experience; proposed strategies will be implemented in the platform's upcoming restructuring

06/2024 – 08/2024
Cape Town,
South Africa

UX Research/Product Design Intern (Full-Time), *Hailo SA*
~ *Premium and secure transfer service with app-based booking & payment platform*~
- Developed & iteratively tested user interfaces for the company's mobile app using Figma, leveraging user insights to refine interactions and enhance usability; improved designs were integrated into app's user journey
- Analyzed user feedback & data to identify pain points & opportunities for improvement, leading to the implementation of 2 additional services that resulted in a 15% increase in user retention

07/2023 – 08/2023
Johannesburg,
South Africa

Linguistics and Cognitive Science Department Student Assistant, *Pomona College*
- Elevated department visibility & engagement by designing posters for events and the official department logo, distributed as stickers to over 200 students; designs resulted in a threefold increase in student involvement
- Managed & co-ordinated 4 department events attended by over 150 students

08/2023 – Present
Claremont,
United States

Manager & Barista, *Milk & Honey*
~ *Pomona College's student-led boba business catering to over 9000 students* ~
- Led the development & launch of an online ordering platform, collaborating cross-functionally with a team of 6 students to design, test, & implement the solution; project leveraged A/B & usability testing, resulting in its successful launch in 02/24 & a 40% increase in revenue

10/2021 – Present
Claremont,
United States

Leadership Experience

Team Leader, *Sparkathon '23*
~ *Human-centered design thinking competition hosting over 150 students* ~
- Designed & presented a technological prototype harnessing AI within the education industry, specifically targeting the needs of users with Dyscalculia
- Product development involved user research, competitive analysis, & strategic alignment with project objectives
- Led & collaborated with an international team of 4 students; achieving 3rd out of 16 competing teams

02/2023
Claremont,
United States

Founder, *Code-Ed*
~ *An initiative promoting coding to local students in a public school* ~
- Initiated CoffeeScript & Python coding programs to 60 7th-grade students; improved coding literacy of 50 student by 40%
- Secured $3000 from 4 donors; negotiated 50% savings on subscription plan costs

05/2019 – 01/2020
Johannesburg,
South Africa

Delegate, *Round Square*
~ *Network of 200 schools in 50 countries fostering global competence & confidence* ~
- Designed and organized 5 newly-built classrooms at 3 underprivileged schools
- Moderated panel-discussions with influential business leaders on effective service leadership in Africa

04/2018 – 05/2018
Kumasi, Ghana

Skills

Languages
English (Native), French (Fluent), Zulu (Fluent), Mandarin (Intermediate), Urdu (Intermediate), Spanish (Beginner)

Soft Skills
Adaptability, Attention to Detail, Collaboration, Communication, Creativity, Empathy, Feedback Integration, Motivated, Passionate, Proactive Learning, Problem-Solving, Time Management

Technical
Proficient: UX, UI & Visual Design Concepts, User Research, Usability & A/B Testing, Prototyping, Figma, Adobe Creative Cloud Platforms (Photoshop & Illustrator)
Beginner: Python, STATA

Interests

Playlist Curation ● Digital Art ● Drawing ● Lego ● Gaming ● Content Creation