

Yuta Okkotsu, PhD

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A dynamically experienced, educated, and creative front-end/full-stack software engineer aiming to enhancing product and visual design, and provide value as a connective team member, by leveraging a multitude of experiences and skills.

EXPERIENCE

Founder. Okkotsu Design, Denver, CO. 2014 - present. [Portfolio](#)

- Created a multitude of graphic design, photography, video, and artistic works for clients, ranging from startups and small business, to restaurants, bars, non-profits, and gallery exhibits.

CMO and Co-Founder. Gonigiri. Denver, CO. Jan 2021 - Jan 2023. [More info](#)

- Founded and launched a food-based CPG startup, achieving a regular production output of onigiri for the Denver community. Through effective negotiation, established a partnership with a local grocer to secure distribution channels, and streamlined production processes.
- Designed and managed digital assets, including label/package design, photos, and videos.
- Formed strategic partnerships with local organizations like the US-Japan Council (U40 Summit), Colorado Dragon Boat Film Festival, and Japan America Society of Colorado, resulting in the inclusion of our products in events and workshops attended by hundreds of people.

Patent Agent. Mountain IP. Winter Park, CO. Apr 2018 - Aug 2020.

- Coordinated with a multi-million dollar cryogenic instruments company to assist in international patent protection on improvements in technologies.
- Drafted comprehensive patent specifications, incorporating original illustrated drawings, and conducted thorough research to ensure accuracy and innovation in a multitude of fields, from medical devices, and medical diagnostics, to software applications.

Patent Agent. Rocky Mountain Patent. Denver, CO. Mar 2014 - Jan 2018.

- Worked closely with inventors to translate complex technical concepts into clear and concise patent specifications. Created detailed drawings and illustrations to support the patent applications, highlighting the novel aspects of each invention, resulting in the successful issuance of several dozen patents.
- Conducted research on recent changes and updates in U.S. patent law, and engaged with Denver community through presentations aimed to educate startup founders, entrepreneurs, and inventors about the patent process and relevant business considerations.

Graphic/Product Designer and Co-Founder. Quandary Creative. Denver, CO. Aug 2015 - Feb 2017.

- Devised and provided strategic marketing and training solutions for a multi-million dollar spinal fusion medical device company, resulting in the creation of impactful digital and print assets. Collaborated with the company's marketing team to design compelling digital campaigns and informative training materials for healthcare professionals.
- Coordinated and designed exterior and indoor signs for a newly built outpatient ambulatory surgery center in Flint, MI.

- Conducted comprehensive product development workshops with clients to brainstorm ideas and refine concepts. Collaborated with mechanical engineers to create detailed prototypes that emphasized innovation, manufacturability, and patentability.

EDUCATION

Software Engineering Fellow, General Assembly, May, 2023.

PhD Microbiology. University of Colorado School of Medicine. Aurora, CO. Dec, 2013. GPA: 3.88.

BS Cell and Molecular Biology with Honors. Binghamton University. Binghamton, NY. May, 2007. GPA: 3.68.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Software: Python, JavaScript, Typescript, React.js, Next.js, Vercel, Jest testing, Python unittest, Django, Express, Node.js, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Mongoose, Prisma, TailwindCSS, Bootstrap, Materialize, Postman, Chai/Mocha, Pandas, Selenium Web Driver, Java, SpringBoot, Git, Github, HTML5, CSS3, AJAX, Adobe Creative Suite (Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, Premiere, Lightroom), Figma, Microsoft Office.

Languages: English and Japanese bilingual (native), Spanish (conversational)

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS [Software Portfolio](#) [Github Link](#)

New Leaf: Financial Budgeting proof-of-concept app to allow users to budget their finances with their bank app.

- Built a full-stack app in a small team comprising UX/UI designers and software engineers over the course of a 4 day hackathon, resulting in being awarded first place in our category.
- Led the team in overall strategy and daily stand-ups, and bridging communication between the front UX team, front-end, and back-end teams.
- Used: React.js, PostgreSQL, TailwindCSS, Adobe CC, Figma.

fourbeing: Social media message board with integrated language translations in over 15 languages using openAI.

- Built a full-stack React and Django social media application with full CRUD operations to access PostgreSQL database and external API.
- Implemented Authentication/Authorization with JwtToken, and styled with TailwindCSS for mobile/desktop use.
- Used: Django, DRF, React.js, PostgreSQL, TailwindCSS, openAI API, Adobe CC.

Dradha: Meditation and productivity app that records notes and includes a built-in timer so users can meditate on intentions.

- Built a full-stack single-page MERN stack application with RESTful API fetch calls and authentication/ authorization with JwtToken.
- Integrated several npm packages to create a custom timer element.
- Used: React.js, Express, Node.js, MongoDB, Mongoose, TailwindCSS, Adobe CC.

Tr'ondek: A simple Solitaire game.

- Built a front-end solitaire game that featured original illustrations created in Adobe Illustrator, and created game logic with constructors, and draggable card elements.
- Used: Vanilla JS, HTML5, CSS3, Adobe CC, deployed on Github Pages.