

John Venters

Game Designer & Producer

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in johnventers 💬 JohnVenters#4848 📍 Missoula, Montana



🎓 Education

- Professional Masters in Games Development**, Abertay University [↗](#) Sep 2021 – Sep 2022
Awards: Saltire Scholar
Dundee, UK
Honors: Merit (3.71 GPA), US Equivalent: *magna cum laude* (3.9 GPA)
- Bachelor of Arts in Media Arts**, University of Montana [↗](#) Aug 2013 – May 2018
Minor: Computer Science
Missoula, MT
Awards: Horatio Alger Scholar
Honors: *summa cum laude* (4.0 GPA)

📁 Professional Experience

- Production Intern**, InGAME [↗](#) Jun 2022 – Sep 2022
Dundee, UK
InGAME is a research & development center that explores new applications for game technologies. I worked directly with clients to flesh out ideas, develop project blueprints, assess risk, determine production schedules, and keep them on target. Was also contracted to design & implement the UI for a client project.
- Marketing & Communications Director**, University of Montana [↗](#) Apr 2017 – Sep 2021
Missoula, MT
Managed the student union Marketing Group and Art Gallery. Designed marketing materials for over 100 events per year, designed & maintained ~15 websites, managed PR and social media efforts for multiple departments, and promoted countless student and community artists. Served on the UC Leadership Team, Tech Partner's Board, and Executive Marketing Committee.
- Tech Support Manager**, University of Montana [↗](#) May 2013 – Apr 2017
Missoula, MT
Led the technical support team for UM's online course system. Provided top-tier support for over 2000 online courses and maintained an enterprise-wide system through the troubleshooting and resolving of complex, multidimensional problems. Managed the front-end, quality control, training, and custom plugin integrations.
- Cyber Systems Operations**, Montana Air National Guard [↗](#) May 2011 – Jan 2017
Great Falls, MT
Provided network administration and support. Designed and maintained computer networks to ensure they operated efficiently in a secure environment. Required a top-secret federal security clearance and CompTIA Security+ Certification.
- Advanced Repair Agent**, Best Buy / Geek Squad [↗](#) Oct 2012 – Apr 2013
Murray, UT
Diagnosed hardware and software issues quickly and implemented precision solutions. Identified opportunities to improve the process of assessing, testing, and repairing client technology. Required a great deal of multi-tasking, autonomy, and an in-depth knowledge of operating systems and computer hardware.

Developed high quality, highly functional websites for a diverse group of professional clients. Created custom WordPress templates, interfaced with clients, maintained content, and always completed projects before the deadline.

Skills & Competencies

User Interface Design

Level Design

Gameplay Design

Game Production

Unity Engine

Unreal Engine

C#

Blueprints

Photoshop

Illustrator

Adobe XD

After Effects

Blender

Analytical & Critical Thinking

Project Management

Creative Problem Solving

Team Building

Documentation Writing

Web Design & Development

Digital Accessibility

Conferences & Achievements

Winner: Best Overall, Kilted Otter Game Jam	2021
Best Visual Design, Best Content Manager, University of Montana Website Awards	2018
1st Place, Digital Design, ACUI Region IV "Steal This Idea" Competition	2017
Steering Committee Member, Extended Learning Institute (XLI) Conference	2016
Presented, "How To: Custom Designs for Online Courses", Mountain Moodle Moot	2015
Top Graduate, Cyber Systems Operations, Keesler Air Force Base	2012
Honor Graduate, Basic Military Training, Lackland Air Force Base	2012

Volunteer Experience

UM Computer Science Department, Volunteer Website Admin	2015 – 2018
University of Montana Tech Partners, Board Member	2014 – 2018
Hack Oregon, UI/UX Designer	2017
Polson High School, Math Tutor	2004 – 2007

Interests & Hobbies

Music

I play piano and guitar and enjoy seeing live shows. I used to perform live and play in bands, but these days it's just a hobby. I'd like to learn more about modern music production and sound design at some point.

Cars, Motorcycles, & DIY

I really like tinkering and building stuff. Taking something old and making it new again. Right now, I'm modding/restoring a 1978 Ford F100.

Dogs!

I have an awesome little pup named Ollie that would really like to be a studio dog someday.

Extra/Miscellaneous

Building PCs, playing D&D, cooking, watching movies (big film buff), and exploring new & exciting game worlds!