

# John Venters *UI/UX & Technical Designer*

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📍 Missoula, Montana



## 🎓 Education

**Professional Masters in Games Development**, Abertay University [🔗](#) Sep 2021 – Sep 2022 | Dundee, UK

**Awards:** Saltire Scholar

**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 | Missoula, MT

**Minor:** Computer Science

**Awards:** Horatio Alger Scholar

**Honors:** *summa cum laude* (4.0 GPA)

## 📁 Professional Experience

**UI/UX Developer (Remote)**, Yakima Chief Hops [🔗](#) Dec 2022 – Jul 2024 | Yakima, WA

- Designed and maintained design systems, style guides, and component libraries to ensure consistency and accelerate development. Designed 5 new apps including redesigning their entire global e-commerce solution.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to develop user-centered applications for web, Android, and iOS through wireframing, prototyping, and front-end implementation. Worked iteratively to incorporate feedback.
- Conducted UX research, performed user & usability testing, and wrote documentation. Presented insights and design solutions that aligned with user needs and stakeholder goals.

**Production Intern**, InGAME [🔗](#) Jun 2022 – Sep 2022 | Dundee, UK

- Collaborated directly with clients to flesh out ideas, develop detailed project blueprints, and minimize risks.
- Established production schedules and kept projects on target through effective project management.
- Was additionally contracted to design and implement user interfaces for a client's game project.

**Marketing & Communications Director**, University Center [🔗](#) Apr 2017 – Sep 2021 | Missoula, MT

- Led and trained a team of 8-10 artists and designers, overseeing the UC Marketing Group and UC Gallery. Successfully marketed 100+ events annually with unique branding and promotional materials.
- Designed and maintained 15 departmental websites and social media accounts, improving UX and engagement.
- Drove strategic decisions as part of the UC Leadership Team, IT 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, providing support for over 2000 online courses.
- Maintained an enterprise-wide system with two employees and a 95% customer satisfaction rating.
- Managed front-end design and support, quality control, training, and third-party integrations.

**Cyber Systems Operations**, Montana Air National Guard [🔗](#) May 2011 – Jan 2017 | Great Falls, MT

- Administered and supported network systems, including maintaining group policies, pushing security updates, and managing user access and accounts to ensure network integrity and security.
- Gained hands-on experience in server administration, SQL, virtual machines, network security, and encryption, contributing to robust and secure IT infrastructure.

**Web Designer**, Websites in a Flash [🔗](#) Sep 2011 – Feb 2012 | Polson, MT

- Designed and developed custom WordPress websites, creating tailored solutions for diverse clients and enhancing user experience and site performance.
- Crafted and maintained responsive website templates using HTML, CSS, and PHP, ensuring SEO optimization, cross-browser compatibility, and accessibility.

## Skills & Competencies

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## Conferences & Achievements

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IG50 Winner, Into Games <a href="#">↗</a>	2022
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

## Certifications

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Google Analytics Certified, Google via Skillshop <a href="#">↗</a> ID: 286363637	2024 - 2025
Security+, CompTIA <a href="#">↗</a> ID: COMP001020461244	2012 - 2018

## Volunteer Experience

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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

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**Music:** I play piano & guitar and like seeing live shows. Used to play in bands, but these days just a hobby.

**Cars & Motorcycles:** Enjoy tinkering and building things. Currently restoring a 1978 Ford F100.

**Games:** Love playing RPG and survival games. Currently working on developing a 2D pixel art game with friends.

**Misc:** Traveling new places, trying new foods, petting all the dogs (including my own pup, Ollie), D&D, etc.