

Paul Starr

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Summary

I am a bilingual (English and Japanese) full-stack developer. I am proficient in the fundamental tools of web development (including React and TypeScript), and experienced with backend development in Node.js, PHP, and MySQL. I have familiarity with Ruby and Swift. I've worked extensively with Adobe Creative Suite's extensibility APIs—both CEP and UXP. As a Japanese-to-English translator I have well over a million words of professional translation work in print.

Experience

Freelance Translator, 2007-Present

- Adaptation of Japanese comics and prose into English for multiple publishers. List of publications available upon request.

Pro Unlimited/Adobe—Software Engineer 2, June 2022-August 2023

- Worked to improve content ingestion workflow for the Engagement Campaign Platform, an internal marketing campaign tracking tool at Adobe
- Helped transition from ad-hoc CSVs to Airtable for bulk content metadata preparation
- Wrote two-way Airtable integration for a highly customized WordPress-based CMS
- Miscellaneous other maintenance tasks (unit tests, bug fixes, etc.)

Recurse Center—Participant, Fall 2021

- Developed **Serifu** ([source](#), [demo](#)), a suite of tools for composing and manipulating comic book scripts, including:
 - a parser for a domain-specific markup language of my own design
 - a browser-based editor for this language that includes dynamic autocomplete, automatic per-identifier tag coloring, script tree structure visualization, and caching of in-progress scripts using localStorage and a custom compression algorithm
 - an Adobe InDesign plugin that uses the Serifu parser to present a dynamically-updated view of script text to a designer, dramatically speeding up the book layout process
- Learned the Lezer and CodeMirror JavaScript libraries for development of the parser and editor
- Developed [a browser-based visualizer](#) for graphing the output of arbitrary Lezer parser definitions to aid in parser definition debugging
- Implemented React-based interfaces for the Serifu editor, InDesign plugin, and Lezer parser visualizer

Beyond Type 2—Web Development Contractor, June 2020

- Implemented the logic and interface for getinsulin.org, a tool that generates an action plan that helps users find affordable sources for insulin medication without transmitting any HIPAA-regulated personal information
- Implemented node.js-based Mailgun integration for delivering action plan via email

Kodansha Comics and Yen Press—Editor, August 2014–January 2020

- Oversaw adaptation of comics and prose novels from Japanese into English, from script translation to final lettering; Responsible for title quality at all stages of production
- Recruited, trained, and managed stable of translators and letterers
- Wrote [a collection of Adobe InDesign scripts](#) to automate a variety of tasks common in the layout of right-to-left reading comic books

Personal Projects

Serifu: A set of tools including a markup language and custom editor for composing and manipulating comic book scripts.

Susurrus: A multiplayer countdown timer app that lets users coordinate effort in real time, designed for lightness and high performance.

Continent Clicker: A toy that allows users to generate and save realistic-looking maps by clicking in irregular polygonal regions defined by Voronoi cells.

Education

- University of Hawai'i at Manoa—MA, Japanese Literature
- University of New Mexico—BA, Asian Studies