Steve Kovo steve@runner.studio

Lead Animator with 16+ years of experience in tech, games, and marketing. Creative problem solver and team player with a passion for storytelling driven to exceed expectations.

www.stevekovo.com linkedin.com/in/kovo

#### **TOOLS**

UI / UX	Graphic Design
Figma Sketch Adobe XD Figjam Miro	Illustrator Photoshop InDesign Procreate
Animation	Web Dev
Rive Lottie	JavaScript Node JS

Game Dev	Audio / Video
Unity Unreal Engine	Premiere Pro Final Cut Pro Adobe Audition

React JS

**Firebase** 

PHP

HTML CSS

#### **SKILLS**

Adobe Animate

After Effects

Toon Boom

Blender

Wireframes, Storyboarding, Style
Frames, Mockups, Concepting,
Prototyping, Storytelling, User
Testing, Game Design & Principles,
UX, UI Design, Web & Mobile UI,
Graphic Design, Visual Design,
Motion Design, 2D Animation,
Character Animation, Character
Design, Illustration, 3D Modeling,
Asset Integration, Web Development,
Branding & Identity Design

#### **EXPERIENCE**

### Lead Animator, Fetch

Madison, WI | Feb 2025 - present

Leading animation strategy & development for the Fetch app, and driving design improvements to strengthen brand cohesion & enhance the user experience.

Spearhead R&D on new tools & workflows to streamline animation production, optimize efficiency, and elevate user engagement through gamified interactions.

### **Animator**, Fetch

Madison, WI | May 2024 - Feb 2025

Responsible for character animation using Lottie & Rive, leading the transition of animation production from external vendors to in-house.

Collaborated with engineers to integrate assets efficiently, optimizing file sizes and boosting app performance while maintaining visual quality.

## Motion Designer, Freelance

Madison, WI | Dec 2015 - May 2024

Led a full-service B2B motion design business producing motion & video content.

Led character animation for GoNoodle's app & platform.

In charge of character design & video production for CharacterStrong's SEL curriculum.

# **UX / UI Designer, Naut Games**

San Francisco, CA | May 2014 - Dec 2015

In charge of user experience & interface design for GoNoodle's game channel content.

Designed web & mobile experiences used by over 14 million people.

## Technical Artist, UX, Filament Games

Madison, WI | Sep 2011 - May 2014

Led UI design & art direction for over 20 games and app titles.

In charge of asset integration & communication between art team, engineers, & PMs.

Designed wireframes & prototypes, and performed play tests to improve game design and mechanics.

Conducted user research including interviews & usability tests to identify opportunities for UX improvements.

#### **Animator**, Freelance

New York City, NY | Sep 2009 - Sep 2011

Led animation for the feature documentary film, Addiction Inc.

Provided illustration & animation services for many clients across a variety of projects.

### Course Developer, KC Distance Learning

Bloomsburg, PA | Mar 2009 - Sep 2009

Led development on a two-part language course.

Responsible for developing interactive web content within the company's LMS.