

John Castellese

Senior Front-End Developer

Michigan (Remote only)

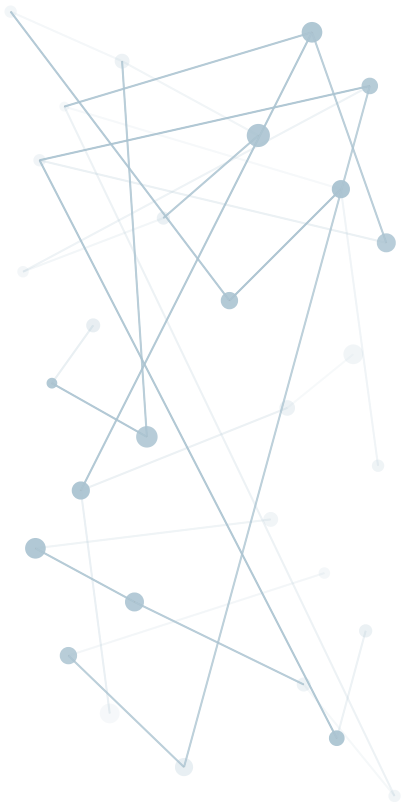
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Expanded resume:

john.castellese.info/resume



PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior front-end developer with 15+ years of experience delivering high-performance, user-centered websites and applications across agency, enterprise, and news media environments. Expert in WordPress architecture and modern JavaScript, with a proven record of building scalable interfaces for organizations in the music, automotive, technology, nonprofit, education, and bioscience sectors.

Skilled in complex UI systems, eCommerce platforms, membership portals, configurators, and interactive marketing experiences. Strong background in accessibility-driven development, performance optimization, collaborative engineering workflows, and high-fidelity design implementation.

Recently focused on modern JavaScript approaches and AI-assisted workflows that enhance development speed, code quality, and front-end scalability.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Core Technologies

JavaScript (ES6+) · PHP (WordPress ecosystem) · HTML · CSS (modern layout & architecture)

Front-End Engineering

React · Next.js · TypeScript · UI systems · Accessibility · Responsive design · Performance optimization · Modular JavaScript patterns · High-fidelity design implementation

WordPress Engineering

Custom themes & plugins · Block/FSE development · REST & headless architecture

Tools & Workflow

Git · Node.js/npm (tooling) · Vite/Webpack · Chrome DevTools · VS Code · AI-assisted development (Cursor · ChatGPT Atlas) · Workflow automation (n8n)

Full list of technologies available at: john.castellese.info/resume

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Developer

Three Seven (formerly 3.7 Designs) — Ann Arbor, MI

Aug 2018 – Present

- Lead front-end developer across nonprofit, education, technology, and bioscience sectors.
- Developed custom WordPress architectures using modern JavaScript, PHP, and REST integrations.
- Built scalable interfaces for eCommerce systems, membership platforms, and workflow-driven applications.
- Integrated AI-assisted development and automation tooling, improving delivery speed by ~30%.
- Designed performant, accessible front-ends with deep CMS integration and long-term maintainability.
- Partnered with design, content, and client teams to deliver polished, high-fidelity user experiences.

Development Operations Manager

ICON Interactive — Ann Arbor, MI

Oct 2013 – Aug 2018

Previously: Senior Manager, UI/UX Development • UI/UX Developer

- Led front-end development and operations across major entertainment and automotive accounts.
- Delivered interactive marketing experiences for globally recognized entertainment and automotive brands.
- Built advanced UI systems for automotive configurators with animated transitions and synchronized state logic.
- Implemented creative technical solutions using GSAP, custom animation frameworks, and high-fidelity design execution.
- Coordinated mixed-discipline teams and established workflows, version control practices, and code review standards.
- Served as liaison between design, motion, and engineering teams to translate creative concepts into production-ready builds.

Front-End Developer

AnnArbor.com — Ann Arbor, MI

Feb 2010 – Oct 2013

- Led front-end development, layout systems, and feature implementation for a high-traffic news platform.
- Built editorial tools, ad templates, and internal CMS components.
- Provided staff training and maintained technical documentation.

SELECTED PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

Recent project examples available at:

john.castellese.info/resume#projects

- Integrated generative AI tools into agency development processes.
- Built Model Context Protocol services connecting Google Drive and Monday.com APIs.
- Developed custom WordPress blocks and full-site editing templates in React.
- Led accessibility compliance and performance optimization initiatives for enterprise clients.
- Specialized in design-to-code implementation of complex creative concepts.
- Additional professional initiatives published on the expanded résumé.

EDUCATION

Grand Valley State University

Bachelor of Fine Art (Art & Design) —
1999–2005

Emphasis in Printmaking & Graphic Design

