BENJAMIN SHIMAZU

benshimazu@gmail.com | SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA | +1 808-352-6663 | benjaminshimazu.com | in/benjaminshimazu/

SELECTED UX DESIGN PROJECTS

Johnson Controls | UX Designer   *Apr 2023 - Oct 2025*
Net Zero Advisor: Observation & Recommendation feature
- Designed workflows, information architecture, screens, and copywriting for the first major AI-centric OpenBlue Enterprise Manager (OBEM) feature.
- Led team alignment workshops and design reviews, creating a collaborative and iterative environment during feature development.
- Achieved patent innovation for Observation & Recommendation feature (DS-24-8346-US) and facilitated successful pilot & global launch of the Observation & Recommendation feature contributing to $2.1M ARR.

Element Design System
- Contributed new components with adherence to overall design system language and WCAG 2.2 requirements alongside robust documentation and specifications.
- Maintained and evolved existing component library used across 34 design teams with a focus on scalability, efficiency, and standardization.

Design to Developer Handoff
- Led the creation of a formalized UX to Development design handoff process used across 6 product teams, ensuring consistent design specification, breakpoint adherence, and accessibility documentation.
- Developed process with asynchronous handoff in mind to facilitate ease-of-use between US and India teams.

Safe Place International via Tech Fleet Community DAO | **UX Design Lead** (contract)   *Nov 2022 - Jan 2023*
Responsive Social Media Web App - *Link*
- Led the UX design process for the development of Safe Place International's virtual community platform, ensuring that the platform was intuitive, user-friendly, and visually appealing to LGBTQIA+ refugees.
- Created wireframes, prototypes, and high-fidelity mockups to effectively communicate design ideas to stakeholders.
- Developed and maintained design guidelines and standards to ensure a consistent and cohesive user experience across the platform.
- Contributed to the overall strategic direction of the platform, using data and user feedback to inform decision-making and drive continuous improvement.

PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE

Marcus & Millichap   **Phoenix, AZ**
Commercial Real Estate Sales & Property Management   *Jan 2020 - Dec 2023*
- Facilitated commercial property acquisition/disposition transactions for 6 investors, totaling $4.2 million, through the timely coordination of key stakeholders, prioritizing competing objectives, and establishing relationships with lenders and inspectors.
- Oversaw leasing of 8 commercial properties across the U.S. through flawless execution, collaborative relationship building, and thorough organization of leasing assets.

Vanguard   **Phoenix, AZ**
Senior Wealth Manager & Institutional Advisor   *Sep 2010 - Jan 2020*
- Proposed and delivered a department Culture Book highlighting our unique employee culture by leading a 4-person team in conceptualizing, designing, and publishing the book.
- Grew assets under management for $16 billion in institutional retirement plans by 2% by proactively identifying asset growth opportunities, achieving buy-in from executives, and proposing valuable cost-saving measures.

EDUCATION

University of Arizona   **Tucson, AZ**
Bachelor of Arts in English Literature

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Design: Wireframing, Storyboarding, Iterative Prototyping, Typography, User Interface Design, Design Systems

Research: Usability Testing, Personas, Information Architecture, Site Map, User Journey, Competitive Analysis

Tools: Figma, Miro, Atlassian (Jira, Confluence), Claude.ai, Bolt.io, User Interviews, Marvin, Adobe CC

Interests: Photography, motorsports, soccer, personal finance/economics, cooking