Gabor Tankovics

Business Founder, Design Strategist, UX Engineer

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Product-focused business leader, design strategist and UX engineer, with specific emphasis on financial services and complex regulatory environments. Formally trained in design, software development and business by way of Parsons and HEC Paris, my work focuses on building products and ventures based on rapid prototyping methodologies and findings in behavioral economics.

Currently I'm working on Dartboard, the first financial well-being benefit that helps employees build retirement savings by paying down their student loans. Previously I built multiple startups, oversaw the first phase of a 4,000 acre eco-resort development, managed two boutique digital strategy agencies, and taught Design+Technology at Parsons. When I'm not spending my time on Dartboard, I like working with teams building new products & brands in collaborative and agile environments.

I enjoy the challenge of finding creative solutions for solving complex problems in all contexts. I'm a seasoned leader, well-versed in all phases of project management and execution from concept and strategy to systems architecture, team management, usability testing, iteration, production and deployment.

Skill and Proficiency

Business

‣ 5-time business founder
‣ Ex-corporate lawyer
‣ Mentor & speaker in startup labs
‣ Customer research & concept development

Design

‣ System architecture
‣ UX design, interaction design
‣ Prototype fabrication: Invision, POP, Keynote, Flinto

Software & Hardware

‣ Web development: JavaScript (server and client-side), Node.js, MongoDB, HTML5, CSS3, AWS, Angular
‣ Native app development: Cordova, Ionic framework, Processing, C++/OpenFrameworks
‣ Hardware: Arduino, Nitinol muscle wires, Laser cutting

Communication

‣ Graduate-level teaching
‣ Public speaking
‣ Client presentations & pitches
‣ Writing (technical, research, narrative)
‣ Documentation
‣ Languages:
  English, French, Hungarian, German

Parsons School of Design

MFA in Design + Technology
New York, 2013-2015
‣ *Concentrations:* behavioral economics, financial technologies, application development, physical computing

HEC Paris

Master in Management, Grande Ecole
Paris, France, 2004-2008
‣ *Concentrations:* entrepreneurship, marketing, corporate law

University Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne

Master in Laws (LL.M.), International Corporate and Tax Law
Paris, France, 2007-2008
‣ *Concentrations:* private equity, LBO operations, comparative tax law

Work Experience

Dartboard

Founder, CEO
New York, 2016-Present
www.dartboard.nyc

Dartboard is a corporate financial well-being benefit that helps employees build retirement savings by paying down their student loans, generating massive savings for the 44 million US student loan holders.

‣ Concept + strategy: after over a year of research in behavioral economics, Dartboard grew out of my graduate thesis project at Parsons.
‣ Identify business development opportunities and plan product development & marketing strategy.
‣ Hire and supervise a team of engineers, UX/UI designers, marketing and sales experts.
‣ Co-design UX & UI based on ongoing analysis of user behavior patterns.
‣ Co-develop front and back-end, messaging-based interface, web-scraping API.

Parsons School of Design

School of Art, Media, and Technology (AMT)
Adjunct Faculty, Design & Technology, 2015-2018
Graduate Fellow, Center for Transformative Media, 2014-2015
Teaching Fellow, Design & Technology, 2014

Upon earning my MFA, I accepted a part-time faculty position teaching various courses in the MFA Design & Technology program at Parsons.

Selected Courses:
‣ Creative and Computational Lab
‣ Creative Coding
‣ Web Design and Development
‣ Future of Guitar Design

Chambord Country Club

Co-founder, Project Manager
Paris, France, 2009-2014

Chambord Country Club is an eco-resort development in Central-France, including a Nicklaus Design golf course, 646 villas and apartments designed by architect Jean-Michel Wilmotte, a hotel, a 60-box equestrian center, a bio-farm, shops and restaurants.

‣ Project development.
‣ Manage a team of 50 experts: architects, engineers, designers, administrative experts.
‣ Manage relationships with local, regional and state authorities.
‣ Manage administrative and legal procedures (building permits, environmental procedures, etc.).

Ideall / GT Communication

Co-founder, CEO
Paris, France, 2005-2008 / 2008-2009

Boutique digital strategy agencies.

‣ Technology consulting, design and develop applications and experiences.
‣ Clients included Musée de l'Armée, Invalides, Elysée-Montmartre, Garance Productions, CVML, Exane Derivatives (BNP Paribas subsidiary), HEC Paris, Cirque Arlette Gruss.

Linklaters LLP

Lawyer
Paris, France, 2008

Lawyer in the Corporate Law / M&A / Private Equity department.

Selected Consulting & Advisory Missions

TBA

Marrach AG
Strategist (Consultant)
Paris, 2019

Marrach AG is a Swiss-Hungarian medical tourism professional.

‣ In charge of the venture's expanson towards the fast-growing French market: user research, go-to-market strategy, digital marketing, recruitment.

Headliner

SpareMin Inc.
Strategist, UX Designer (Consultant)
New York, 2018

Headliner is a browser-based tool that transforms audio clips into shareable videos in a few seconds.

‣ Support team with strategic positioning, product development, UX/UI design.

New Challenge Mentor

The New School
Mentor, Judge
New York, 2016-2017

New Challenge (renamed Impact Entrepreneurship Initiative) is a university-wide initiative that supports early-stage entrepreneurial leaders in developing the mindsets, skills, and sense of purpose needed to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

‣ Mentor teams around user research, strategic positioning, UX/UI design.
‣ Judge projects based on business potential, social impact, maturity, technology.

Capital One Entrepreneurship Program

City University of New York
Visiting Professor
New York, 2016

A partnership between Capital One Bank and NYDesigns, the Capital One Entrepreneurship Program is a business training program for students at LaGuardia Community College who want to launch a profitable technology-driven business.

ESPN Next

NYC Media Lab
Strategy, UX Design, Software
New York, 2014

ESPN Next is a prototype mobile application designed around the future of watching live sports for millennials, by millennials. Built for ESPN by a team of UX designers and software developers from Parsons.

<div style="background:#555;color:#fff;padding:4px;display:inline-block">**Selected Independent Projects**</div>

New World Symphony

Miami New World Symphony + Parsons
Project Management, Software
New York, 2014

A multimedia project, in collaboration between Parsons and the Miami New World Symphony, designed to illustrate the physical and aural dynamics of live performance through HD imagery and music-generated multimedia effects.

3D Toothbrush

Concept, Hardware, Software, Installation
New York, 2014

A 3D Toothbrush that simulates on a screen the movement of an actual toothbrush in the user's mouth. It uses an accelerometer on the toothbrush, a custom-made algorithm, a microcontroller, and OpenFrameworks.

The Green Pretaster

Concept, Hardware, Firmware
New York, 2014

The Green Pretaster is a living peppermint plant that measures and expresses water pollution using electric conductivity sensors and Nitinol muscle wires.

MoneyTime
Concept, Software
New York, 2014

MoneyTime is a Chrome extension that transforms every money value in the users' browser into their custom-tailored time value.

Yes To Food
Founder, UX Design, Software
Paris, 2013

Yes To Food is a Web Application experimenting the representation and discovery of gourmet food products.

Selected Awards

‣ ***Best University Startups 2017* (Dartboard)**, University Startup Conference and Demo Day, National Council of Entrepreneurial Tech Transfer, 2017

‣ Received ***Grant Funding* (Dartboard)**, NYCEDC, 2016

‣ Selected to the ***NYC Media Lab Combine Program* (Dartboard)**, NYC Media Lab, 2016

‣ Selected to ***IN2NYC | International Entrepreneurial Talent* (Dartboard)**, NYCEDC + CUNY, 2016

‣ Demo Startup at ***NYC Media Lab Annual Summit* (Dartboard)**, NYC Media Lab, 2016

‣ Winner of the ***Parsons Entrepreneurial Lab Fellowship* (Dartboard)**, Parsons School of Design, 2016

‣ Exhibited at ***Impact! at South Street Seaport* (Dartboard)**, Parsons Festival, 2016

‣ Demo Project at ***World Maker Faire* (3D Toothbrush)**, 2014

‣ ***Merit-based Graduate Dean's Scholarship***, Parsons MFA Design and Technology, 2013-2015