

# Gabor Tankovics

UX Engineer, Software Developer, Entrepreneur

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I am a product-focused business leader, UX engineer and software developer, with specific emphasis on financial services and mobile & messaging-based applications. Formally trained in design, technology 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 employee benefit that intelligently automates student loan payments. Previously I built multiple startups, oversaw the first phase of a 4,000 acre eco-resort development, managed a boutique digital strategy agency, 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.

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## Skill and Proficiency

### *Business*

- 5-time business founder
- Ex-corporate lawyer
- Mentor in startup labs

### *Design*

- System architecture
- UX design, interaction design
- Prototype fabrication

### *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
- Writing (technical, research, narrative)
- Documentation
- Languages:  
English, French, Hungarian, German

## Experience

### **Dartboard**

*Founder, CEO*

New York, 2015-Present

[www.dartboard.nyc](http://www.dartboard.nyc)

Dartboard is an employer-facing service that provides a simple and engaging tool for college graduates to automate & accelerate their student loan repayment, 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, 2015-2017*

*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 Coding
- Web Design and Development
- Creative and Computational Lab
- 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.).

## **GT Communication**

*Founder, CEO*

Paris, France, 2008-2009

Web and digital media agency.

- Design and develop web and media projects, technology consulting.
- Clients included Exane Derivatives (BNP Paribas subsidiary), HEC Paris, Cirque Arlette Gruss.

## **Ideall**

*Co-founder, CEO*

Paris, France, 2005-2009

Digital strategy agency.

- Technology consulting, design and develop applications and experiences.
- Clients included Musée de l'Armée, Invalides, Elysée-Montmartre, Garance Productions, CVML.

## **Linklaters LLP**

*Lawyer*

Paris, France, 2008

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

## **Selected Independent Projects / Consulting Missions / Volunteer Experience**

### **SpareMin**

SpareMin Inc.

*Strategist, UX Designer*

New York, 2018-Present

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

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

### **New Challenge Mentor**

The New School

*Mentor, Judge*

New York, 2016-2017

New Challenge was a yearly university-wide ideas competition and incubator for students committed to tackling pressing social challenges and implementing these ideas in local and global contexts.

- Mentor teams around user research, strategic positioning, UX/UI design, software development.
- 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

*Strategist, UX Designer, Software Developer*

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.

## **New World Symphony**

Miami New World Symphony + Parsons

*Project Manager, Software Developer*

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**

*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**

*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**

*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 Designer, Software Developer*

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 I 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

## Education

### 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