

MICHAEL L. LAWSON

Creative Engineer · Frontend Developer (React / TypeScript)

Gilbert, AZ | (480) 286-3591 | michael@mll-creativeeng.com | mll-creativeeng.com | [LinkedIn](#)

SUMMARY

Creative engineer and frontend developer building responsive, accessible web applications with React, TypeScript, and modern JavaScript. Portfolio work spans component systems, REST integrations, WebGL, Web Audio, and WCAG-focused interaction design. Thirty years in visual design strengthen how I translate polished concepts into functional web experiences.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages & Styling: JavaScript (ES6+), TypeScript, HTML5, CSS3, Tailwind CSS

Frameworks & Libraries: React, React Router, Context API, Three.js

Web Platform & Practices: REST APIs, Web Audio API, Canvas API, View Transitions API, WCAG AA accessibility, responsive design

Tools: Git, GitHub, Vite, Vercel, npm, VS Code, Playwright, oxlint, Adobe Creative Cloud

PROJECTS

Waymark: Devotional & E-Commerce Platform | React, TypeScript, Vite

- Architected a multi-route React + TypeScript app with a daily devotional, searchable resource library, and product store with cart, built on a documented component library and design-token system.
- Brought the app to WCAG AA with a focus-trapped modal drawer, route-change focus management, and live announcements; achieved zero TypeScript errors in strict mode and zero lint warnings.

Forge City Circuit: League Fan Portal | Vanilla JavaScript (ES Modules), Three.js

- Built a framework-free single-page app (custom hash router, 5 views, 8 teams across 3 sports) that renders standings, schedules, and playoff brackets from a JSON data layer; verified every route with Playwright smoke tests.
- Developed an interactive WebGL hero in Three.js with drag-to-rotate, particle effects, and a scroll-triggered assembly animation, backed by a static SVG fallback for no-JS environments.

Knob Noster Visitor Site | React, Vite, REST APIs

- Converted static HTML mockups into a six-page React app with a reusable component and data architecture; integrated live weather (Open-Meteo) and local news (RSS) feeds with loading and error states.

Evergrace Music: Self-Initiated Brand System | React, TypeScript, Vite

- Built a reusable React component library and design-token system for a conceptual record label.

The Kindred Fire: Self-Initiated Artist Experience | JavaScript, Web Audio API, Canvas API

- Created an artist microsite with an audio-reactive visualizer that extends the Evergrace Music concept.

CineVault: Movie Discovery App | React, React Router, OMDb API

- Refactored a vanilla JavaScript app into React with context providers for theme, watchlist, and cached API state, plus a server-side OMDb endpoint that protects the API key.

EXPERIENCE

Frontend Development Intern | The Social NFT Marketplace (Remote)

2026 – Present

- Diagnose and resolve frontend bugs in the company's live React and Tailwind CSS marketplace deployed on Vercel.
- Replaced a static preview-image block with an interactive carousel component, creating a clearer browsing experience within the marketplace UI.

Founder / Freelance Creative Engineer | MLL Creative Engineering (formerly Lawson Grafix, LLC), Gilbert, AZ

1995 – Present

- Expanded a 30-year design studio into a creative engineering practice offering frontend development, design systems, and web builds; manage engagements from requirements through delivery.
- Designing and developing MLL OS, a branded web interface for Claude-powered business agents supporting project intake, proposal writing, and brand QA.

Production Specialist / Graphic Designer | FastSigns, Gilbert, AZ

2021 – 2026

- Prepared production-ready files to exact technical specs and managed workflow from order intake to quality-checked delivery.

Creative Specialist | Xerox Corporation, Phoenix, AZ

1998 – 2017

- Produced digital media, online presentations, and internal website and training content.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

Software Engineering Certificate, Frontend Coding | FES Institute

Master Certificate, Web Development & Advanced Graphic Design | Sessions College for Professional Design

AA, Visual Communications; Digital Production Certificate, Multimedia | Al Collins Graphic Design School