

# Thomas Wilburn

Data journalist and news developer

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## The Seattle Times | News Developer

2014 - present

As the senior developer for the Interactives team, I create award-winning digital storytelling, build newsroom tools, and serve as a technical resource for reporters and editors.

- Developed our [Node-based news app template](#), on which all Seattle Times special presentations have been built
- Led development on more than 200 interactive projects, including award-winning stories on [high-priced surgical misconduct](#), [public transit funding](#), [book recommendations](#), and [the Profanity Peak wolves](#)
- Built [web-based newsroom tools](#) for easier social media sharing and quick story response
- Trained interns and producers who went on to form or contribute to data teams at the LA Times, Philadelphia Inquirer, San Francisco Chronicle, and New York Times
- Wrote the [developer blog](#) for the Interactives team, explaining how and why we built many of our projects

## ArenaNet | Web Programmer

2012 - 2014

As a member of a small team, I built and maintained web apps and middleware for account management, marketing, API access, and in-game UI

- Part of the effort to [rebuild the in-game commerce UI](#) on an updated Chromium environment for speed and ease of use
- Maintained the account site, including a large-scale rewrite of the two-factor authentication code and OAuth for user apps
- Implemented new features in the base library for ArenaNet's Node-like server platform

## CQ Roll Call | Multimedia Team Lead

2009 - 2012

As head of the Multimedia Team, I created interactive data visualizations for CQ Weekly, our news magazine covering government policy and legislation.

- Created a dashboard for multiple economic indicators, including GDP and home prices, including a CSV-powered admin interface
- Assisted the politics team with deep dives into voting data, including measures of partisanship and patterns of support
- Filled gaps in the CMS with tools for displaying tabular data, special pages, timelines, and maps

## Skills

**Front-end development:** Expert with HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. Experience with Vue, Leaflet, Angular, D3, SVG, and WebGL.

**Other languages:** Python, Visual Basic, PHP, Java

**Data analysis and visualizations:** Excel, PostgreSQL, Google Sheets, Open Refine, QGIS

**System administration:** Linux (CentOS and Ubuntu), AWS, Apache, nginx, Vagrant

**Management:** Experienced trainer, project lead, and public speaker

## Accomplishments

**Caret:** Primary developer of this Chrome OS-based text editor, with more than a quarter of a million active users

**Open source:** Developer of multiple open-source front-end libraries, including custom elements for powering maps and visualizations

**Public speaking:** Presenter at SRCCON, SeattleJS, CascadiaFest, Hacks/Hackers Seattle, and NICAR

**Teaching:** Guest lecturer at the University of Washington, instructor at Seattle Central College from 2012 to 2015

**Awards:** Recognized for work by APSE, AAJA, ONA, SPJ, and the Society for News Design