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## Qualifications

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I entered the blockchain space as a student and speculator. I quickly became a trader and investor. Eventually, I became an educator for friends, family, and countless acquaintances. And finally, I committed myself to building in this space as a developer and co-founder. I'm certain that this industry will grow beyond all our expectations, and I intend to play an active part through the growing pains.

[Most Recent Project](#) | [GitHub](#) | [Medium](#) | [OpenZeppelin](#)

[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#)

Solidity | JavaScript | TypeScript | ReactJS | NextJS | NodeJS | Ethers.js | Ethereum Smart Contracts | Technical & Creative Copywriting | Content Marketing

## Experience

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### **Software Engineer & Co-Founder • Thrive Together • Jan 2023 – July 2024**

*Remote*

- We rebranded our previous startup, MintGate, and pivoted the project to focus on community development and acting as a social support network. The goal for [ThriveTogether.xyz](#) is to help poorly connected local communities communicate more seamlessly by providing a new medium for connecting with real people in your hometown. We saw some moderate usage from friends, family, and members of the local community in Ann Arbor, MI, however, we made this pivot very late when we were already nearing the end of our runway from our initial raise. While our investors supported the pivot, we were unable to gain meaningful usage with the remaining runway we had to seek out new funding. As a result, we inevitably had to end the project and close the business. But I'm still extremely grateful to our investors and my co-founders for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this journey filled with invaluable lessons.

## Software Engineer & Co-Founder • MintGate • July 2020 – Current

*Remote*

- [MintGate](#) is a startup that provides token gating solutions for ERC-20, ERC-721, and ERC-1155 tokens, in addition to lazy minted NFTs supported through the Rarible Protocol. I met my co-founders as part of the genesis Gitcoin Kernel cohort in the summer of 2020. After completing the program, we joined the Tachyon Accelerator in the fall where we officially incorporated and founded [MintKudos](#), the parent company of [MintGate](#).
- My primary responsibility at MintGate is software development, focusing on blockchain development. I deployed our ERC-1155 contracts on the Ethereum blockchain, which share the same royalty schema as the Rarible Protocol. The Rarible Protocol is an open NFT protocol that allows creators to mint with no gas cost through lazy minting and provides a decentralized exchange that supports multiple order types, including matched orders, bid orders, and custom auctions coming soon.
- As a part of integrating the Rarible Protocol on MintGate, I participate in weekly Rarible DAO and developer calls. MintGate received a grant and joined the Rarible DAO early on because it provided an immediate solution to minting NFTs while mitigating gas costs. The royalties are also an important feature for our users and partners. We chose to join the DAO and build on the protocol instead of building out custom contracts and using alternative gas saving solutions like relayers so that we could focus our efforts on a more comprehensive token gating solution and to grow with the DAO. I act as MintGate's primary representative in the DAO calls.
- I primarily focus on the NFT minting, sales, and other marketplace related features of the project. This means staying updated on newly added protocol features and maintaining support for existing and improved APIs. I've also spent a significant amount of time building out the front-end with the rest of my team, which uses React, Next.js, Ethers.js, and Tailwind. I've also supported my co-founders who have more experience with our back-end, which uses Express.js servers and a PostgreSQL database, by reviewing their PRs and testing major updates.
- As a co-founder, my responsibilities included anything required to keep the business operating. I spent a significant amount of time working with my CEO, Jonathan Dunlap, fundraising shortly after we completed the Tachyon program. In addition, I've written [several articles](#) related to our token gating service, NFTs, and blockchain, while also editing and peer reviewing our [weekly project updates](#).

- As part of my continued learning, I recently enrolled in [Consensys' Blockchain Developer Bootcamp](#) for fall 2021. Over the remaining months of the course, I will refine my knowledge of smart contracts, tooling, L2 solutions, and Eth 2.0. However, I've already been studying smart contract security using resources like Ethernaut, Consensys' Best Practices, and reading public audit reports from OpenZeppelin. I've also been advancing my development skills with tools like Scaffold-Eth, Eth.build, Truffle, Hardhat, web3.js, and ethers.js over the same time. I created a more detailed record of my research and development in the [OpenZeppelin Forum](#). This is also where I was fortunate to meet Andrew Coathup who provided so many valuable resources for me to explore on my journey.

## **Blockchain Developer • Freelance • September 2019 – July 2020**

*Las Vegas, Nevada / Remote*

- I've received several blockchain certifications through my ongoing education in the Ivan on Tech Academy. I have an applicable knowledge of blockchain technology that includes how to create and deploy smart contracts on the Ethereum blockchain, how to connect front-end applications to those smart contracts, and how to integrate new or existing online services to established DeFi projects.
- I've developed various token contracts using the OpenZeppelin library. I've created a testnet crowdsale with all features included, a simple liquidity exchange, like Uniswap, using my own token on the Ropsten testnet. I've created flash loan contracts for both Aave and dYdX with other developers enrolled in Dapp University. Most recently, I've been developing an app to redeem NFTs for physical goods.
- Besides writing smart contracts using Solidity, I've also written about software development related to blockchain and regularly record my ongoing journey in learning about this technology in my #100DaysOfCode challenge. The days have been recorded on Twitter, LinkedIn, Cent, the OpenZeppelin forum, and the OneMillionDevs forum.
- I'm familiar with development tools like Truffle, Ganache-CLI, OpenZeppelin CLI & test environment, Buidler, Web3.js, Ethers.js, and Scaffold-Eth. I've integrated smart contracts with established decentralized finance (DeFi) applications such as UniSwap, Kyber, Compound, PoolTogether, MakerDao's DSR, dYdX, and Synthetix.
- It feels like I learn about a revolutionary use-case for crypto daily. A comprehensive understanding and mastery over its development is nothing short of a superpower in my opinion.

## **Digital Strategist • Freelance • June 2018 – September 2019**

*Lawrence, Kansas/Las Vegas, Nevada*

- I managed and optimized AdWords Accounts – reduced CPC, implemented proper account structure, and increased relevant traffic through keyword research, proper negative keyword usage, and A/B split testing.
- I built and managed two SEO Optimized WordPress sites – HowtoClaim.win & EzTeachOnline.com – Through competitive keyword research, I identified feasible DA & PA rankings and implemented long-tail keywords to achieve those results. I optimized Meta Tags, created long-form SEO optimized content, and did link-building through guest posts on high DA sites.
- I'm familiar with Google Analytics to assess visitor behavior and adjust PPC search campaign keywords and budgets accordingly. I've also used Google Analytics to structure and analyze engagement with web content for organic SEO research.
- I've implemented lead capture on landing pages and managed email marketing campaigns and newsletters with Aweber.

## **VIPKID Teacher • VIPKID • January 2018 – July 2020**

*Remote*

- I taught ESL, English as a Second Language, to children ages 4-12 English through VIPKid's online platform. I frequently wrote parent feedback on student progress and class performance.
- I regularly recommended learning strategies to students' parents for more effective English development.
- I maintained a 5-star average on teaching performance from parent feedback with over 1,500 reviews. I've taught over 3,300 classes and over 1,500 students using TPR, oral repetition, and common ESL teaching practices.

## **Education & Certifications**

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| <b>Bitcoin &amp; Blockchain 101</b> | July 2019 | <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/luis-egea/">https://www.linkedin.com/in/luis-egea/</a> |
| <b>Ethereum 101</b>                 | Aug 2019  | <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/luis-egea/">https://www.linkedin.com/in/luis-egea/</a> |
| <b>Ethereum Programming 101</b>     | Oct 2019  | <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/luis-egea/">https://www.linkedin.com/in/luis-egea/</a> |
| <b>Smart Contract Security 103</b>  | Nov 2019  | <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/luis-egea/">https://www.linkedin.com/in/luis-egea/</a> |

**DeFi 101**

| April 2020 | <https://www.linkedin.com/in/luis-egea/>

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**Google Ads Search Certificate** | July 2018 |

<https://academy.exceedlms.com/student/award/16477478>

**Google Ads Fundamentals Certificate** | June 2018 |

<https://academy.exceedlms.com/student/award/14756878>

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**Level 5 TEFL Certificate** | November 2015 |

International TEFL Academy Chicago, Illinois (170 hours)

**Bachelor of Arts, English - Creative Writing** | December 2014 |

University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas