

Mitchell Katz

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EDUCATION

Lehigh University

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Business (Dual Degree)

University GPA: 3.9 — **Honors:** Summa Cum Laude, RK Laros Endowed Prize for Entrepreneurship

Bethlehem, PA

Completed May 2023

WORK AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ModCore Inc. (acquired Sk1er)

Mount Vernon, NY

ModCore Inc. specializes in software modifications (“mods”) for the video game Minecraft. Its flagship product, [Essential](#), integrates a cosmetics storefront, social features, and free multiplayer world hosting, gathering tens of millions of downloads, tens of billions of user-minutes played, and 2M+ active users.

Strategic Advisor & Board Member

January 2024-July 2025

- Committed to an 18-month advisory engagement after stepping down as CEO, transferring founder-held operational knowledge and continuing data and analytics work while serving on the Board of Directors
- Negotiated a staged exit: partial equity sale at CEO transition (2024), then a full all-cash buyout initiated by partners (2025), following **25x revenue growth** during tenure as CEO

Founder & CEO

January 2018-January 2024

- Founded Sk1er LLC in high school as a self-taught developer; grew a portfolio of Minecraft mods to roughly 100,000 weekly active users, alongside a [YouTube channel](#) of 100,000+ subscribers and a 100,000+ member Discord community that became the audience and momentum behind Essential
- Conceived ModCore within Sk1er as a way for mod developers to earn real money from cosmetics players wanted, not ads they didn’t; the project drew an acquisition by and partnership with Spark Universe, forming ModCore Inc. and relaunching ModCore from the ground up as Essential
- Grew operation from solo side project to a 20-person international team across seven departments; owned product direction, hiring and compensation, and all business operations including legal counsel, accounting, and payroll
- Pioneered peer-to-peer multiplayer world-sharing, disrupting the paid server-hosting market with a first-of-its-kind service that eliminated the need for a dedicated server

Lead Developer & Data Scientist

January 2018-January 2024

- Led twice-weekly standups for an eight-person developer team, signed off on all infrastructure and systems architecture, and facilitated implementation decisions with the product department
- Built proprietary telemetry pipeline to collect, aggregate, and visualize platform data in Grafana, enabling data-driven decision-making through KPI dashboards presented to leadership
- Shipped over-the-air updates to millions of player machines via the ecosystem’s first launcher-agnostic loader: an open-source (GPL-3) wrapper that fetches and links the latest version at launch, keeping every install current
- Championed open-source initiative releasing the tooling behind Essential (Elementa UI library, UniversalCraft, Gradle toolkits), collecting 1,000+ GitHub stars; [SparkUniverse](#) | [Sk1erLLC](#)

The Vanguard Group

Valley Forge, PA

Lead Software Intern

June-August 2021

- Architected a backend API generating diversified client portfolios from ten factors including age and risk tolerance; led a three-intern team to Vanguard’s standards for structure, test coverage, and business logic

SKILLS

Languages: Kotlin, Java, Python

Systems & Networking: Peer-to-peer networking, telemetry and observability (Grafana, Prometheus)

Databases: MongoDB, PostgreSQL, Redis

Technologies & Methods: Git, CI/CD, Docker, Kubernetes, Gradle, OpenGL, Java ASM, DigitalOcean

ADDITIONAL

Judging & Speaking: Judge at Lehigh Baker Institute’s Thalheimer Grand Prize Pitch Competition (2026); featured alumni speaker at The Windward School’s Dream Big event (2026)

Leadership: Founding executive board member of Lehigh Coders Community, recruiting 350+ members and coordinating events with Microsoft, MongoDB, and Accenture; served two years on Alpha Epsilon Pi’s executive board as Treasurer and Secretary