

# Gabriel Wyner

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(818) 633-4223

Chicago, IL

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### Fluent Forever, Inc

Apr. 2014 – Dec. 2022

Founder & CEO | Apt. 2014 – Dec. 2022

Remote / Chicago, IL

- Fluent Forever is an app-based language learning platform, built for learners who are aiming for *actual fluency* in their language of choice. (Fluent-Forever.com)
- As Founder & CEO, I oversaw our core strategies, pedagogical design, product roadmap, ops, marketing, and fundraising.
  - Raised \$7M in funding from VCs and angel investors | Reached \$2M ARR and profitability
  - Built a line of products that brought language learners in 12 languages to high intermediate, conversational fluency (CEFR B2 level) in as little as 9 months
  - Created and maintained a workplace culture that led to <5% voluntary annual turnover in every department. Voted one of 2021's Best Remote Startups to Work For by BuildingRemotely.
  - Became one of Crain's 2021 Notable LGBTQ Executives
- Executed the most successful crowdfunding campaign for an app in history (\$1.7M raised in 2017-2018)
- Prior to our VC rounds, I crowdfunded & launched 65 language learning products, acquiring >30k customers.

### Penguin Random House

Apr. 2012 – Apr. 2014, Jan. 2023 – Present

Author

Remote

- Wrote Fluent Forever: How to learn any language fast and never forget it, which became the only national bestseller about language learning in history. Translated in 12 languages. Second edition in Q4 2024

### Ankihub, Inc.

Jan. 2024 – Present

Executive Strategy and Operations Consultant

Remote

- Developed a cohesive company strategy and am now on the product team, executing according to that strategy.

### Wyner Family Consulting

Nov. 2023 – Present

Project Manager and Editor

Remote

- Building an audience for an unknown author via marketing, editing, PM work and LLM automation via Python.

## EDUCATION

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### MUK - Musik und Kunst Privatuniversität der Stadt Wien

June, 2013

Masters in Oratorio and Art Song

Vienna, Austria

- Graduated with Honors, with a masters thesis on language learning for opera singers

### University of Southern California

May, 2007

Dual degrees: BS in Mechanical Engineering, BM in Vocal Arts Performance

Los Angeles, CA

- Recipient of the Renaissance Scholar's prize for excellence in unrelated disciplines
- Graduated *summa cum laude*, member of Tau Beta Pi honors society for engineers

## SKILLS & INTERESTS

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- **Skills:** Strategic planning; leadership; skills development; instructional design & program execution; iterative product development & PMF frameworks; recruiting; fundraising; crowdfunding; culture development & implementation; communications; change management & organizational development; technology integration
- **Interests:** dog training; dance; cooking; food tourism; gaming; language learning; Burning Man