Bradley Taylor

📍 Las Vegas, NV ✉️ taylorbradleyr@gmail.com ↖ brad-taylor.com ⓞ github.com/bradleyroberttaylor

📇 PROFILE

I'm a cellist/educator turned software engineer with extensive experience in JavaScript, TypeScript, and Ruby. I'm passionate about writing maintainable code and learning new technologies. Recently, I built SmoothSail, a feature flag management tool for decoupling deployment from release with user targeting capabilities.

💼 EXPERIENCE

Creator, Software Engineer, *SmoothSail* ↗   2023 – present
SmoothSail ↗ is an open-source, self-hosted feature flag management tool. It enables developers to release features to targeted user groups to limit the impact of unforeseen bugs in production.

- Engineered a scalable, event-driven architecture for delivering real-time feature flag data consisting of a React admin dashboard, NATS JetStream (message broker), multiple Express application servers, software development kits (SDKs), and a Postgres database
- Architected database schema and database management service API for feature flag data, flag rulesets, and SDK keys (**Express**, **Sequelize**, **PostgreSQL**)
- Orchestrated the authentication process for SmoothSail SDKs by leveraging the native Node.js Crypto module for SDK key encryption
- Led the containerization of SmoothSail server code to minimize deployment dependencies (**Docker**)
- Utilized a message broker in a publisher/subscriber pattern to address problems with unreliable HTTP connections (**NATS JetStream**)
- Led the development of a responsive dashboard designed to streamline API interactions for users (**React**, **TypeScript**, **React Query**, **TailwindCSS**, **Tailwind UI**)
- Authored comprehensive technical case study, readable at smooth-sail.github.io/case-study ↗
- Collaborated remotely with a team of four engineers employing agile methodologies and practices such as daily standups, pair programming, and code reviews

Software Engineer, *Self-employed*   2021 – 2023
Developed freelance and open-source applications including:

- *For Requests* - Tool for collecting and debugging webhooks and HTTP requests (**Node.js**, **Express**, **PostgreSQL**, **React**, **DO Droplet**, **Nginx**, **Server-Sent Events**)
- *Personal Portfolio*: A personal portfolio site to showcase my projects (**Next.js**, **TailwindCSS**, **Shadcn UI**)
- *Music Lesson Planner*: A web application with a RESTful API for managing and viewing music lesson schedules and students (Ruby, Sinatra, PostgreSQL, ERB)
- *Todos*: An application to manage todos with dynamic filtering (**Node.js, Express, Handlebars, SQLite3**)

Sub Section Cello, *Las Vegas Philharmonic*   2022 – 2023
- Performed and collaborated with a diverse group of musicians to meet the common goal of musical cohesion

Elementary School Teacher, *Clark County School District*   2021 – 2023
- Collaborated with other teachers in grade level to craft engaging lesson plans and activities for students
- Diffused situations between colleagues with differing opinions to improve school culture

🧠 SKILLS

Backend
Node.js, Express, Ruby, Go, SQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, REST APIs, NATS JetStream, Ruby on Rails, Sinatra

Frontend
JavaScript, TypeScript, Next.js, React, Handlebars, HTML/CSS, TailwindCSS, ERB, React Query

Cloud
AWS, Digital Ocean, Vercel, Heroku, Fly.io

Other
Git/GitHub, Docker, Linux, Bash, HTTP, WebSockets, Jest, OOP, Nginx, Postman, PM2, SSE

🎓 EDUCATION

Launch School   2021 – 2023
Multi-year, mastery-based software engineering curriculum. Read more at launchschool.com/employers ↗

California State University, Fullerton   2018 – 2020
Cello Performance, Master of Music (3.8 GPA)