

Joel Tavarez

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EDUCATION

University of Virginia

Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science, GPA: 3.5 | Major GPA: 3.8

Charlottesville, VA

May 2021

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

JVM (Kotlin/Java/Groovy), JavaScript/TypeScript, Python, HTML5, CSS, PostgreSQL, MySQL, & some experience with C++

TECHNOLOGIES

React, NextJS, Elasticsearch + Kibana + LogStash (ELK), Grafana, Chef, NodeJS, Angular, Django, Jest, Jira, Jenkins, Ratpack, Spring Boot, Kafka, Micronaut, Git, Docker, Codemods, Storybook, & Linux

WORK EXPERIENCE

Target

Minneapolis, MN

Software Engineer (Product)

July 2021 – Present

- Own the \$2B+ same-day delivery flow on Target.com, leading improvements across 6+ micro-frontends to optimize page speed, reliability, and cross-repo deployments, contributing to record holiday conversion rates
- Integrated real-time backend services (inventory APIs, fulfillment systems) into front-end delivery experiences, maintaining synchronization across top of funnel, PDP, cart, account, checkout, etc.
- Collaborated across platform, UX, and fulfillment teams to align system behaviors and customer delivery experiences under peak traffic conditions
- Completely refactored Target's bottom of funnel experience for UX, performance, and code legibility purposes
- Proposed and shipped architectural upgrades to cross-frontend "Add to Cart" logic, reducing cart errors under peak load and enabling faster feature development across delivery, cart, and checkout teams
- Redesigned Product Detail Page (PDP), reducing user drop-off and increasing add-to-cart conversion by streamlining UX and clarifying delivery options
- Led system design for new checkout pipeline, collaborated with product and backend teams, and supported incident resolution across on-call rotations
- Scoped, designed, and implemented dynamic phone number add to cart feature, which is currently saving \$100k/yr
- Developed Chef cookbook to create elastic search, logstash, and kibana (ELK) instance for SNAP payment logging and deployed it across all payment servers using Putty

Nourish'd Café

Cape Town, South Africa

Software Engineer Intern (Project Lead)

July 2019 – September 2019

- Stack: Ionic/Angular, Shopify Storefront API, NodeJS, TypeScript
- Built a mobile application store to expand store operations and deployed to App Store

PROJECTS

Mock Airbnb Mobile Application

- Stack: Ionic/Angular Framework, Node.js, Express.js, MySQL
- Engineered two mobile applications that work concurrently, similar to Airbnb App
- Created an admin panel that accurately reflects the database
- Full stack functional project that acts like the Airbnb mobile application

LEADERSHIP

Management Leadership for Tomorrow (MLT)

Washington, DC

Career Preparation Fellow

February 2019 – March 2021

- Selected as one of 410 for an 18-month professional development program for high achieving diverse talent

Boy Scouts of America

New York, NY

Eagle Scout and Junior Assistant Scoutmaster

January 2011 – March 2017

- Helped manage a troop of 53 scouts, planned and administered weekly meetings, and lead and mentored scouts