

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

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 using Shopify Storefront API to handle store operations

PROJECTS

MyDash-Personal Dashboard

- Stack: Django, Python, Git, Heroku, Travis CI
- Incorporated a GPA calculator, to-do list, custom calendar, and weather widget to the website

Mock Airbnb Mobile Application

- Stack: Ionic/Angular Framework, Node.js, Express.js, MySQL
- Developed two mobile applications that acts as a consumer and provider 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