

MY NAME IS JONATHAN BIRKHOLZ.

I want to compete and excel at the highest level of software development.

// CONTACT

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// TL;DR

I am an author, developer, teacher, community leader, serial CTO, and business owner.

I am full stack developer delivering software for over 15 years in a variety of languages on a variety of platforms.

I have a long history of training, speaking, leading, and mentoring fellow developers.

I am always seeking to self-improve and grow by seeking new challenges.

I am community leader part of houston.js, Rails Girls Houston, Houston Ruby Brigade, and

Space City JS.



JB is a superb technical software developer, with skills up and down the stack. He has expertise in both the business and software domains and is the rare developer that can talk with normal people in addition to techies. JB is a great person, someone you want to mentor your younger developers, safeguard your culture, and build your team. Jesse Wolgamott - Comal Productions



Jonathan is the type of developer that you want on your team. Not only was he able to be add value on day one of our project, his UI/UX skills in addition to his software development skills are a killer combo. Jonathan is excellent at communicating as well as distilling customer requests into software features. I hope to be able to work with him again soon. Ian Warshak - TrackGo, LLC

// SKILLS

Leading teams

Speaking

Paper work ;)

Getting software shipped

Beginner Proficient

immediate asset to any project or team. Amanda Shih - 2nd MD

JB is instantly likable, an amazing communicator, and pure awesome-

sauce. His passion for technology and sharing it patiently makes him an



competitors required teams of full time employees to deliver the same features as JB did by himself. He not only built what I asked for, but he also built tools and reports I didn't know we needed until we did. Always on call. Always responsive. Sports Tradex wouldn't have been possible without him. Benjamin Lipson - Sports Tradex

CoffeeScript

Backbone

Android

The reason we could run so lean was because JB did so much. Our

Master

Java

Backbone

Expert

JavaScript

Knockout

Meteor

// LANGUAGES

// FRAMEWORKS

Ember

Phoenix

// ABOUT ME

possible.

shipped software on a variety of platforms including web, desktop, and mobile. I excel at learning new technologies and utilizing them to rapidly building applications. I have an entrepreneurial spirit and a drive to get things done. I enjoy gathering

requirements and developing a simple minimal plan to get a product out as soon as

I focus on test driven development as the best method to develop quality software. I prefer simple code to clever code. I use open source solutions where possible so that I do not waste time re-inventing the wheel. I keep it simple, keep it reliable, and continually deliver.

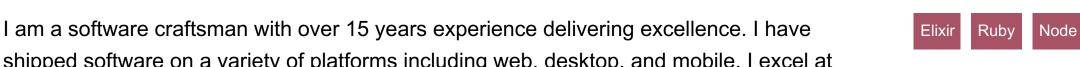
I use agile methodologies throughout my life creating small iterations that lead to larger

I enjoy teaching fellow developers and regularly contributing back to the developer community through hackathons, training, and presenting at user groups.

goals. I am not afraid to recognize mistakes and face the hardest truths first.

Jonathan excels in software architecture, design and development. His analysis skills are excellent which helps him to quickly understand 'true' application requirements.

winge range of topics with lots of live coding.



React

Rails

WinForms

// DATA Mongo Postgres Microsoft SQL Redis

AngularJS

Hapi.js

// HOBBIES

Science Fiction Gaming Greyhounds



and refine the system design. He is also a great team collaborator and mentor for junior developers, teaching them the importance of system design and testing during the entire software development life-cycle. If given the choice, I would always want to have Jonathan on my team leading the development effort. John McPherson - Catapult Systems // COMMUNITY // BOOKS & GUIDES

Jonathan can lead the design and development effort of any software project. With just minimal high-level requirements, Jonathan is able to quickly develop a design for

any technical challenge whether it is for a back-end system need or a front-end user interface requirement. He is able to tackle any issue while continuing to improve

Virtual Brown Bag (http://virtualbrownbag.com) Organizer of a weekly online meeting where we discussed a

houston.js (http://houstonjs.com) Founded Houston's first JavaScript user group and ran for many years.

An organizer of Houston's first JavaScript conference. **Houston Developers Book Club**

Space City JS (http://www.spacecityjs.com)

Started an online weekly meeting to talk about books on software development.

Houston Ruby Brigade Frequent speaker and contributor to Houston's Ruby user

an-app-with-phoenix)* A guided walkthrough on building a web application with

Phoenix, a web framework written in Elixir **Ecto for Beginners**

for-beginners)* An example filled book covering the common usages of Ecto, the database library written in Elixir

(http://www.learningwithjb.com/guides/ecto-

Build an Application with Phoenix

Learn Gulp (http://www.learningwithjb.com/guides/learninggulp)

Angularails (http://www.angularails.com/) A how-to guide for using AngularJS with Rails * - currently being written

A walkthough using Gulp to make a sophisticated build script

I had the opportunity to sit under Jonathan's excellent training in WPF

development. Not only was his presentation skill demonstrated but I was also aware from the content and his hands on demonstrations the depth

that generates a static website like Jeykll

learning-talk)

The key to being a better developer is to always be learning. We are going to cover techniques and tactics for speeding up

Phoenix: Phast, Phunctional, and Phucking Awesome (https://www.youtube.com/watch?

problems of Rails, the power of Erlang, where Elixir fits into the equation, and how Phoenix is a beautiful concoction of the best of Rails, Erlang, and Elixir.

Ldg) We walk through creating a React application from scratch (mostly) and using alt to prove a uni-directional data flow like

Flux. Oh.. and using Babel to provide ES6 style JavaScript. I have had the pleasure of working with JB on several challenging



group.

have. Jonathan delivers great value and every experience I've had with him has revealed character, integrity, and leadership in the development field. James Wade - Fractional IT // HIGHLIGHTS

of knowledge and skill as a developer this man owns. I would not hesitate

to recommend him for any training or any development projects you may



Bobby Hankinson - ChaiONE

2015

2013

2011

2010

2008

2007

2004

1999

Organized Space City JS 2015 Together with Matt Kaes and Alan Lee, we created Houston's first JavaScript centric conference.

I worked with Jesse Wolgamott to turn our AngularJS + Rails workshop into a profitable book publication.

Switched to work full time on Sports Tradex managing all aspects of software development.

Started successful freelance business 2011

> Switched from .Net Enterprise Software to Rails Startups After years coding C#, I was looking for a new challenge. My friend, Ben Scheirman, recommended me for a Rails Lead position at ChaiONE even though I had no Rails

experience. I was working on billable code the first day and was handling my own projects by the first month.

Provided corporate training 2009

Was recruited by Claudio Lassala and Markus Egger at CODE consulting business to provide corporate training on WPF, SOLID, OOP, and other .Net Technologies.

WPF expert and solutions architect I joined Catapult in 2007 and immediately began work on using WPF to create graphic heavy CAD-like application. I came on to the project when it was a nightmare of mismanagement. Although I was hired as a Senior Developer, my work and designs quickly replaced the lead + architects work quickly lead to their departure from the

Started .Net Consulting Career in Houston After creating a software application to do my job in Fort Worth, I accepted a position in Houston doing C# development and consulting.

2002 I graduated in 3 years with highest honors from SHSU while working my way through school. I worked and took summer courses along with full semester workloads while still

Earned MBA at TCU

being active in numerous organizations in various leadership positions. Gave commencement speech at high school graduation

Elixir AngularJS Rails CoffeeScript JavaScript Pusher Postgres Heroku

for writing about code and have subsequently published new books and got back to blogging.

Rails CoffeeScript JavaScript Mongo Heroku

and found I was enjoying my work on other freelance projects more.

// EXPERIENCE

pages and grew to add more advanced AngularJS SPA experiences. The application also needed to integrate with Sports Direct's stats feed. This involved creating a separate proxy service that would parse the XML and provide live scoring and stats updating using Pusher. Evenetually performance and scaling being a factor so many of the features of the application were moved over to Elixir and Phoenix.

I won the audition competition and gave the commencement speech to my graduating class of over 420 students.

XLNTbrain

ChaiONE

SolArc

Angularails

2013

Birkholz Creative, LLC **Owner** August 2011 - Present I didn't have a lot of time to work on my personal startup while working for ChaiOne, so I left to focus on the startup in the fall of 2011. I picked

Lead Rails Developer XLNTbrain provides quality concussion management programs for high schools and colleges. The Rails site is responsible for managing the new athlete workflow, measuring & displaying cognitive test results, and a robust API for their iOS & Android apps.

AngularJS Rails

up freelance gigs to help pay the bills. I quickly found that I enjoyed the freelance work more than my startup so I just turned that into my own business. Just weeks after going freelance, I was full of work and have never had any downtime. I found I didn't need lots of leads because recommendations from clients and peers kept my inbox full of opportunities for more work. Elixir Knockout AngularJS Rails JavaScript Mongo Postgres Ember D3.js iOS

Wolgamott and we first put together an Angularails workshop. We gave the workshop at Lone Star Ruby Conference 2013. Afterwards we

decided to package all the material and code into a book: Angularails (http://www.angularails.com/ (http://www.angularails.com/)). I found a love

August 2010 - August 2011

Catapult Systems

April 2007 - October 2009

June 2006 - April 2007

May 2004 - May 2006

Texas Health Resources

JavaScript Mongo Heroku **Lead Developer** I started at ChaiONE with no working experience in Rails. I quickly rose to become one of the lead developers for Rails and worked on numerous client projects. JavaScript Mongo Postgres Phone Gap

April 2010 - June 2010 Led a team of developers to adopt new coding practices including SOLID, OOP, and Testing through training, code reviews, and paired

system to manage work flow for my team. WinForms TFS 2008 **EPS / CODE Software Lead Software Developer** October 2009 - April 2010 Developed a MVVM framwork for WPF leveraging AOP with PostSharp, StructureMap, Event Aggregation and Convention over Configuration

scheduled features into iterations. Conducted multiple 3 day WPF Training seminars for different clients with attendees from around the world. Led internal training on testing, design patterns, and MVVM frameworks. WPF WCF

the complex object models, WPF and Silverlight visuals, WPF / CAB architecture, and packing algorithms for calculator. Gathered requirements, created designs, gathered estimates, and set out work schedule for development team. Awarded the Custom Development Solutions, Web Development Partner of the Year 2009 by Microsoft. Trained & mentored developers on MVVM, Testing, Design Patterns, and WPF. WPF WCF Silverlight **Software Architects - SARK**

// RECENT TALKS **Perpetual Learning** (http://www.learningwithjb.com/guides/building-(http://www.learningwithjb.com/posts/perpetual-

your learning. We will also cover how to stay focused, encouraged, and not get overwhelmed.

v=GW4XQ6hJQis&feature=youtu.be&t=2m31s) In this talk we will review where Rails started, the current

React + ES6 + alt (a flux framework) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0wNWjtp-

projects. I can always depend on him to contribute interesting ideas, share the passion for the product and ask tough questions to insure we're not missing anything. His entrepreneurial spirit and eye for detail make him a valuable team player.

Founded houston.js After working with Kevin Lee to sharing our successes with Phone Gap to numerous user groups, we decided to start houston.js to have a user group focused on the rising utility of JavaScript.

Full time on startup

Published first book

Grew a freelance business from nothing to an high end consulting business with no downtime and a full sales pipeline.

Started Virtual Brown Bag While working with Claudio Lassala at Houston Code Camp, we discussed having a continuing open forum for sharing code, libraries, news, and productivity tips. We came up

with the Virtual Brown Bag and for 3 years every Thursday between 12pm-1pm, we held a free public online meeting to discuss a whole range of technical topics.

company. The application later won Catapult one of Microsoft's Application of the Year award. 2006

> Immediately after graduating with my CS degree, I enrolled into the MBA program at TCU and was the youngest student in my class. I earned the reputation for being a great speaker and was recruited to join teams At 20, earned a Computer Science degree

CTO / Lead Developer Sports Tradex May 2012 - October 2015 Sports Tradex started off as a fantasy futures trading game. Over time it has pivoted to a daily fantasy sports contest site. Besides the complex logic around futures trading, the application needed to have live updating of stats and market changes. The application started with simple Rails

> **Author** I had been using AngularJS with several Rails projects and felt there wasn't a practical resource for using the two together. I worked with Jesse

December 2011 - March 2014

CodeMay **Developer / Founder** November 2010 - March 2012

Created own Rails startup allowing users to consolidate all their developer profiles into a single profile. The website used Rails, Mongo, Resque, Bootstrap, and consumed numerous public APIs. Analyzed profiles for taggable skills and awarded points for their activity. Then rated users on their skills and points constructing charts showing their progress with languages over time. I worked on site in the evenings and weekends launching site in May 2011. I eventually shutdown CodeMav in March 2012 after I could not discover a method to generate revenue

programming. Within a month, team was responsible for writing over 300 tests (>35% of total tests in solution) in addition to traditional workload. Provided guidance on designing reporting solution to be decoupled from third party vendor control suite. Used a home grown Kanban

Tech Lead / Architect

that was used in 2 applications. Conducted code reviews and helped refactor existing features on other client legacy applications. Participated in software methodology and process discussions. Gathered requirements, grouped requirements into features, provided work estimates, and

Senior Consultant (in Lead and Architect roles)

Senior Developer for pension system application developed using WPF, Linq to Sql, and Composite WPF (MVVM). Lead developer for a heavily graphical solution built using WPF, WCF, Silverlight 1.0, CAB, and Microsoft SQL. Heavily involved with design and implementation of

Consultant Part of team migrating a legacy enterprise web application (ASP) to a WinForms application. Maintained and updated ASP .Net knowledge management solution. Conducted internal training on WPF and Workflow. WPF WinForms

Reimbursement Analyst / Developer Designed and constructed the Managed Care Dashboard as well as the Ambulatory Knowledge Management System Dashboard using ASP .Net 1.1 and Office Web Components. Programmed a C# WinForm Rates Management System to create, manipulate, and analyze rate schedules. Using the Rates Management Database, built the Co-insurance Estimator (ASP .Net) used by admissions for 13 hospitals. VB WinForms

// EDUCATION

Masters of Business Administration Texas Christian University September 2002 - May 2004

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Sam Houston State University June 1999 - May 2002