



Austin Guest

Programmer & Activist

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SUMMARY

Full-stack generalist with track record delivering working code on deadline, building high-performing teams around principles of Agile and Functional Programming. Seeking to apply leadership abilities and passion for rigorous design/testing practices to a mission-driven organization that values experimentation, compassion, and social justice.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Contract Full Stack Engineer at [LittleSis.org](#) Aug 2016 – Present

- Implemented permissions-based tag system to support regional organizing and data ingestion from institutional partners
- Researched opportunities to scale site by leveraging graph analysis, machine learning, and Big Data architectures
- Increased velocity and transparency of dev work by introducing weekly Agile sprints into project management practice

Advisor, Contributor at [LEAP Encryption Access Project](#) Mar 2016 – Jul 2016

- Shaped strategy to fund best-in-class open-source email/VPN software development by spinning off for-profit arm
- Initiated adoption of human-centered design approach process by conducting user interviews with journalists and activists
- Overhauled Android VPN client's dev environment and test setup to encourage easier onboarding from new contributors

Software Engineer at [SoundCloud](#) Mar 2016 – Jun 2016

- Extracted subscription microservice from monolithic Rails codebase to increase site performance, reliability
- Overhauled communication between engineering and accounting staff to prevent mission-critical bugs in financial reporting
- Shared knowledge on best practices in Scala, functional programming

Software Engineer at [UpLevel Security](#) Sep 2016 – Mar 2016

- Increased early-phase startup's ability to pivot toward new customers by redesigning legacy codebase, delivering demo-able user stories, and teaching clean design principles
- Successfully engaged top leadership to re-prioritize code redesign after demonstrating current architecture would fail at throughput levels required by customers
- Designed replacement architecture and spearheaded its implementation by encouraging team-wide adoption of strict testing and profiling practices
- Increased speed with which company could accommodate new customer-requested API integrations by abstracting modules and introducing testing seams into API client service code

Senior Software Development Consultant at [ThoughtWorks, Inc.](#) Jun 2016 – Sep 2016

- Delivered user-friendly order fulfillment system for Fortune 50 logistics company
- Drove adoption of security best practices by co-facilitating daylong 'AppSec101' trainings
- Increased team cohesion by coaching peers on design principles of functional programming in React-Redux apps

Creator, Tech Lead at [where@](#) Jun 2015 – May 2016

- Designed and shipped MVP for security-conscious location-sharing app, including Android clients in Java and React Native, web app in React, and server in Scala using websockets and reactive streams to protect users by eliminating persistent server-side data
- Led team of 8 volunteer developers from ThoughtWorks NYC -- including coaching, pairing, code review, test design, sprint planning, story grooming, consensus-building around architectural decisions, coordinating work across 4 parallel dev streams
- Received mentorship in threat-modeling, cryptography, and security training from senior Tor/ACLU security technologist Daniel Kahn Gillmore; supervised implementation of Public Key Pinning in Android, privacy-focused alternative to Google LocationProvider in React Native

Contract Web Developer at [LittleSis.org](#)**Mar 2015 – Jun 2015**

- | Drove adoption and funding by adding annotation-driven slide-show UI to site's social network visualization suite
- | Decreased turnaround time for new features by migrating vertical slice of visualization stack from monolithic, untested PHP/jQuery to modular, testable Rails/React design

Contract Web Developer at [BK Shift](#)**Jan 2014 – Jul 2014**

- | Delivered working full-stack Rails app in 3 months, used TDD and Agile best practices to meet evolving business needs over project lifetime.
- | Helped double weekly revenues by reducing time needed to allocate 300-400 weekly shifts to 100-150 riders by over 50%
- | Used 1-week Agile sprints to ensure continuous deployment of usable features, front-load completion of learning-rich user stories, provide client with a burn-up chart

Activist & Researcher at [Occupy Wall Street](#)**Sep 2011 – May 2013**

- | Conceived and project-managed Occupy The Boardroom, a web app that sent and displayed personal emails from ordinary people directly to bank CEOs -- later published as book by n+1
- | Coordinated Occupy Sandy's needs assessment canvass in the Far Rockaways, including design and implementation of distributed data-input system to support to overtaxed on-the-ground coordinators
- | Coordinated tactical framework development, trainings and communications infrastructure for mass mobilizations of tens of thousands of people in NYC's financial district

Online Organizer at [Jobs with Justice NYC](#)**Jun 2010 – Dec 2011**

- | Managed online strategy for successful citywide campaign to keep Walmart out of New York City -- growing email list by 38% and generating tens of thousands of YouTube views

Organizer at [Service Employees International Union](#)**Sep 2009 – Mar 2010**

- | Contributed to national campaign to organize Sodexo food service workers through on-the-ground committee building and leadership development

Communications Specialist at [Progressive States Network](#)**Dec 2007 – Sep 2009**

- | Wrote op-eds, blog posts, and press releases to generate multi-state coverage on progressive policy initiatives in health care, immigration, foreclosures, and privatization

EDUCATION

Recurse Center, Programming Retreat**Nov 2014 – Feb 2015**

- | Wrote non-blocking chat server in Scala; began work on a Scala BitTorrent client, including custom parser combinators and non-blocking socket IO from scratch; completed readings and exercises on algorithms, data structures, function composition, monads, concurrency, and recursion.

Weekly Private Mentoring, Guillaume Marceau (M.Sci., Brown)**Mar 2014 – Nov 2015**

- | Completed intensive project-driven training including code review and design critique in areas covering algorithms, complexity analysis, domain modeling, designing for extensibility and maintainability, test-driven development, agile project management, functional programming, SOLID object oriented principles, concurrency, etc.

Harvard University, Performance & Media Studies**Sep 2000 – Jun 2007**

- | Summa Cum Laude Thesis, High Honors in Major, 3.27 GPA

SKILLS

Languages: JavaScript (<= es2017), Scala, Java, Ruby/RoR, Golang, SQL, Racket

Paradigms: Agile Development, Functional Programming, Full-stack Web Development, Mobile Development, Network Programming, Object-Oriented Programming, Actor-Oriented Programming, Reactive Programming

JVM Libraries: Akka-Streams, Akka-Http, Slick, Play, Gatling, ScalaTest, RxJava, Retrofit, JUnit, Mockito, Robolectric

Javascript Libraries: React, React-Native, Redux, Express, Lodash, Immutable.js, Webpack, Grunt, Mongoose, Mocha, Chai, Sinon

Dev Ops: Continuous Delivery, Automated Testing, Go-CD, Concourse.ci, Docker, AWS, Nginx, DigitalOcean