



Austin Guest

Programmer

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SUMMARY

Tenacious problem-solver with passion for clean design and security. Track record building cohesive teams; shipping reliable, maintainable code on deadline. Seeking ambitious, mission-driven team that values experimentation and compassion.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Lead Full Stack Engineer at [Affinity.works](#) Jan 2018 – Present

- Reduced response times for grassroots volunteer management website by 10x
- Leveraged Rb-NaCl to provide clients with secure custom 2-step OAuth signup flow
- Built ethereum-based payments gateway for blockchain security startup using web3 API
- Extended backend for secure email provider riseup.net to allow it to host email for 3rd parties with custom domains

Senior Full Stack Engineer at [LittleSis.org](#) Aug 2017 – Jan 2018

- Designed and implemented tag-based, permissioned classification schema to support mass data ingestion from large institutional partners in social justice research campaigns
- Researched opportunities to scale site's data set by leveraging graph analysis and machine learning

Advisor, Contributor at [LEAP Encryption Access Project](#) Mar 2017 – Jul 2017

- Shaped strategy to fund development of best-in-class open-source email/VPN software by spinning off for-profit arm
- Overhauled Android VPN client's toolchain to facilitate onboarding from new contributors

Backend Software Engineer at [SoundCloud](#) Mar 2017 – Jun 2017

- Extracted subscription quote microservice in Scala from monolithic Rails app to increase site performance and reliability
- Streamlined process for identifying and fixing bugs in monthly financial reporting system

Senior Software Engineer at [UpLevel Security](#) Sep 2016 – Mar 2017

- Increased early-phase startup's ability to pivot toward new customers by leading team-wide redesign of legacy React codebase, yielding greater testability, performance, and code reuse
- Successfully engaged top leadership to re-prioritize paying down tech debt after demonstrating current architecture would fail at basic throughput levels required by new customers
- Designed replacement architecture and spearheaded its implementation by encouraging team-wide adoption of rigorous practices in design, testing, and profiling

Senior Software Developer 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 functional design principles 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 opsec from senior ACLU/Debian/Tor security technologist Daniel Kahn Gillmore; supervised implementation of Public Key Pinning in Android, privacy-focused alternative to Google LocationProvider in React Native

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

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 chat server and BitTorrent client in Scala from scratch; completed readings and exercises on algorithms, monads, concurrency, and recursion.

Structured Mentorship, Guillaume Marceau (M.Sci., Brown; PhD Candidate, WPI)**Mar 2014 – Nov 2015**

Completed weekly project-driven training in clean design, algorithms, complexity analysis, test-driven development, functional programming, etc. Co-founded learning collective for activist programmers.

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

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

SKILLS

Languages (ordered by strength): JavaScript (<= ES2018/TypeScript), Ruby, Scala, SQL, Java, Clojure, Python, Go, Rust, Racket

Javascript Libraries: React, Redux, Express, Lodash, Immutable.js, TypeOrm, RxJs, Mongoose, Mocha/Chai/Sinon, Webpack

JVM Libraries: Akka-Streams, Akka-Http, Cats, Slick, ScalaTest, RxJava, JUnit, Mockito, Robolectric

Dev Ops: Heroku, Go-CD, Docker, AWS, Concourse.ci, Nginx, Assorted automated testing tools

Security: Threat modeling (for activists), AppSec (OWASP Top 10), Library-level cryptography (libsodium)