



Austin Guest

Programmer

[Github](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#)
austin.guest@riseup.net

SUMMARY

Fast-learning generalist with track record shipping working code on deadline seeking to apply passion for disciplined engineering and human-centered design to mission-driven team valuing experimentation, compassion, and collaboration.

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 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 in Scala from monolithic Rails app to increase site performance, reliability
- Overhauled communication between engineering and accounting staff to prevent mission-critical bugs in financial reporting

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

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.

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 (<= ES2017), Scala, Java, Ruby, SQL, Clojure, Python, Go, Racket

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

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

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

Security: Threat modeling for activists, Library-level cryptography, AppSec (OWASP Top 10), Tor hidden service maintenance