

Ross Kaffenberger

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SUMMARY Experienced web developer and software engineer with expertise building, maintaining, and scaling dynamic web applications, and leading and mentoring technical teams

EXPERIENCE *Head of Engineering* September 2011-Present
Devpost, New York, NY

- Hired and mentored web development team across several projects maintaining, scaling, and extending Devpost built with Ruby on Rails and JavaScript
- Introduced best practices around code review, improved overall code quality, conducted weekly 1:1 reviews with emphasis on continuous improvement
- Contributed daily to full-stack development and deployment of Devpost and frequently to open source projects like devise, redis-objects, and ruby-trello
- Instructed tem site performance continually through caching, key-value stores, and query optimizations to cut typical server response times from 800ms to sub-300ms

Web Developer March 2008-September 2011
weplay, New York, NY

- As lead front-end developer, trained colleagues and introduced JavaScript and CSS best practices for development, testing, and deployment
- Built key features including media gallery and uploads, scheduling, event notifications, privacy controls, polling, social network integrations, and color schemes

Web Developer August 2007-March 2008
Cyrus Innovation, New York NY

- Delivered online classroom intervention tool in Java/GWT for Wireless Generation

Front-End Developer and Content Specialist August 2004-August 2007
The Grow Network, New York NY

- Created differentiated content and web for science instruction and built web-based features for dynamic educational products and test reports

Science Teacher August 1999-August 2004
Teach for America, YES College Prep, Houston TX

- Teacher of the Year (2001); founded YES Robotics Club, 2-time TX Botball champion

EDUCATION *Master's of Science, Computer Science* 2006-2011
New York University, New York, NY
Collaborated with CS and Linguistics departments to launch the language analysis tool TerraLing through independent study and built Sudokill, a heuristics game server

Bachelor of Science, Molecular Biology 1995-1999
Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
Conducted stem-cell research and published senior thesis

EXTRA-CURRICULAR Blogs about programming at rossta.net
Active in open source on GitHub and at local meetups, including NYC.rb
Creator of podcast site Running On Tilt, Amateur triathlete, IronMan finisher