Jennifer Cahalane

Skills

JavaScriptCSSGraphQLSQLJavaRubyHTMLReactApolloPythonC++PHP

Experience

Teachers Pay Teachers

Engineering Manager, Tech Lead

JANUARY 2023 - CURRENT

- Lead a team of 6 in projects to increase awareness of Easel, an interactive education tool, and improve the overall user experience for over 3 million teachers and 8 million students
- Partner with product and design to implement strategy and roadmap to keep team focused and increase the quality of deliverables
- Focus on rebuilding team morale post acquisition by leading sessions to develop and define team values, grounding the team in on-going projects, and emphasizing user benefits of the work
- Sponsor engineering learning guilds by supporting leads in developing topics and recruiting members for weekly discussion groups
- Manage 6 direct reports, supporting career growth and technical development through monthly career discussions and providing mentorship and regular feedback through weekly 1:1s

Tech Lead, Senior Software Developer IV

October 2021 - December 2022

- Enabled team of 6 in the success of projects like standalone listings & save reliability
- Advocated for time & resourcing to tackle technical debt and secured buy-in from product to devote 3 months to migrate key workflows to Apollo instead of Redux for state management
- Introduced artifacts like project one pagers and gantt charts to track project timelines and health, saving time and promoting workflow efficiency
- Partnered with product, engineering manager, and designer to develop a roadmap with a focus on quality and minimizing workstreams
- Spearheaded an accessibility reading group of 8 engineers focused on using assistive technologies and building more accessible code
- Facilitated research and discussion among a group of engineers and managers to draft an engineering Code of Conduct as part of DEI effort that led to a >10% increase in engagement score
- Technologies used: React, Typescript, Redux, GraphQL, Apollo

Senior Software Developer IV

May 2021 - October 2021

- Ran initiative to add more font & color options for >50k premium users. Introduced a weekly project update artifact to team
- Technologies used: React, Typescript, Redux, GraphQL

Top Hat Monocle

Senior Software Developer

AUGUST 2019 - MAY 2021

- Led 2 engineers in an initiative to rewrite question components to achieve WCAG AA accessibility compliance. Helped educate other engineers on writing accessible code by running a discussion group on accessibility topics
- Designed and implemented an initiative to create an automated refund tool for the Customer Support team
- Migrated legacy payment system to CommerceTools as part of the Billing team
- Technologies used: React, JavaScript, Redux, Python, Django

Experience

Knewton

Software Engineer II

April 2018 - August 2019

- Architected and managed an initiative to change the data model, API, and UI for assignment creation
- Rebuilt the entire instructor UI as part of a team of 3. Migrated from Redux to Apollo & GraphQL and defined best practices
- Sourced articles and moderated discussion for a reading group on Frontend technologies
- Technologies used: Node, React, TypeScript, Apollo, GraphQL, Redux

Software Engineer

JANUARY 2017 - APRIL 2018

- Built features intended to improve the experience for instructors. Architected and led a series of initiatives aimed at improving interactions with 3rd party LMSs
- Researched and presented a lunch & learn on memory management in Node.js
- Technologies used: Node, React, TypeScript, Redux

Thrillist Media Group

Software Engineer, Platform

FEBRUARY 2016 - DECEMBER 2016

- Captained a team of 3 engineers to build a new content site, including search, landing pages, and content pages in 4 months
- Technologies used: PHP, JavaScript, HTML, SCSS

Full Stack Developer

June 2014 - February 2016

- Produced user facing features for media and commerce sites. Created a system to allow saving venues and restructured server side article logic
- Technologies used: PHP, JavaScript, HTML, SCSS

University of Pennsylvania

Instructor - Ruby on Rails

August 2013 - May 2014

Taught Ruby on Rails, HTML, CSS and JavaScript to class of 20+. Crafted lesson plans, provided one-on-one help, and managed 2 teaching assistants

Medialets

Front End Web Developer Intern

JUNE 2013 - AUGUST 2013

• Developed a web app to display advertisements for use by the sales team

University of Pennsylvania

Teaching Assistant - Ruby on Rails

August 2012 - December 2012

Assisted in the teaching of Ruby on Rails, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to over 30 students through one-on-one help and grading

Education —

University of Pennsylvania

Bachelor of Science, Engineering

May 2014

- Digital Media Design
- Fine Arts