CHRISTIAN AREAS

A writer who uses their technical skills and love of learning to create a great developer experience

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EXPERIENCE

Postman
Senior Technical Writer
2024-03-18 – Present

- Wrote most of Postman's public-facing AI developer docs — including many of the Model Context Protocol (MCP) docs — and delivered them on tight deadlines. Continue to maintain them as the team adds features and enhancements.
- Overhauled the Postman API Network docs to help API publishers get their API consumers to their first 200 OK response in the fewest steps possible.
- Built a Next.js site that lists all of Postman's icons. The Postman Docs team uses the icons to add visual cues to the docs to improve the user experience.
- Published an NPM package that's a Vale-compatible implementation of the Postman Style Guide. The team uses Vale to lint the docs locally and in GitHub with GitHub Actions — and ultimately ensures the docs adhere to Postman's style.

Apple
Senior Technical Writer, Special Projects
2023-09 – 2024-03

- Designed a comprehensive workflow that manages the team's documentation lifecycle. The workflow includes a two-step review process and an automated method to flag outdated content.
- Worked with cross-functional partners to write how-tos for users who collect data and test in-development products for Apple's research and development organization.

Sabbatical
2022-04 – 2023-09

- Completed a 24-week, full-stack JavaScript developer boot camp. Led all team projects — and in one case made over 90% of the contributions to the codebase. Learned TypeScript shortly thereafter.
- Finished a 5-course, self-paced Python specialization.

Apple
Senior Technical Writer, Apple Pay
2019-08 – 2022-04

- Functioned as Apple Pay server engineering's sole technical writer.
- Wrote several documents from scratch, including one that explains the system behind Apple Pay Later.
- Worked with engineering managers and engineers across Apple Pay to gather requirements for a new docs-as-code solution to centralize Apple Pay's API specifications.
- Designed the docs-as-code solution. It sources Markdown and OpenAPI files from multiple GitHub repos, and uses web hooks and a CI/CD pipeline to publish the latest updates to teams across Apple. The solution supports fine-grained permissions, and gives users an easy way to create text-based message sequence diagrams.
- Interviewed nearly 50 candidates to hire Apple Pay server engineering's second technical writer.

Senior Technical Writer, Employee Productivity
2015-07 – 2019-08

- Wrote in the Apple voice for Apple employees — guides and how-tos for everyday users, new employees, managers, and other audiences.
- Referenced the Apple Style Guide, Human Interface Guidelines (HIG), Chicago Manual of Style, and other resources to maintain consistency across content.
- Managed and mentored writers.
- Led major, cross-functional projects — such as the complete overhaul of one of Apple's main internal sites — and subsequently iterated to improve the user experience.
- Wrote SQL queries to generate reports. Used the data to answer questions and drive decisions.

MGT
Documentation Manager
2013-10 – 2015-7

- Authored key documents from scratch to support the startup, including a 150+ page internal control system (ICS), information security policies, anti-money laundering (AML) and countering the financing of terrorism (CFT) policies, and more.
- Wrote functional specifications for user registration, know your customer (KYC), and deposit and withdrawal flows.
- Developed 20+ SQL queries to output all financial and operational data — registrations, logins, deposits and withdrawals, gaming activity, liabilities, and other metrics.

SKILLS

- **Languages:** Bash / JavaScript and TypeScript / JSON / Markdown / Python / Regex / SQL / YAML
- **Specifications:** GraphQL / gRPC / JWT / MCP / OpenAPI
- **Command-Line Tools:** Git / GitHub CLI / Brew / NPM / Vale
- **Databases:** MongoDB / MariaDB / MySQL / PostgreSQL / SQLite
- **Frameworks:** Next.js / Node.js / React.js
- **Apps:** Confluence and Jira / Figma / Postman / Terminal and Warp / Visual Studio Code / Xcode

EDUCATION

- Specialization Certificate, Python for Everyone | University of Michigan (Coursera)
- Certificate of Completion, Full-Stack JavaScript Developer | UC Berkeley Extension
- MPH, Epidemiology (Coursework Complete) | Emory University
- BA, English and Premed | UC Berkeley