ALEXANDRA KELSTROM

Senior Software Engineer | AI Enablement & Responsible AI
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SUMMARY

Software engineer and technical leader who coaches engineering teams on AI adoption and translates responsible AI principles into scalable engineering practice. Background spanning design, service, and six countries shaped how I translate complex technical concepts for any audience and build bridges across engineering, product, and leadership. Speaker, writer, and builder committed to a future where technology serves people, with no human left behind.

SPEAKING & PROJECTS

- **AI Summit NY 2025:** Selected as Future AI Leader; presented "Human-in-the-Loop: Responsible AI Engineering in Practice"
- **Baruch College AI Ethics Symposium** (Mar 2026) | **Vanguard IGNITE** (Feb 2026): "Testing Strategies for Bias and Blindspots in AI Workflows"
- **Dispatch №13** (@codewizwit): Ongoing Medium series on responsible AI, ethics, and engineering
- **Human-in-the-Loop CLI** (npm): Published npm package, a CLI library of human-centered prompts designed to augment developer expertise and keep humans firmly in the loop

EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer, AI Enablement | Vanguard | Philadelphia, PA | *Jan 2026 – Present*

- Coaching 4 engineering teams on responsible AI adoption, accelerating development to production in half the time while retaining quality; driving standardized evaluation criteria across product family
- Building "Awesome AI Governance": a centralized registry of AI tools using cloud-native infrastructure (Lambda, S3, EventBridge, DynamoDB, Bedrock) that supports innovation while preserving human judgment by providing visibility into security, documentation, and developer experience at enterprise scale
- Facilitating Claude-to-code and Claude-skills building workshops across 4 engineering teams, delivering reusable assets and knowledge that compound in value through increased productivity
- Developing Claude Code curriculum and training materials bridging technical and non-technical audiences across 16 teams
- 2x GOAT (Greatest of All Time) award recipient for driving measurable outcomes across AI initiatives

Software Engineer | Testing Practitioner | Interim Tech Lead | Vanguard | Philadelphia, PA | *Jun 2021 – Dec 2025*

- Served as interim tech lead, delivered 1 full-stack enrollment capability and 1 micro-frontend UI feature end-to-end, scaling trustworthy financial advice to 1M+ clients
- Earned Distinguished performance rating 2 consecutive years (2024-2025), highest competitive tier
- Reduced manual QA from hours to under 3 minutes by building automated E2E testing pipeline with CI/CD integration
- Advanced data modernization milestone by 1 year by architecting cloud solution that decommissioned legacy DB2
- Built micro frontends (Angular, React, Nx) and backend services (NestJS, Java, Python, AWS Lambda, ECS, S3)
- Served as team Testing Practitioner, driving 10-15% code quality increase with Playwright, Cypress, Cucumber, and Jest; coaching team on emerging test strategies

SKILLS

Languages & Frameworks: TypeScript, JavaScript, Angular, React, Node.js, NestJS, Java, Python
Cloud & DevOps: AWS (Lambda, Bedrock, ECS, S3, CloudFormation, IAM), Azure, REST APIs, Serverless Architecture, CI/CD, GitHub Actions
AI & Governance: Claude Code, AWS Bedrock, LangChain, Human-in-the-Loop Patterns, Responsible AI, LLM Best Practices
Testing & Quality: Cypress, Playwright, Jest, Cucumber (BDD), GitHub Actions, E2E Test Strategy, Automated Pipeline Design
Architecture: Micro-Frontends (Nx, Module Federation), Data Modernization, Event-Driven Systems, Monorepos
Leadership & Tools: Team Leadership, Agile/Scrum, Performance Coaching, Mentoring, Cross-Team Collaboration, Jira, Confluence, GitHub
Human Skills: Empathy & value-driven problem solving, cross-team collaboration, communication, initiative, creativity

EDUCATION

UPenn LPS Coding Bootcamp, Full-Stack Web Development (2021). *Invested life savings after COVID furlough. Received Vanguard offer day of graduation.*
DePaul University, BA in Media & Design (2015)

AFFILIATIONS

- **AI Connect Committee (Vanguard)**: Driving AI tooling best practices and cross-team governance alignment
- **Philly Crew Committee (Vanguard)**: Culture coordinator since 2022; co-led hoodie contest that raised $250K for Strong Start For Kids PA
- **Responsible AI Institute**: Working group member translating responsible AI principles into engineering practice