Drew Stephens

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TECHNICAL SKILLS

Seasoned: Kotlin, Java, Ruby, Rails, Perl, PHP, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Redis, Git, Linux
Proficient: JavaScript, Python, shell, Ganglia, Graphite, Kafka, JMX, Apache, Docker, Kubernetes

OTHER SKILLS

Development methodologies: Scrum, Lean, Kanban, Extreme Programming
Agile practices: pair programming, velocity tracking, backlogs, planning poker, iterative development
Testing: continuous integration, test-driven development, Selenium, Jenkins

EXPERIENCE

Principle Engineer and Co-Founder at **Forum For All**, Arlington, VA   2016–present
- Designed and built real-time chat system with Rails, WebSockets, backed by PostgreSQL and Redis
- Created JVM based system written in Kotlin to offload most performance-sensitive tasks
- Led team to adopt React to unify our client codebase and produce mobile apps with React Native
- Guided technical decisions based upon the needs of the business

Engineering Director at **American Express**, Palo Alto, CA (remote)   2014–2016
- Led rollout & implementation of analytics in previously opaque mobile apps
- Redesigned and ground-up rebuild of iOS and Android apps
- Modernized backend from Java 1.6 with WebSphere dependence to Java 1.8 with embedded Jetty
- Moved backend deployment from internal PAAS system to standalone AWS environment

Principal and Architect at **Palomino Labs**, Redwood City, California (remote)   2012–2014
ABPT—Surgery Document Management System (SDMS)
- Built a HIPAA compliant, Java-based cryptographic proxy for storage of medical data in Amazon S3
- Designed highly available infrastructure for secure document storage
- Integrated Java and Rails via secure API with bidirectional SSL certification verification

ReactLabs—real-time vote and reaction collection
- Led client interaction and guided development based upon client goals
- Built Java shim for vastly increasing performance by caching Google App Engine responses in S3
- Reimplemented voting system for reduced cost and million user scale with Java & Redis
- Extensively used Amazon Web Services: CloudFront, Relational Database Service, Load Balancers

Taulia—automated performance testing
- Created distributed load tester for Cassandra (https://github.com/palominolabs/benchpress)
- Integrated load tester with Taulia code and setup continuous integration to automatically run tests
- Used bench testing framework to identify bottlenecks in code changes early

Software Engineer at **AddThis**, McLean, Virginia   2010–2012
- Led adoption of metrics tracking capturing 80,000 data points per minute from hundreds of hosts
- Advised team on Lean and Agile practices to increase productivity and code quality
- Maintained high-performance Spring-based APIs supporting 6 million daily requests
- Created real-time system using Kafka to handle thousands of events per second
- Managed deployment of services across geographically redundant zones

Development Manager & Software Engineer at **Genius.com**, San Mateo, California   2008–2010
- ScrumMaster of two teams each consisting of four developers, two QA engineers, and one DB engineer
- Primary maintainer of large mod_perl rewriting proxy server; rewritten using mod_perl2 and Moose
- Developer for the main codebase consisting of object-oriented PHP
- Developer for Java portion of codebase used for speed-critical data processing
- Employed Scrum, Extreme Programming, and Lean software development practices
- Led team from a two month release schedule to releasing every two weeks (each sprint)

Software Engineer at **SAIC**, Chantilly, Virginia, Summer 2005, Summer 2006, January 2007–April 2008
- Developed Java software for automatic biometric matching of large subject data sets
- Evaluated performance of commercial biometric algorithms
- Administration of Windows and Linux servers including automation using shell scripting and Perl
- Developed software to test algorithms using a generic biometric algorithm application framework
- Used XML and Oracle DB to create applications for DOD and national security clients in Java & C++

EDUCATION

Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York, 2002–2006
B.S. in Computer Science with minor in Psychology

ACTIVITIES

Cobra Kai 24 Hours of LeMons & ChumpCar race team, 2011–2014
Jaywatch 24 Hours of LeMons race team, 2009–2011
Hack Fortress, Schmoocon computer & physical security challenge, 2009-2015
Arlington County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), 2012–present

OPEN SOURCE

- GitHub http://github.com/dinomite
- Palomino Labs https://github.com/palominolabs
- CPAN http://search.cpan.org/~dinomite

TALKS & ARTICLES

- Personal blog http://dinomite.net
- Palomino Labs blog http://blog.palominolabs.com/author/drew
- SlideShare http://www.slideshare.net/dinomite
- Talks repository https://github.com/dinomite/talks