Donavon West

 Developer Advocate / React Engineer

New York City or remote

// About

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| resume@donavon.com  202-2359-4500  [E](https://www.facebook.com/donavon) [D](https://twitter.com/donavon) [)](https://github.com/donavon) [C](https://www.linkedin.com/in/donavon/) / donavon | A solid technology brand ambassador and community builder, Donavon moved a 170-year-old company with zero “tech cred” into a top tech hiring destination. Well-connected in the NYC React / JavaScript community, he’s built a vibrant community meetup in the span of a few months. |

// Professional

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| American Express  Developer Relations  April 2018 – Nov 2019 | * Created the position of Developer Relations for Amex Technology * Worked with Recruiting to attract top engineering talent * Directed many thousands of prospective hires to the careers site * Managing Editor and principle author for the Technology Blog at [americanexpress.io](https://americanexpress.io/) publishing articles on React, Kotlin, and more * In 2018 wrote the #1 SEO article for “React best practices” * Gave technical presentations at conventions and meetups * Evangelized Amex Technology through Twitter and LinkedIn * Elevated Amex onto the [hired.com](https://hired.com/new-york-city) list of NYC Top 10 Tech Brands |

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| American Express  Engineering Director  Nov 2016 - April 2018 | * Led two full stack scrum teams of 7 people each supporting the logged-in experience for the highest trafficked website at Amex * Evangelized coding best practices and lead the internal React Communities of Technical Practice (CTP) * Worked with Product team to determine and execute backlog features |

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| Barnes & Noble College  Acting CTO  Engineering Director  Oct 2011 - Nov 2016 | * Led the entire 120-person engineering organization as acting CTO * Oversaw 25 people covering all aspects of front-end client development for iOS, Android, Mac, Windows, and SPA web as Director of Engineering * Co-led the leadership team defining enterprise processes and guidelines * Worked with Project, Product, and Design teams to define product vision |

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| Barnes & Noble  Engineering Manager  Oct 2009 - Nov 2011 | * Advanced from individual contributor, to lead for a 10-person team, to engineering manager * Wrote the Windows and Mac desktop eReader for the Nook platform |

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| Etcetera | Extremely Digital, Owner, Nov 1995 – Oct 2009  WordPerfect Corp, Director, Aug 1992 – Nov 1995  MagicSoft, Owner, Aug 1988 – Aug 1992  USRobotics, Developer, Oct 1984 – Aug 1988 |

// Community

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| useReactNYC  Organizer  April 2019 - Present | * Principal organizer for a New York City React meetup at [useReact.NYC](https://usereact.nyc/) * Uses contacts in the React community to solicit top industry speakers * Work with local companies to host events * Foster diversity and inclusion in the React community |

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| Open Source | Writes and maintains several OSS packages on [github.com/donavon](https://github.com/donavon) |

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| Publications | Wrote most popular article for the American Express [Technology Blog](https://americanexpress.io/u/donavon/)  [freeCodeCamp](https://www.freecodecamp.org/) "Top Contributor for 2018" award winner  Contributing author Hacker Noon  Over 2000 views/month on [medium.com/@donavon](mailto:medium.com/@donavon) |