

# Emma Cunningham

[the.cunning.ham@gmail.com](mailto:the.cunning.ham@gmail.com) | 213-284-5596

## Work Experience

### *The Black Tux*

*Senior Fullstack Engineer* | Nov 2020 - present

- Contribute to both backend and frontend codebases to support the customer-facing application and administrative tooling for internal business stakeholders. Technologies used include React (with Redux and Sagas), Python, Django, Node.js
- Introduce TypeScript to the frontend codebases and ramp up frontend engineers to TypeScript.
- Serve as tech lead on projects, facilitating communication across cross-functional stakeholders and planning work for engineering.

### *Democracy Works*

*Engineering Manager - TurboVote Features* | Apr 2020 - Nov 2020

- Lead a team of 6 software engineers working on voter engagement software (Clojure microservices with a Clojurescript frontend), performing weekly one-on-ones with each direct report to surface ways each engineer can be best supported and unblocked in their work.
- Plan and hold quarterly goals for the team, and work with team dev lead to plan work into sprints.
- Facilitate pointing, backlog grooming, and retrospectives as part of bi-weekly sprint ceremonies.
- Develop a plan for a better onboarding for new engineers, for training senior engineers on how to provide both mentorship and sponsorship for junior engineers, and for junior engineers to gain more exposure to the full ecosystem of the product.
- Support direct reports in developing individual development plans, identifying key professional career goals and actionable, concrete steps to help achieve those goals.

### *Innovation Law Lab*

*Software & Infrastructure Engineer* | Aug 2019 - Apr 2020

- Developed software to enable immigration lawyers & activists to support and defend people migrating to the US through the southern border, with a focus on building secure and reliable systems.
- Maintained and monitored health of all projects within the organization, including over 160 instances of a custom legal resource management system.
- Led technical planning and roadmapping efforts, transforming a team with very little structure and process to one where engineers felt more empowered to communicate with cross-org stakeholders utilizing concrete resource estimation data.

### *Elastic*

*Senior Software Engineer* | Jan 2019 - Aug 2019

- Contributed code to open Kibana codebase (the data visualization platform for Elasticsearch) using Angular, React, and TypeScript.
- Contributed code to open-source elastic-charts codebase ([list of authored PRs](#)), a new charting library designed to flexibly and expressively meet the needs of various Kibana developer data visualization needs, using TypeScript and React.
- Mentored junior engineers, onboarded new engineers to the team, and supported the transition of support engineers to full time software engineering roles.
- Performed code reviews for both internal organization contributors as well as community contributors.

### *Second Spectrum*

*Senior Software Engineer* | May 2016 - Sept 2018

- Led Sports Performance & Analytics team (fluctuated around 5-10 people) to create full-stack real-time data ingestion, analytics, and video platforms currently used by the NBA and broadcast networks like ESPN and Turner; technologies used include Scala, Elixir, Node.js, Elm, React, and Postgres.
- Worked with multiple stakeholders (Product, Design, Business Development) to define key objectives, planned release cycles & sprints, communicated expectations to rest of engineering, and implemented features on time and on budget.
- Collaborated with QA team to test, maintain, and fix issues concerning applications in production.

- Taught company internal classes on new technologies (Elm, Elixir, Reason, etc.) and theoretical topics (functional programming, category theory, type theory) relevant to emerging technologies.
- Contributed to interview process alignment and built up interview question bank with detailed instructions on assessment so scores would be consistent across different interviewers.
- Mentored and onboarded new hires, junior engineers, and summer interns.
- Met with team members for one-on-one checkins to identify and support opportunities for growth, build up communication across team, and keep track of team culture and progress towards team goals.

### *General Assembly*

*Instructor* | July 2015 - Apr 2016

- Taught full-time course introducing adult students with little technical background to fundamentals of full-stack web development (Ruby/Rails & MEAN stack) and programming.
- Taught part-time front-end web development course to adult students.

### *Left Field Labs*

*Senior Developer and Technical Lead* | Sept 2012 - Jan 2015

*Web Developer* | Apr 2012 - Sept 2012

- Developed full-stack, cross-browser applications for clients including Google, Motorola, and LA Metro.
- Worked with client teams to implement localization strategies for international markets.
- Researched and implemented new technologies (Arduino, 3d printing, web animation) for use in internal development projects.
- Hired, trained, and led engineering team by performing code reviews and created efficient development workflows for internal use.

## **Conferences, Meetups, and Service**

- Presentations at: [SXSW Create](#) 2014, Elixir with Love 2017, [Empex LA](#) 2018 (keynote), [Code BEAM SF](#) 2018, [Elm Europe](#) 2018, [Oslo Elm Day](#) 2019, [Elm in the Spring](#) 2019, Elm Europe 2019, Elm in the Spring 2020 invited keynote speaker (postponed)
- [Elm Los Angeles meetup](#) & Elm Bridge LA co-founder and organizer
- [elm-conf](#) 2019 co-organizer
- [Write/Speak/Code Los Angeles](#) co-organizer 2017-2019
- Augustus Hawkins High School, [Code Hawk Camp](#) co-founder
- Critical Design and Gaming School, Advisory Board member
- YouthBuild Charter School of California, [CODEChella](#) organizer
- Heart of Los Angeles, [Scientific Arts](#) teacher and mentorship volunteer

## **Technical Skills** *(not an exhaustive list, but recent technologies used)*

Elm	AWS	Ansible
TypeScript	Postgres	Angular JS
React JS	HTML5	Python
Elixir/Phoenix	CSS3 (+ preprocessors)	Ruby/Rails
Node.js	JavaScript	Arduino

## **Education**

*Brown University, MA in Linguistics (specialization in Formal Semantics and Logic)* | May 2012  
National Science Foundation grant BCS #0646081 [P.I. Dr. Pauline Jacobson] (2008-2011)

*University of Southern California, BA in Linguistics (magna cum laude) with Honors* | May 2006