Kara I. Rizzardi

krizzardi@berkeley.edu | kararizzardi.com | in linkedin.com/in/kararizzardi | ⌂ github.com/kara4600

WORK EXPERIENCE

PayPal — Software Engineer   **April 2025 – Present**
Backend Developer
- Developing payment processing solutions utilizing Java EE technologies (Java, application servers, servlet containers, JMS, JPA, Spring MVC, Hibernate)
- Engineering large-scale, high-performance backend web service components using Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA) standards (including REST, OAuth, and JSON)

Keysight Technologies — IT Software Engineer (Contract)   **June 2024 – March 2025**
Application Consultant – ServiceNow Developer
- Developed an IT service chatbot using conversational AI and natural language understanding
- Acted as a Technical Architect & functional lead, providing direction to development team & assisting product owner in planning work to strategize & build out the product vision
- Worked with product management & cross functional teams to define architectural visions that align business and IT strategies with software implementations

Keysight Technologies — Software Engineer Intern   **March 2022 – May 2024**
Fullstack Developer
- Developed a fullstack web application capable of storing, updating, and displaying real time tracking data for 22k+ monthly company orders
- Led frontend development – guiding a team of 3 other interns through learning a new framework (React.js)
- Worked closely with stakeholders and project owner to design UI/UX that fits product needs using Figma
- Optimized Rest API by restructuring the serialization process, resulting in a 54% speed increase
- Designed & developed custom backend user authentication/authorization system flow in Python utilizing JWTs
- Reduced Webpack bundle size by 48% to improve render time by setting up code splitting

Backend Developer (automated server provisioning)
- Developed tooling using Ansible to improve monitoring & deployment processes for Windows & Linux servers
- Wrote Chef Inspec scripts to audit and test infrastructure on virtual machines
- Automated the manual server compliance & security auditing processes, reducing server deployment times

Berkeleytime — Frontend Developer   **August 2023 – May 2024**
Frontend Developer on software development team for UC Berkeley's premier course discovery platform
- Berkeleytime helps over 40,000 UC Berkeley students plan for course enrollment & check grade distributions
- Redesigned berkeleytime.com homepage (viewed by 20k+ users per month) using React.js, CSS, and HTML

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley   **Class of 2024**
Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (B.S.)

- **Activities/Societies:** Girls Who Code, Association of Women in EE and CS (AWE), Berkeleytime

- **Certificates of Achievement:** Program Design, Computer Architecture

- **Relevant coursework:** Computer Security, Database Systems, Intro to Machine Learning, Intro to Artificial Intelligence, Internet Architecture, Intro to Building IOS Apps, UNIX/Linux administration, Data Structures & Program Design, Discrete Mathematics & Probability Theory, x86 Assembly Language

SOFTWARE SKILLS & AWARDS/HONORS

Proficient: Python, JavaScript, Java, C++, Swift, UI/UX, Linux

Worked with: React, Next.js, Spring Boot, Hibernate, Django, Ansible, Chef, Powershell, PostgreSQL, Nginx, Gunicorn

Tools: Docker, Git, Jira, Vim, Figma, ServiceNow

Knowledge: Object Oriented Programming, Software Development Lifecycle, Scrum, Agile Methodology, REST APIs

Awards: U.S. Presidential Volunteer Service Award (Gold Level) – For contributing over 500 hours of volunteer work annually