

# Les Orchard

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## Key Skills

- Deep experience with the full web development stack over 25 years.
- Remote work with global teams and performing asynchronous leadership for over 15 years.
- Building tools & automation to enhance development, testing, & delivery.
- Applying caution & deliberation toward maintenance and product quality.
- Employing AI tools & workflows for practical productivity gains in coding & technical writing.
- Tinkering, making things, and sharing the process through writing and live streaming.

## Experience

### Staff Engineer, New Products Team, Mozilla Corporation, Remote, 2023 – Present

- Developed products and prototypes around machine learning, generative AI, and social media.
- Built APIs and service integrations for Tabstack.ai, an web content transformation service for AI.
- Built agent evaluation infrastructure using LLM-as-Judge for browser automation APIs in Tabstack.ai.
- Built UX and service integrations for Soloist.ai, an AI-powered website builder.
- Built web, mobile clients, and Discord integration for Didthis.app, a hobby journaling product.

### Staff Engineer, Planning & Tracking, GitHub, Remote, 2022 – 2023

- Leading efforts on hierarchical task tracking platform integrated with GitHub Issues and Projects.
- Full-stack engineering within a mixed microservices architecture using TypeScript, Ruby, Go, and C#.
- Built GitHub-Flavored Markdown parsing and React UI to manage hierarchical task relationships.
- Applied the Azure CosmosDB graph database to manage relationships between tasks & issues.
- Built GraphQL-based APIs to expose issues hierarchy to mobile & React-based web clients.

### Staff Engineer, Firefox Experimenter, Mozilla Corporation, Remote, 2020 – 2022

- Contributed to an internal tool for experimentation and data science in Firefox features.
- Built a React UI for describing an experiment and in-product feature configuration branches.
- Built GraphQL-based APIs in Python & Django to manage experiment data & lifecycle flow.
- Built background processes to deploy Remote Settings configuration data to end-user products.

### Staff Engineer, Firefox Accounts & Subscriptions, Mozilla Corporation, Remote, 2019 – 2020

- Contributed to full-stack engineering on an identity system using OAuth & OpenID Connect.
- Built a React-based user interface for purchasing and managing service subscriptions.
- Refined tooling using per-commit Storybook builds via for GitHub Pull Requests.
- Built server-side APIs to integrate subscription management with Stripe Payments.
- Built APIs providing profile and authorization status to products like Mozilla VPN.

### Staff Engineer, Firefox Test Pilot, Mozilla Corporation, Remote, 2015 – 2019

- Tech lead on testpilot.firefox.com, a distribution channel for experimental Firefox features.
- Built Firefox Color, browser theme creation in a React / Redux web app and Firefox add-on.
- Hosted live streaming sessions on Twitch & YouTube enabling Firefox Color outreach.
- Mentored an Outreachy program intern working on export features for Firefox Color.
- Implemented automated visual review tooling using Storybook for React.

**Staff Engineer**, Web Application Engineering, Mozilla Corporation, Remote, 2014 – 2015

- Developed Node.js modules for development & testing on Firefox and Firefox OS devices.
- Built calendar event views for Firefox OS, Mozilla's mobile OS effort.

**Staff Engineer**, Mozilla Developer Network, Mozilla Corporation, Remote, 2011 – 2014

- Tech lead on Kuma, a Django-based CMS to supersede an installation of MindTouch.
- Built KumaScript, a Node.js-based microservice for executing document scripts & macros.
- Migrated 50,000 existing pages and 1000 DekiScript (Lua) macros to the new Kuma CMS.

**Senior Web Developer**, Mozilla Corporation, Remote, 2008 – 2011

- Developed web apps within the Firefox ecosystem for marketing, support, updates, sync, and crashes.
- Implemented a scalable “snippets” service to deliver content to the Firefox new tab page.

**del.icio.us Engineer**, Yahoo!, Sunnyvale, CA, 2006 – 2008

- Implemented & documented del.icio.us 2.0 public REST API and embeddable widgets.

**Senior Interface Engineer**, Organic, Detroit, MI, 2005 – 2006

- Implemented RSS-based Auto Show news portals with AJAX, PHP, and Interwoven CMS APIs.
- Developed Flash framework to consume localized XHTML content for CMS integration.

**Technical Lead**, J. Walter Thompson, Detroit, MI, 2003 – 2005

- Developed ASP.NET web apps and content for fordvehicles.com, White Castle, and others.

**Lead Software Architect**, ePrize LLC, Farmington Hills, MI, 2000 – 2003

- Created component framework for rapidly deploying gamified promotions from an intranet web UI.

**Technical Lead**, impiric / Wunderman Cato Johnson, Detroit, MI, 1998 – 2000

- Developed web content for Visteon, Ford, MGM Grand Casino, and other clients.

**Multimedia Specialist**, Bowne Internet Solutions, Birmingham, MI, 1997 – 1998

- Developed CD-ROM and web multimedia with Macromedia Director, Flash, and Java.

**Webmaster**, The Industry Network, Mount Clemens, MI, 1995 - 1997

- Deployed services for web, mail, dialup, and billing at an Internet Service Provider.

## Education

**Central Michigan University**, Mount Pleasant, MI, 1993 - 1997

- B.S. Computer Science and Psychology, *cum laude*

## Publications

- Co-author, *Professional JavaScript Frameworks* (ISBN: 978-0470384596), Wiley, 2009.
- Tech Editor, *Facebook Application Development* (ISBN: 978-0470246665), Wiley, 2008.
- Author, *Concise Guide to Dojo* (ISBN: 978-0470452028), Wiley, 2008.
- Author, *Hacking del.icio.us* (ISBN: 978-0470037850), Wiley, 2006.
- Author, *Hacking RSS and Atom* (ISBN: 978-0764597589), Wiley, 2005.
- Contributor, *Spidering Hacks* (ISBN: 978-0596005771), O'Reilly, 2003.