

Nikhil Jha

✉ mail@nikhiljha.com | 📍 Berkeley, CA | 🌐 nikhiljha.com | 🐙 nikhiljha | 🐦 jhanikhil

Education

University of California, Berkeley

BS IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Berkeley, CA

Jun 2020 – May 2024

Experience

Peloton Interactive, Inc.

New York, NY

ANDROID FIRMWARE ENGINEERING INTERN

Jun 2021 – Aug 2021

- Reduced the amount of time the OS release process takes by implementing a secure remote signing workflow with HSMs.
- Saved engineer-hours by deploying a service that makes searching the many 250GB+ AOSP repositories 10x faster.
- Tools Used: AWS CloudHSM, AWS KMS, AWS EC2, Terraform, Java, Chef, Docker, Apache Lucene

Open Computing Facility at UC Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

SITE MANAGER

Jul 2020 – Present

- Served 100k+ end-users with petabytes of data per year as technical lead of the Open Computing Facility.
- Migrated our infrastructure from Puppet to a bare metal Kubernetes cluster, built out from scratch with a small team on a low budget.
- Protected against 0ld-day attacks by writing a low-maintenance tool to automate dependency and infrastructure updates.
- Improved network-wide observability by configuring distributed tracing, logging, and monitoring.
- Tools Used: Kubernetes, Rust, Python 3, Elasticsearch, Puppet, ArgoCD, Cilium

AutoLAB (UC Berkeley Automation Lab)

Berkeley, CA

STUDENT RESEARCHER & SYSADMIN

Jan 2021 – Present

- Reduced machine usage conflicts by writing a scheduler for GPU ML/AI jobs on Kubernetes.
- Eliminated an order of magnitude of researcher downtime by automating and writing an API for permission and hosting requests, administrative changes, and other services.
- Created a system to automatically offload compute-intensive ROS nodes to AWS EC2.
- Tools Used: Python 3, Kubernetes, Ansible, Vector, Grafana, ROS

Projects

Mycelium Kubernetes Operator

Rust, Kotlin, Java, OpenTelemetry

Explored the viability of Rust to write Kubernetes operators by writing software that provisions, monitors, and orchestrates thousands of individual Minecraft server nodes into a single observable and fault-tolerant network.

mycelium.njha.dev

Fedora for PinePhone

Linux, Bash

I took a phone with very little documentation and slowly figured out my way to booting my operating system of choice (Fedora Linux) onto it. I eventually ended up publishing a generic set of instructions to get any Linux distro running on the PinePhone.

github/nikhiljha/pp-fedora-sdsetup

ocf/kubernetes

Python 3, ArgoCD, Cilium

Built out a modern git-based Kubernetes deployment for the Open Computing Facility. I and two others worked through the whole stack: from k8s itself (kubelet, etcd) to networking (cilium, contour), to the container runtime (CRI-O), to observability (elasticsearch, otel, prometheus), to the actual applications running on the cluster.

github/ocf/kubernetes

Miscellaneous

A lot of what I do doesn't fit in the usual resume sections, but is often still relevant! Take a look:

2021	CS61C - Machine Structures - Course Staff , Improved student understanding of C, RISC-V Assembly, operating systems concepts, CPU design, and other course content by writing and asking checkoff questions.	Teaching
2021	x86 ASM / Kubernetes YAML Polyglot , One day I got bored and wrote a file that's both valid AT&T syntax x86 ASM and valid Kubernetes YAML. People found it amusing because these are massively different levels of abstraction. Link: s.njha.dev/x86_k8s	Fun
2021	Linux Sysadmin DeCal Head Facilitator , Wrote and presented lectures, homeworks, and reading notes for this course, which covers the basics of setting up and administering a production-quality Linux server environment.	Teaching
2019	NEM Bounty Program , Won ~\$200k in multiple awards for fulfilling open source code bounties and discovering bugs.	Award