Brandon Willett

A young New-York-based developer with experience in platform dev. Always believing that any problem can be overcome with kind communication, a good sense of humor, and just persisting everything to S3.

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Education

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

- ♦ Graduated in 2018
- ♦ B.S. in Computer Science (3.82)
- ♦ B.A. in Mathematics (3.80)

Skills

BACKEND

- ♦ Go, Python, Java, Scala, Javascript
- Web Frameworks (Django, Flask, Rails)
- Streaming Pipelines (Kafka)
- Workflow Platforms (Airflow, Luigi)
- Transactional Databases (Postgres, Cass)
- Analytical Databases
- ♦ Caches (Memcached, Redis)

PLATFORM

- ♦ Version Control (Git)
- ♦ CI/CD (Github Actions, Gitlab)
- ♦ Telemetry (Prometheus, Datadog)
- Containerization (Docker, Containerd)
- ♦ Build Tools (Rake, Bazel)
- ♦ Infra as Code (CF, Terraform)
- Service Discovery (DNS, Consul, Envoy)
- ♦ Reverse Proxies (NGINX, HAProxy)
- ♦ Load Balancers (L4, L7)

CLOUD

- AWS (ALB, NLB, EC2, RDS, S3, Lambda)
- ♦ GCP (GLB, GCE, GCS, Cloud SQL)
- ♦ Azure (ALB, VMSS, ABS)
- ♦ Kubernetes (ask me about any resource)

Experience

DATADOG

New York, NY

Site Reliability Engineer

May 20 – Jun 23

- Planned and executed the migrations of some of Datadog's largest + most complicated services (the primary timeseries DB, the primary public LB) to Kubernetes, resulting in zero outages
- Identified 80/20 solutions in delivering delicate configuration to dozens of services simultaneously – two months of work allowed a whole team over a year of space to design a real replacement
- Initiated several projects that crossed usual team/org boundaries harder, but we created Datadog-wide solutions where it really mattered
- Hosted architecture overview sessions, for 1-10 people, to help new hires feel empowered (instead of confused) as quickly as possible
- Acted as a consultant between infrastructure and product developers, and pushed stranded projects (like automated node rotation) to finish
- Contributed heavily to build/deployment tooling, so product developers could mostly ignore their services' 40+ Helm charts

ACTIONIQ

New York, NY

Distributed Systems Engineer

Jun 18 – Apr 20

- Designed, advocated for, and implemented the procedure for autoscaling query execution on EC2, reducing our AWS bill by more than 50%
- Drove scalability improvements for the OSS job scheduling platform Luigi,
 and contributed some of that back upstream
- Maintained the Prometheus cluster (later, Datadog) and led internal talks and workshops on best practices around metrics & observability
- Enabled dynamic configuration and artifact discovery
- Brought some of the first Terraform modules to AIQ, used them to build the first version of our streaming ingest platform using IaC

EDU.CHAT

New York, NY Jun 17 – Aug 17

Software Engineering Intern

- Worked closely with a team of three other engineers, using JIRA and Git, to create a bot which classified and answered student questions
- Developed, refined, tested and integrated the new NLP question-matching model with the overall Edu.Chat platform