

STEPHON PARKER

ENGINEERING LEADER | ENTREPRENEUR | ASPIRING SPEAKER

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SUMMARY

Engineering leader with over 8 years of experience in scaling backend systems and improving developer productivity. Expert in cloud architecture, DevOps practices, and building high-performing engineering teams. Proven track record in implementing SRE best practices, optimizing system reliability, and driving organizational efficiency through technical innovation.

TECHINICAL FOCUS

- Cloud Infrastructure: AWS, GCP, Kubernetes, Docker
- Backend Systems: Distributed Systems, Microservices Architecture
- DevOps & SRE: CI/CD, Monitoring, Observability, Incident Management
- Performance Optimization: Load Testing, Scalability, High Availability

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The New York Times - Senior Engineering Manager May 2022 - Present
Led technical strategy and engineering excellence initiatives for a critical division of The New York Times' digital platform.

- Developed and launched an internal developer portal serving 500+ engineering teams, reducing deployment time by 10% and standardizing CI/CD practices
- Built and mentored an SRE team of 4 engineers, implementing SLOs and error budgets that improved system reliability from < 99.0% to 99.5%
- Architected and executed election coverage infrastructure that successfully handled 2M+ concurrent users with zero downtime
- Led a team of 6 engineers in implementing performance testing tools based on Grafana's k6 SDK, achieving 30% increased adoption and 10x traffic capacity improvement
- Established comprehensive disaster recovery protocols and failover systems ensuring 100% uptime during peak news events
- Reduced incident response time by 60% through implementation of automated alerting and structured incident management procedures

Eventbrite - Engineering Manager August 2021 - January 2022
Led the Creator Acquisition Team in optimizing SEO infrastructure and developer onboarding processes.

- Enhanced the organization's SEO ranking on Google by 37% within a 4-month period, driving an increase of 1.5 million dollars in revenue over an 8-month period
- Spearheaded the implementation of an onboarding program tailored for first-time creators joining the platform, improving retention by 45%
- Optimized Google search results through technical SEO improvements and content delivery optimization
- Led cross-functional team of 8 members in redesigning creator experience journey

M&T Bank - Technology Team Lead July 2018 - January 2021
Led the Workforce Identity & Access Management Engineering team in delivering critical security infrastructure and authentication solutions.

- Managed and scaled IAM platform serving 20,000+ employees, implementing role-based access control and automated provisioning
- Architected and implemented enterprise-wide single sign-on solution, reducing authentication-related incidents by 65%
- Developed high-level frameworks for identity management automation, reducing manual provisioning tasks by 80%
- Mentored team of 6 engineers in modern development practices and security principles
- Led successful migration of legacy authentication systems to cloud-based identity solutions
- Supported and enhanced key security applications including MAD, RSA Authentication, Invanti, and Guardium

SKILLS

Cloud & Infrastructure

- Kubernetes/Container Orchestration (EKS, GKE)
- Service Mesh (Istio)
- Infrastructure as Code (Terraform, Helm)
- Distributed Systems Architecture
- Identity & Access Management
- Enterprise Security Architecture

Development & Tools

- Python
- TypeScript
- CI/CD Pipelines
- Version Control (Git)
- Kandji/JAMF Configuration
- Microsoft 365 Administration
- System Architecture
- Security Compliance

Project Management & Methodologies

- Certified Scrum Master
- Agile/Kanban
- Process Optimization
- Production Incident Management

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Design in Process Engineering

May 2021

Erie Community College

- Associate of Science, Computer