

Blaine Garrett

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Minneapolis, MN

SUMMARY

I am a Software Engineer and Dev Manager with 15+ years of professional experience working in high traffic, high data integrity, and high security product suites. I'm passionate about creating easy to use customer facing products and Software-as-a-Service applications that solve real problems to make customers' lives better. I work best in strongly product oriented durable teams that support continuous integration, Agile practices, customer discovery, and "fail quickly" ideals.

EXPERIENCE

Lead Engineer/Architect, Dev Manager, Parallax Edina, MN — Nov 2018- Dec 2019

Day 1 hire for VC funded SaaS platform giving Agencies and Professional Service Organizations insights into resource management and utilization. Combining rich integrations with CRM (Hubspot, Pipedrive) and time tracking (Harvest), the platform allowed customers to accurately estimate availability, hire or cross train appropriately, and understand the offerings that maximize margin.

Highlights

- Launched successful MVP, hitting target goals of 4 customers and securing 2nd tranche of VC
- Recruited, hired, and managed 5 engineers and established strong customer focused culture
- Instilled product best practices with OKRs, customer discovery partners, rapid prototyping, etc
- Architected minimal tech stack to achieve MVP using React, Material-UI, Next.js, Firebase, and Node on Google Cloud Platform.

Senior Software Engineer - Staff Engineer, Workiva Ames, IA (Remote) — 2010- 2018

Tech Lead overseeing development of productivity products for SEC/SOX compliance & certification. Design, build, test, and maintain enterprise-scale applications built on top of Google Cloud Platform and AWS with focus on stability, performance, and continuous release. Participated in code reviews, QA, data migrations, and release management as well as hiring, interviewing, and professional development.

Highlights

- Managed teams of up to 5 developers and worked with 'triad' of Product Manager and UX Lead.
- Practiced "Customer first" design approach leveraging extensive analytics data, CDP customers, and customer calls as part of story mapping and ideation.
- One of the first 25 hires that helped SaaS company grow from startup to IPO within five years.

Senior Software Engineer, Aol.

New York City, NY (Remote) — 2006-2010

Software developer and interface designer for Propeller.com - AOL's social news aggregation platform that received millions of page views per day. Additionally, worked on AOL Alerts, AOL Living, and Money & Finance portals.

Highlights

- Optimized entirety of MySQL queries to increase page load times.
- Developed packing algorithm for building sprite maps to reduce number of requests per page.
- Developed Facebook and Twitter integrations and native social tools for content sharing.

Co-Owner and Technical Lead - MPLSART.COM

Minneapolis, MN — 2015

Business development and technical design on the Twin Cities' longest running online visual arts calendar. Co-owned and operated with my wife as a passion project. Custom designed modern single page application using React and a custom-built REST API atop Google Cloud.

EDUCATION

Bachelors of Science in Computer Science and Minor in Visual Art - University of Minnesota 2006

SKILLS

Soft Skills - Leadership and management skills, communication skills with customers and team members, hiring, interviewing, customer discovery, story mapping, sequencing, dependency mapping. Comfortable telecommuting, Google Hangouts, Skype, Slack.

Tools, Languages, and Methods - Google Cloud Platform (AppEngine, Datastore, Pub/Sub, Firebase, Serverless), Node, RESTful Apis, Rapid Prototyping, Microservice Architecture, Domain Driven Design, Test Driven Design, Agile/Kanban, CI/CD, 12 factor applications, React, ES6/Typescript, Next.js, Git workflow, Docker, JWT, Java, Python, Selenium, UX, Jira.

“Rusty” or Some Experience - AWS, Django, MySQL, XML/XPATH/XSLT, MSSQL, PHP, Dart, regular expressions, Facebook Api, Twitter Api, Google Apis, PWA, Wordpress hacking, Ruby, Flex, Google Analytics, Google Data Studio.