

Sara McCutcheon

Software Engineer

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Seeking opportunities to make a significant impact toward team and organizational goals. I employ 16 years of software engineering experience, strong attention to detail, and an eye toward leveraging cooperation between teams and departments to yield the best possible resulting product. I want to work on services that impact how people work, learn, and/or manage information.

Skills

- Languages: JavaScript, TypeScript, PHP, Python, Ruby
- Scripting: CSS, HTML, Bash, CoffeeScript, Pug/Jade, SQL
- Frameworks: React, NestJS, Symfony, Backbone.js, CakePHP, Django, Rails
- Tools: Node, Terraform, Jira, Linear, Notion, Confluence, Storybook, WordPress, Gatsby, Drupal, Highcharts
- Data/API: MongoDB, GraphQL, Apollo, Redux, MySQL, SQLite, PostgreSQL, REST APIs
- Microservices: AWS Lambda, Serverless
- Testing: Vitest, Jest, PHPUnit, Behat
- Trained in and worked using Agile development practices for ten years.

Experience

2022 - 2025

Forma, Remote - Senior Software Engineer II

Forma manages all types of flexible benefit programs for employers, providing employees with a simple, unified experience for both their legally defined pre-tax accounts and post-tax fringe benefits.

- Acted as tech lead for localizing our React-based, user-facing application using Smartling.
- Created REST APIs to securely manage personal information using NestJS, PostgreSQL, and Node.
- Implemented the scripting and the templates for automated mass emails to users using Node, SendGrid, Terraform, MongoDB, and GCS.
- Developed and maintained user-facing applications responsible for managing user benefits, financial information, investments, and more using React, TypeScript, Vite, and Jest.
- Worked with product leaders to devise and track KPIs with Rudderstack and Datadog. Created dashboards to monitor the state of applications, measure the success of development efforts, and facilitate user tests.
- Wrote and maintained extensive documentation in Notion and videos with Loom to ensure a thorough understanding of and future maintainability of the codebases contributed to.
- Conducted over 40 technical interviews for engineering candidates and trained other engineers to perform them.
- Worked with the Algolia external search engine to maintain a marketplace storefront within the user-facing application.

2015 - 2022

Pantheon, San Francisco, California - Software Engineer

Pantheon is a SAAS platform for agencies and institutions to facilitate developing, hosting, and maintaining sites running on

open-source CMS platforms.

- Acted as the tech lead for a team of six engineers that developed and released Terminus, an open-source CLI for power users to consume Pantheon's services via script. PHP, Bash, Symfony Console, PHPUnit, Behat, and REST APIs.
- Developed and launched Autopilot, a service that runs automated site updates with visual regression tests to ensure automated updates to users' sites will not cause issues. My part mainly involved creating its React/GraphQL-based JavaScript interface, but I also wrote some microservices to make snapshots using AWS Lambda, Serverless, PHPUnit, and PHP.
- Developed a new user-facing dashboard using JavaScript, Node, React, Jest, Apollo, React-i18n, and GraphQL.
- Developed a design system for the new dashboard using JavaScript, Node, React, Jest, and Storybook.
- Maintained and extended an aging comprehensive user dashboard using JavaScript, Node, Backbone, CoffeeScript, Pug/Jade, Redux, and a REST API.
- Maintained a GraphQL mock server and its data for the team's use in the dashboard development.
- Worked directly with end users to diagnose and resolve CLI issues and managed pull requests from the public.
- Wrote onboarding documentation and step-by-step technical guides for other engineers on the team in Confluence.
- Planned and conducted technical interviews with prospective teammates and those in related roles and created interview materials for the team to use.
- Trained and mentored interns and junior engineers coming onto the team.

2011 - 2015

Radical Designs, Oakland, California - Senior Developer

Radical Designs was an agency that provided development and hosted websites and custom applications for NGOs and political campaigns.

- Designed and implemented a system for managing events, staff, trainees, performance reports, certifications, and internal functionality used by two California social work organizations using PHP, CakePHP, and SQL.
- Created a system that allows the client to set up their meme generators and, optionally, to harvest the data of those using it using Python, Django, and SQL.
- Updated and implemented new features for the medical records tracking software used by a charity clinic in San Francisco SOMA using Python, Django, and SQL.
- Added a searchable, location-based voter guide to TheBallot.org and a voter information guide using Ruby, Rails, and SQL. The guide permitted users to research, opine, and share ballots on social media.
- Wrote a library of command-line scripts to manage and update WordPress installations and their plugins and ETL scripts to port data between Joomla, Drupal, AMP, and WordPress using Bash, PHP, and SQL.
- Added features to and fixed bugs in Revent, a days-of-action event planner developed for and used by the AFL-CIO using Ruby, Rails, and SQL.
- Created and maintained WordPress themes and plugins using PHP.
- Maintained an aging in-house CMS written for PHP 4.x and updated it to operate using PHP 5.3.
- Worked directly with users to diagnose and fix issues.
- Was responsible for creating and maintaining Debian- and Ubuntu-based Apache HTTP servers for our users, running both on VPS and our servers located at a data center.

JUNE - OCTOBER 2010

OPSWAT, San Francisco, California - Support Analyst Intern

OPSWAT creates SDKs to facilitate the development of VPN software.

- Created and compared system snapshots to determine differences in system settings to be used to develop SDKs.
- Wrote scripts to aid in detecting telltale differences between snapshots using Lua.

- Reproduced bugs to verify client reports.
- Created illustrated internal and client documentation.

Education

2009 - 2012

San Francisco State University, San Francisco, California - *Computer Science & Mathematics*

Projects

Terminus

<https://github.com/pantheon-systems/terminus>

Terminus is Pantheon's command-line interface, providing at least equivalent functionality to Pantheon's browser-based dashboard and easier scripting.

PHP, Bash, Symfony, Behat, PHPUnit, REST API

Compare50

<http://compare50.org>

Compare50.org allows users to display trends on how one state's economy has performed over time compared to other states and the United States as a whole. The interactive tool contains data on over 150 social and economic indicators, such as cost of living, unemployment rates, state taxes, education, renewable energy usage, crime, and venture capital investment.

PHP, Highcharts, SQL, Apache, PHPUnit