Rain Leander

Developer Experience / Technical Evangelist / Community Manager

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Senior Staff Developer Advocate @ Qualcomm 03.2024 - Present

- Lead and execute open-source engagement initiatives, including organizing and hosting hackathons and workshops to foster community engagement and support product launches
- Actively contribute to major open-source projects, facilitating upstream contributions and collaborating with kernel maintainers
- Mentor new hires and interns, providing guidance on open-source contributions and participating in managerial and technical leadership training programs.
- Develop and deliver compelling content, including blog posts, documentation, and presentations, to articulate complex open source concepts to both technical and non-technical audiences
- Collaborate with cross-functional teams, including developers, product managers, and marketing professionals, to align developer initiatives with Qualcomm's business goals
- Drive innovation by developing unique AI use cases on the edge, bridging the gap between semiconductor technology and the open-source community

Developer Advocate @ Temporal 08.2022 - 04.2023

- Develop and implement effective evangelism programs that increase brand awareness and foster community growth
- Spearhead discussions on cutting-edge technology trends and industry best practices within the developer community
- Collaborate with product and engineering teams to share insights gained from engaging with the broader tech community and support product development efforts
- Create demos and sandbox environments using upstream projects and branded products to educate developers and produce informative technical content

AppDev Technical Evangelist @ Cockroach Labs 05.2021 - 08.2022

- Build and execute evangelism programs that successfully deliver content, brand awareness, and community-building
- Lead the conversation around the latest technology advancements and best practices in the developer community
- Support product and engineering efforts by sharing what you learn while engaging with the broader database community and tech communities at large

- Contribute to the development of demos and sandbox environments leveraging upstream projects and branded products to educate developers and inform technical content

Developer Advocate @ Equinix Metal 06.2020 - 04.2021

- Partner/consult with external developers to ensure the successful implementation of products
- Create momentum and drive the success of the product
- Improve and standardize the developer experience for all developer products and platforms
- Educate developers on best practices for effective integration of developer products
- Provide secondary 1:1 support for partners and developers on social and open-source software platforms
- Help partners design integrations, fix bugs, improve UX, and solve problems at scale
- Work on the core source code of products and identify, reproduce, and/or fix issues that are affecting our users
- Advocate for developers and other Technical Practitioners internally and influence developer product strategy by working with Product Management, Go-to-Market, Engineering, Support, Marketing, Business Development, and other cross-functional teams

Technical Program Manager @ Red Hat 04.2017 - 05.2020

- Building and maintaining relationships with external stakeholders, including vendors, customers, and partners, to promote the adoption and use of OpenStack technologies
- Serving as a point of contact for community members, answering questions, providing guidance, and directing individuals to relevant resources and support
- Advocating for the community and the OpenStack project, both internally and externally, through speaking engagements, blog posts, and other forms of outreach
- Participating in community events and activities, such as conferences, meetups, and working groups, to stay abreast of the latest developments and facilitate collaboration among members
- Identifying and addressing community concerns and issues, working with relevant stakeholders to find solutions and improve the overall health and sustainability of the project
- Contributing to the development of community policies and procedures, including codes of conduct, governance structures, and decision-making processes, to ensure that the community operates in a fair and transparent manner
- Serving as a liaison between the community and the OpenStack Foundation, working closely with foundation staff to ensure that the needs of the community are met and that resources are allocated appropriately
- Providing regular updates and reports to the community on the status of key initiatives, projects, and programs and soliciting feedback and input from members to inform future planning and decision-making

Software Engineer @ Red Hat 07.2015 - 04.2017

- Contribute to open-source projects in Python
- Submit patches for bug fixes to the community and review patches from other community members
- Work with quality engineers to ensure that the projects are tested correctly
- Publicize work the team is doing via blogs, web postings, or conference talks

Technical Account Manager @ Red Hat 01.2012 - 07.2015

- Perform initial or secondary investigation and respond to online and phone support requests
- Work with partners to proactively identify and prevent joint customer issues
- Gain an understanding of the customer's technical infrastructure and environment, hardware, and/or products
- Serve as the customer advocate within Red Hat
- Maintain clean and concise ticket documentation

Technical Support Engineer @ Red Hat 03.2009 - 08.2011

- Team Lead 08.2010 - 08.2011
- Provide level-1 technical support to customers by taking incoming calls and responding to web-based inquiries
- Perform diagnostics of problems, troubleshoot, and develop solutions for customer issues
- Exceed customer expectations with outstanding customer service
- Consult and develop relationships with in-house engineers and developers to drive creative solutions and improve customer satisfaction
- Document problem solutions within the company knowledgebase

Director of Web Development @ Click Optimize 11.2008 - 02.2009

- Manage projects through the development phase of their life cycle
- Develop all pages for customers' sites
- Perform any necessary additional design work
- People manage a distributed team of contractors

Senior Web Developer @ Unlimited Web Solutions 02.2008 - 11.2008

- Responsible for the essential development and programming of new websites as well as maintenance and updating current clients' websites
- People manager of a local team

Specialties

Developer advocacy and technical evangelism, community management, technical program management, relationship building with external stakeholders, content creation and development, public speaking and presentations, technical writing, cross-functional team

leadership and collaboration, partner/consultant management, customer support and satisfaction, problem-solving and troubleshooting, technical project management, open-source project contribution and review, programming in Python, HTML, CSS, and Javascript, knowledge of DevOps, containers, cloud services, and related technologies, people management and leadership.

Education

MIT Information Technology @ American InterContinental University 2002
BFA Dance @ University of Southern Mississippi 1998

Portfolio

Code Samples

- A CockroachDB leaderboard sample application using Java Spring deployed on Heroku: https://github.com/cockroachdb/java-spring-crdb-app
- A CockroachDB sample app for coordinating social events using Next.js with react-bootstrap deployed on Vercel: https://github.com/cockroachdb/nextjs-react-vercel-crdb-app
- Build a poker game that demonstrates the value of Temporal and helps me get to know the PythonSDK: https://github.com/rainleander/learn-temporal-python-SDK-v2
- May the Fourth: Jedi Training https://github.com/rainleander/may-the-fourth

Books

- Developer Experience Unleashed: The Art of Creating Efficient Developer Environments https://a.co/d/hNPDD5M
- Tutus and Tech: Exploring Top Tech Trends Through the Art of Movement https://a.co/d/1vSYDrz
- The DevOps Revolution: Transforming Software Delivery and Collaboration https://a.co/d/bsCq26b

Technical Writing

- Getting Started With Serverless Application Architecture https://dzone.com/refcardz/getting-started-with-serverless-application-archit
- Controlling Concurrency in Python asyncio: The Tale of async imap_unordered() https://dev.to/rainleander/controlling-concurrency-in-python-asyncio-the-tale-of-async-imapunordered-50fn
- How to build a cloud-native web app with Java, Spring, JPA, and CockroachDB https://www.cockroachlabs.com/blog/java-spring-jpa-cockroachdb/

Other Writing

- It's Time to Build Some Empathy for Developers https://thenewstack.io/its-time-to-build-some-empathy-for-developers/

- London Calling Temporal https://temporal.io/blog/london-calling-temporal
- Beyond Technical Skills: The Habits of Highly Successful Developers
  https://dev.to/rainleander/beyond-technical-skills-the-habits-of-highly-successful-developers-3noj

Conference Talks

- PHP UK Conference: Diving Into New Technologies: Hacks to Work More Efficiently
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9r-0RQFRU20&t=28110s
- Replay 2022: Shaping the Future of Backend Development
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vpdkobsDOuU
- All Things Open 2022: Building An Enduring Open Source Community
  https://youtu.be/pbHaJb4-sPg

Streams

- Open Source Stream: Repository Requirements
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WqW-rh5GvwQ
- Open Source Stream: CockroachDB Sample App
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Im5xC57RX4s
- Open Source Stream: Camunda Interview
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Of42hbdAOWs