CHRISTIAN AREAS

A writer who uses their technical skills and love of learning to create a great developer experience

EXPERIENCE

Postman

Senior Technical Writer 2024-03-18 - Present

- Wrote most of Postman's public-facing AI developer docs including many of the Model Context Protocol (MCP) docs and delivered them on tight deadlines. Continue to maintain them as the team adds features and enhancements.
- Overhauled the Postman API Network docs to help API publishers get their API consumers to their first 200 OK response in the fewest steps possible.
- Built a Next.js site that lists all of Postman's icons. The Postman Docs team uses the icons to add visual cues to the docs to improve the user experience.
- Published an NPM package that's a Vale-compatible implementation of the Postman Style Guide. The team uses Vale to lint the docs locally and in GitHub with GitHub Actions and ultimately ensures the docs adhere to Postman's style.

Apple

Senior Technical Writer, Special Projects 2023-09 - 2024-03

- Designed a comprehensive workflow that manages the team's documentation lifecycle. The workflow includes a twostep review process and an automated method to flag outdated content.
- Worked with cross-functional partners to write how-tos for users who collect data and test in-development products for Apple's research and development organization.

Sabbatical

2022-04 - 2023-09

- Completed a 24-week, full-stack JavaScript developer boot camp. Led all team projects and in one case made over 90% of the contributions to the codebase. Learned TypeScript shortly thereafter.
- Finished a 5-course, self-paced Python specialization.

Apple

Senior Technical Writer, Apple Pay 2019-08 – 2022-04

- Functioned as Apple Pay server engineering's sole technical writer.
- Wrote several documents from scratch, including one that explains the system behind Apple Pay Later.
- Worked with engineering managers and engineers across Apple Pay to gather requirements for a new docs-as-code solution to centralize Apple Pay's API specifications.
- Designed the docs-as-code solution. It sources Markdown and OpenAPI files from multiple GitHub repos, and uses web hooks and a CI/CD pipeline to publish the latest updates to teams across Apple. The solution supports fine-grained permissions, and gives users an easy way to create text-based message sequence diagrams.
- Interviewed nearly 50 candidates to hire Apple Pay server engineering's second technical writer.

Senior Technical Writer, Employee Productivity 2015-07 - 2019-08

- Wrote in the Apple voice for Apple employees guides and how-tos for everyday users, new employees, managers, and other audiences.
- Referenced the Apple Style Guide, Human Interface Guidelines (HIG), Chicago Manual of Style, and other resources to maintain consistency across content.
- Managed and mentored writers.
- Led major, cross-functional projects such as the complete overhaul of one of Apple's main internal sites and subsequently iterated to improve the user experience.
- Wrote SQL queries to generate reports. Used the data to answer questions and drive decisions.

MGT

Documentation Manager 2013-10 – 2015-7

- Authored key documents from scratch to support the startup, including a 150+ page internal control system (ICS), information security policies, anti-money laundering (AML) and countering the financing of terrorism (CFT) policies, and more.
- Wrote functional specifications for user registration, know your customer (KYC), and deposit and withdrawal flows.
- Developed 20+ SQL queries to output all financial and operational data registrations, logins, deposits and withdrawals, gaming activity, liabilities, and other metrics.

SKILLS

- Languages: Bash / JavaScript and TypeScript / JSON / Markdown / Python / Regex / SQL / YAML
- Specifications: GraphQL / gRPC / JWT / MCP / OpenAPI
- Command-Line Tools: Git / GitHub CLI / Brew / NPM / Vale
- Databases: MongoDB / MySQL / PostgreSQL / SQLite
- Frameworks: Next.js / Node.js / React.js
- Apps: Confluence and Jira / Figma / Postman / Terminal and Warp / Visual Studio Code / Xcode

EDUCATION

- Specialization Certificate, Python for Everyone | University of Michigan (Coursera)
- Certificate of Completion, Full-Stack JavaScript Developer | UC Berkeley Extension
- MPH, Epidemiology (Coursework Complete) | Emory University
- BA, English and Premed | UC Berkeley