

## Charles Harless Staff Software Engineer

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### Summary

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Software Engineer with extensive experience building **high-scale digital media platforms**, **distributed microservices**, and **modern front-end interfaces**. Strong background in **JavaScript**, **TypeScript**, **Node.js**, **Java**, and **AWS**. Delivered **intuitive interfaces**, integrating **front-end** applications with **backend services**, and **optimizing performance** across complex systems.

### Achievements

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- **Scaled Impact:** Launched **Disney Movies Anywhere** serving **20M+ users** across platforms.
- **Performance Optimization:** Improved front-end and backend **performance by 15%**.
- **Operational Efficiency:** Reduced **backlog by 50%** for high-traffic web applications.
- **Application Reliability:** Achieved **99.9% uptime** across **distributed backend APIs**.

### Professional Experience

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**Software Engineering Consultant**  
**Thinking Bear Consulting - Los Angeles, CA**  
*September 2023 - Present*

**Technologies:** AWS, Java, Node.js, React

- Built and improved **streaming web applications** using **React**, **Node.js**, and **AWS** services.
- Improved **performance by 15%** through targeted **optimizations** across front-end interfaces and backend service response times.
- Reduced **infrastructure costs by 15%** using metrics-driven automation and resource tuning.

**Staff Software Engineer**  
**Brightcove - Boston, MA**

*January 2023 - June 2023*

**Technologies:** AWS, Java, React, REST APIs

- Developed features for **media applications** integrating **front-end** components with **distributed backend microservices**.
- Conducted **code reviews** to ensure **high-quality front-end** and **backend** implementation.
- Enhanced **reliability** and **reduced defects by 15%** through improved testing practices.

**Staff Software Engineer**  
**Amazon Prime Video - Culver City, CA**

*January 2021 - June 2022*

**Technologies:** AWS, Lambda, Java, Node.js

- Built **automation workflows** integrating **front-end** to **25+ backend services** for media delivery.
- Improved **time-to-market by 15%** through iterative delivery and ownership models.
- Coordinated large-scale security updates across 2,000+ applications.

**Staff Software Engineer**  
**NBCUniversal Media - Universal City, CA**

*April 2016 - December 2020*

**Technologies:** AWS, Lambda, JavaScript, TypeScript, Ionic

- Built and maintained enterprise mobile applications serving **23,000+ employees**.
- Modernized legacy front-end systems, improving **productivity by 10%**.
- Created **TypeScript-based solutions** integrated with **backend microservices** for search.
- Established **CI/CD pipelines** enabling frequent, reliable deployments.
- Recognized with "Going the Extra Mile" award for leadership in enterprise portal delivery.

### Staff Software Engineer

Walt Disney Studios - Burbank, CA

November 2011 - April 2015

**Technologies:** Java, AWS, REST APIs, MongoDB

- Launched **Disney Movies Anywhere** serving **20M+ users** with **99.9% uptime**.
- Built **scalable high-availability** REST APIs handling **millions** of daily transactions using Java.
- Supported development of **front-end web** and **set-top box applications** integrated with **backend microservices** and **video & content management systems**.
- Presented Disney Developer Summit sessions on content modeling and streaming architecture to audiences of **100+ engineers**, enhancing cross-team knowledge sharing.

### Additional Experience

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#### Computer Science Instructor

UCLA Extension - Los Angeles, CA

August 2015 - Present

- Instructed Java, Web Applications, and Data Structures courses, earning 4.7/5.0 instructor rating.

#### Principle Software Engineer

Sage Group - Irvine, CA

May 2015 - March 2016

**Technologies:** JavaScript, TypeScript, Ionic

- Built cross-platform mobile UI components using TypeScript and the Ionic framework, reducing **time-to-market by 15%**.
- Evaluated modern front-end and mobile technologies for product enhancements.

#### Senior Software Architect & Engineer

Walt Disney Parks & Resorts - Glendale, CA

December 2005 - October 2011

**Technologies:** Java, AWS, PHP, MySQL, OWL, RDF

- Designed **scalable platform architecture** improving **performance** and **consistency** by **20%**.
- Built **semantic data models** enabling a **15% increase in reuse** and integration.

### Education & Certifications

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- **Master's Degree in Computer Science**, University of California Los Angeles
- **Master's Degree in Biomedical Engineering**, University of California Los Angeles
- **Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science**, University of Alabama
- **Generative AI Fundamentals** Certificate, Databricks
- **Become a Product Manager**, Udemy
- **Certified ScrumMaster (CSM)**, Scrum Alliance
- **Certified Scrum Product Owner (CSPO)**, Scrum Alliance

### Skills

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- **Languages & Tools:** Java, Spring, Node.js, JavaScript, TypeScript, Python, GitHub, MongoDB.
- **Architecture & Technology:** AWS, Lambda, REST APIs, Microservices, Distributed Systems, Web Streaming Platforms, Performance Optimization, System Design, Cloud Scalability, Generative Artificial Intelligence, CI/CD Pipelines, Release Automation.
- **Leadership & Strategy:** Mentorship, Agile/Scrum, Architecture & Code Reviews, Software Development Lifecycle, Communication Skills, Project Management, Collaboration Skills, Team Leadership.