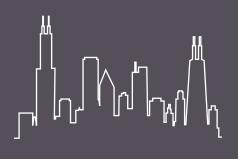# Mercedes Bernard

mercedesrbernard@gmail.com

Chicago, IL

As an engineer, I bring a unique blend of technical knowledge, non-technical language, and compassion to all of my projects. My clients and team feel empowered, comfortable, and heard.

As a leader, I care deeply about team health and the organization's feedback culture. Individualized management is my passion. I strive to foster an environment where each individual's unique set of strengths and ideas have space to grow and better the organization.

At this time, I am *not* open to relocation. Remote opportunities are welcome.

Education

DePaul University - Summa cum laude
B.Sc. in Computer Science
Minor in American Sign Language Studies

Technology and Tools

Languages

Ruby, Javascript, C#, HTML5, CSS3, SQL, Python

Server Frameworks

Rails, ASP.Net, Entity Framework, MVC, Web Forms, WebAPI

Client Frameworks

React, Vue.js, Angular, Tailwind CSS, SuitCSS

Databases and Database Tools

Postgres, SQL, SSMS, noSQL, Couchbase

Other/Misc

Git, RabbitMQ, Contentful, EpiServer

Experience

Engineering Manager
Tandem (formerly DevMynd), Mar 2019 - present

- Balance hands-on keyboard software development responsibilities with management responsibilities in a 50/50 commitment.
- Manage and sponsor a team of 6 developers including 1:1s, bi-annual performance reviews, goal setting, accountability, and identifying career opportunities.
- Coach team on client engagement, consulting, and technical decision-making skills.
- Spearhead internal process changes including rewriting job postings to be more inclusive, advocating for pay transparency, contributing to new career path guidelines, guiding creation of a codified apprenticeship program, and leading team to revamp our hiring code challenges for more equity in evaluation of candidates and better alignment with our career path.

Principal Software Engineer
Tandem (formerly DevMynd), Dec 2017 - present

- Own client relationships and establish trust with clients as a strategic advisor in matters of process, people, and product in addition to technology
- Lead 8 person development team building custom cloud software for large government client to replace 65+ on-premise deployments of legacy application.
- Upgrade legacy Rails application from 4.2.7.1 to 5.2 and optimize performance of database queries to be able to effectively scale and support revenue targets.
- Set and advocate for development processes that support the goals of the product team while maintaining code quality and developer productivity.
- Work closely with design lead and product owner to set feature roadmap and determine priority and timeline for dependent and intersecting features.

.NET Developer
Chamberlain Group, Jun 2017 - Dec 2017

- Developed and maintained message-oriented middleware system for IOT devices.
- Refactored monolithic service into 20+ microservices for device communication to simplify maintenance, code dependencies, and downstream event management.
- Implemented domain driven architecture and migrated microservices into new architecture while maintaining backwards compatibility with legacy services.

Solutions Architect
Making Waves (formerly Nansen), Mar 2014 - Jun 2017

- Designed extensible framework solution to be used in 20+ web applications allowing more budget allocation for design and implementation of new features.
- Led technical sales processes to identify key technical requirements and provide the estimates for use in proposals and statements of work.
- Migrated public-facing website for national pet food company from proprietary CMS into EPiServer 7.5 resulting in increased extensibility and shorter development cycles.
- Enhanced EPiServer 6R2 e-commerce site to handle more than 2,000 orders/week.
- Created custom MVC application to manage more than 2 million customer records.

For a full resume of past experience, please visit mercedesbernard.com/resume

Community

Board Member
Chicago Tech Slack

Founder and Organizer
Dev Together, May 2018 - March 2020

Dev Together connects people starting their development career with technical mentors through low-commitment, high-value, human interactions.

Conference Speaker

I enjoy speaking about topics at the intersection of technology and mentorship, communication, and learning. For a full resume of my speaking engagements, please visit mercedesbernard.com/speaking. Some recent events include

- CTO Summit, Chicago 2019
- RubyConf 2018, 2019
- O'Reilly OSCON 2019
- THAT Conference 2018, 2019