

TAMARA (TJ) FREDRIKSON

Senior Full-Stack Engineer | Interface-First | 25+ Years of JavaScript | PHP, Python, and AWS

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SUMMARY

Senior full-stack engineer, 25+ years building where the user meets the computer: multi-tenant SaaS platforms, distributed web applications, and legacy systems that have to keep running while they change. 25+ years of JavaScript; full stack across Vue.js, PHP, Python and Java on AWS. Ten years owning a platform serving 116 colleges, including its Keycloak SSO: SAML federation, MFA, custom identity mappers. Incident response on an e-commerce platform processing \$6B+ annually. Deep expertise in WCAG 2.2 / ADA / Section 508 accessibility compliance.

Recent work includes AI model evaluation, task design, and domain-specific review for LLM training workflows.

SKILLS

CORE COMPETENCIES: Full-Stack Development | System Design | Distributed Systems | Legacy System Modernization | Incident Response | Technical Strategy | Technical Leadership | Cross-team Leadership | Client & Stakeholder Collaboration | API Design | Authentication & Authorization (RBAC) | DevOps & CI/CD | Analytics & Reporting | WCAG 2.2 / Section 508 expert

TECHNOLOGIES: Vue.js | JavaScript | PHP | Python | Java | PostgreSQL | MySQL | REST APIs | Docker | Linux | Apache/Nginx | AWS (S3, RDS, Redshift, Glue) | Git | Bitbucket | CI/CD pipelines | Jenkins | PHPUnit | Laravel | TypeScript | Single Sign-On & Keycloak | JasperReports | Apache Superset | Prompting

WORK EXPERIENCE

Web Developer Expert (Occupational Reviewer) – Sepal AI (acquired by Mercor)

Remote Short-term Contract via TJ Interactive, Inc. | November 2025 - March 2026

- Independent contractor providing web development domain expertise to improve models for a top AI lab
- Designed and evaluated domain-specific tasks for large language model (LLM) training and benchmarking
- Promoted to Occupational Reviewer and led the effort closing out the Occupation Reviews for Web Developers and related occupations after the acquisition

Senior Software Engineer | California Community Colleges Technology Center (Butte College)

Remote | July 2015 - October 2025

- Architected, built, and led development of multi-tenant SaaS platforms (C-ID, COCI) supporting 2K+ users and 300K+ submissions across 116 colleges
- Owned the work from architecture through release to production for ten years: system design, hands-on development, deployment, and maintenance, with production issues returning as hotfixes through the same lifecycle
- Led the modernization of legacy systems, improving maintainability and long-term performance
- Designed full-stack application architecture including workflows, APIs, data models, and business logic for complex academic review systems
- Delivered analytics and reporting for academic and administrative users through JasperReports and Apache Superset, on a data warehouse maintained with the data team
- Led the Keycloak SSO rollout across all 116 colleges and the Chancellor's Office: SAML federation, MFA, and custom identity mappers, coordinating 15 developers across 4 organizations over a year
- Built the features curriculum staff used daily, designed to be faster to complete and harder to get wrong, on interfaces meeting WCAG 2.2, ADA, and Section 508
- Led and mentored engineering efforts, coordinating system rebuilds across multiple applications
- Maintained and extended Jenkins CI/CD pipelines for AWS deployments, scripted in Python and SQL

Software Architect (CTO / Technical Lead) - TJ Interactive, Inc.

Consulting & Contract Engineering, Remote | 2008 - Present

- Founded and run the consultancy: full-stack SaaS and web platforms for startups, nonprofits, and enterprise clients, working in the code alongside any team I lead
- Frequently engaged to modernize legacy systems, improve performance, and stabilize production environments
- Designed system architectures including APIs, data models, authentication systems, and deployment pipelines
- Built CI/CD pipelines for client development teams
- Owned infrastructure, performance, reliability, and database optimization on production systems

Selected Engagements:

- Publish (contract, 2014 - present) - Architect and lead engineer for a full-stack publishing platform, including backend systems, deployment workflows, and git-managed releases. Led a distributed team of engineers
- Simon Wiesenthal Center (contract, 2013 - present) - Data export tooling and database-driven systems for a content management platform
- ConvoSpark (contract, 2012 - 2013) - Technical lead. Raised average project sold from roughly \$3,000 to over \$20,000
- Trekkel (contract, 2010 - 2013) - Lead architect of the patent-pending algorithm delivering tailored travel listings. Led the team building a JavaScript frontend and PHP backend
- Golightly (contract, 2008 - 2011) - Senior engineer on a multi-tenant social platform for three years, building or extending every product feature: maps, groups, profiles, forums, calendars, APIs, authentication, and role-based access control

EARLIER EXPERIENCE

Partner & Consulting Engineer | Fenario | January 2000 - December 2008

- Advised musicians, artists, and promoters on web presence and e-commerce, frequently setting them up to manage their own hosted shopping carts and payment tools
- Built and hosted sites for independent clients, including the band Don't Push the Clown (members of Jefferson Starship, Frank Zappa's band, Sons of Champlin, and Sly and the Family Stone)
- Eight years of direct client work with image-conscious, non-technical clients, building the stakeholder skills the later enterprise work depended on

Director of Engineering & Lead Developer | Nacio Interactive | August 2005 - August 2007

- Lead architect and hands-on developer on every client project, running a small team of employees and contractors
- Delivered for enterprise clients including Pfizer, Wells Fargo, and Guide Dogs for the Blind
- Built accessible interface prototypes for Guide Dogs for the Blind, validated with blind power users and used to determine client requirements
- Migrated the Buck Institute from a proprietary Ektron CMS to open-source Joomla
- Produced cost and timeline estimates for new project bids; performance was measured on the gap between initial estimate and final hours worked
- Organized technical projects and prioritized developer workloads across concurrent client engagements

Incident Response Engineer | Marketlive | September 2004 - March 2005

- Incident response and live-site engineering for a multi-tenant e-commerce platform processing \$6B+ annually across 150+ clients under strict SLA requirements
- Acted as engineering's escalation point when IT and managed services could not resolve live-site issues
- Reduced senior engineering involvement in incident response by 75% through process and system improvements
- Resolved production incidents, performance bottlenecks, and data integrity issues on a J2EE platform (Java, JSP, XML, SOAP, SQL)

Software Engineer, Intellectual Property Rights | RightsCenter | 2000 - 2001

Build/Release Intern | Andromedia (acquired by Macromedia, now Adobe) | 1999

Reservist, Planner & Software Specialist | Federal Emergency Management Agency | September 1992 - December 1999

- Supported development, testing, deployment, and operation of a \$700M+ disaster assistance management system
- Delivered training, documentation, and system validation across multiple field deployments
- Two years of assignments in Micronesia: Guam, the Northern Marianas, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands

EDUCATION

Master of Arts, Teaching & Learning with Technology (Online Educator), Ashford University (now University of Arizona Global Campus) | 2019

Graduate Computer Science, Databases (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign) | 2001 — master's-level coursework, admitted directly with no bridge program

BS Computer Science Equivalency (software track: Programming Languages), San Francisco State University | 2000

BA Spanish (independent study: human linguistics), University of Virginia | 1992