Ryan Artecona

ryanartecona@gmail.com
Houston, TX

I am an experienced engineering leader with over 8 years working in many facets of web application engineering at scale. I build high-performing teams of engaged engineers on the basis of trust, inclusivity, and effective collaboration. As a leader, I stay close to the code to ensure that even the most technically demanding and risky projects are set up for success. As a director, I know my teams are most effective when they connect their work to business impact and own their decisions and results. I work to empower my teams by providing vision clarity and supporting execution autonomy.

Skills

Strengths:	Cloud-native web backends • Deployment platforms • Observability • Reliability
Languages:	Ruby • SQL • Bash • Make • JS • Python • OCaml
Platforms & Tools:	AWS • Kubernetes • Terraform • Docker • MariaDB • Rails • React • Kafka • Flink • Druid

Experience, Recent

Director of Engineering   Wistia (Remote)   Jul 2020–Present

- Collaborate with company leaders to form and execute company-wide initiatives
- Oversee all architectural design and execution for 4 teams—cloud infrastructure, video, analytics, and platform
- Manage the 12 engineers and managers comprising above 4 teams
- Liase between engineering, product, sales, IT, business intelligence, and finance departments to determine and meet company goals
- Design and implement interview processes for new engineering specialties
- Coach and mentor new engineering leaders

Senior Engineering Manager   Wistia (Remote)   Aug 2018–Jul 2020

- Oversaw all architectural design and execution for 3 teams—cloud infrastructure, video, and analytics
- Managed the 9 engineers comprising above 3 teams
- Owned the product roadmap and project execution for internal developer tooling and cloud deployment platform running dozens of applications on hundreds of EC2 instances
- Founded an analytics team to build a streaming data pipeline around Kafka, Flink, and Druid capable of ingesting 70M+ messages per day and replacing an over-capacity legacy system, enabling more sophisticated product features
- Reduced company operating costs by over 25% and increased gross margin by over 5% by optimizing cloud spend and heavily negotiating cloud vendor prices

Tech Lead, Infrastructure   Wistia (Remote)   Jun 2016–Aug 2018

- Founded and managed a cloud infrastructure team of 3 engineers
- Owned the design, roadmap, and migration plan of an internal deployment platform built on Kubernetes and AWS, resulting in a sharp decrease in both customer-visible downtime and app development cycle time
- Created departmental standards around service architecture, security, and observability by leading the adoption of various secret management and observability tools and practices
- Established post-outage protocols, including timeline capture, causal analysis, playbook documentation, and future preventative action, by facilitating blameless postmortems and training new facilitators
- Interfaced with customers to answer technical questions and translate feedback into roadmap adjustments

Experience, Past

Software Engineer   Wistia (Cambridge, MA)   Jul 2014–Jun 2016

- Developed and maintained the full stack of Wistia's video hosting platform on a team of 5 engineers

- Deployed changes regularly to Wistia's Rails applications, video transcoding service, load balancer configuration, databases, and embedded JavaScript video player, reaching thousands of customers and millions of viewers

- Refactored Chef scripts to consolidate server management, reducing deployment errors and improving incident mitigation capabilities during outages

- Owned maintenance and capacity expansion of legacy analytics system, including a multi-terabyte sharded MySQL cluster

- Evaluated interview project submissions and conducted interviews to support the hiring process

Associate Web Developer   LinkedIn (Mountain View, CA)   Jul 2013–Jul 2014

- Developed and maintained the user help center site and related internal tools used by support staff in PHP, JSP, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript

- Collaborated with remote team members to update content and build user-facing web pages, including ensuring correct translation of webpages and developing web forms to collect diagnostic information

- Advocated for adherence to departmental internationalization, security, operations, and design standards in help center development planning

- Ran coding and verbal interviews for engineering candidates

Education

Rice University   Houston, TX
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Minor in Business   2013

First prize, upper division—Tsanoff philosophy essay competition   2012