

Xander Harris

Principal DevOps Engineer | Staff Software Engineer | Site Reliability Engineer

Summary

Xander Harris is a highly skilled professional with a broad background in cloud architecture, DevOps, and software engineering. With expertise in a wide range of technologies including Red Hat Enterprise Linux, Ubuntu, AWS, GCP, Kubernetes, Docker, and Python, Xander has proven capabilities in infrastructure management, CI/CD, and automation. His experience spans roles at Wunderkind Inc, Databricks Incorporated, and other notable companies, where he led significant projects to enhance monitoring, CI/CD pipelines, infrastructure maintenance, and automation.

Experience

SiriusXM

Staff

Software

Engineer

April 2024 - June 2024 (3 months)

Los Angeles Metropolitan

Area

- Software Engineering
 - Automated documentation processes with existing tools, including GitLab CI/ CD, Python, and GitLab Pages.
 - Created Python programs to automate and simplify versioning processes while maintaining Semantic Versioning and PEP-440 compliance.
 - Supported and advised several development teams on containerization and migration from on premises infrastructure to AWS deployments.
- Infrastructure as Code
 - Wrote Terraform modules to facilitate transfer of infrastructure from existing DCs to AWS accounts in all major environments (dev, qa, staging, prod).
 - Used existing tools to produce documentation for existing and new Terraform modules where none existed previously.
 - Provided advice to and received requirements from development teams on the most cost-effective use of cloud resources, including deployments to EKS, VPCs, S3, Cognito and Lambda.

Wunderkind

Software

Engineer

(2 years 4 months)

February 2023 - December 2023 (11 months)

Los Angeles County, California,

United States

- Produced local development environments including complex dependencies for greenfield projects.
- Simplified existing local development environments by replacing shell scripts with well-configured Docker Compose.

(213) 285-7203 | xandertheharris@gmail.com | Los Angeles, California, United States

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- Developed Golang applications to enable message handling via Google Pub/Sub queues with Protocol Buffers.
- Reviewed Merge Requests in GitLab for a wide variety of applications.
- Developed automated documentation tools then integrated them with existing GitLab CI pipelines.

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Wunderkind
Engineer

DevOps

September 2021 - February 2023 (1 year 6 months)

Los Angeles, California,

United States

- Monitoring with Prometheus
 - Developed a set of metrics required of custom applications by Prometheus to provide consistent PagerDuty alerting to development teams.
 - Documented the process of implementing the above requirements so that they could be implemented across the entire engineering organization.
 - Used Go to add required metrics for a development team.
 - Completed migration from DataDog to Prometheus and Grafana by removing all DataDog-sourced alerts from Grafana.
- Infrastructure Maintenance and Support
 - Maintained and developed helm charts for use with deploying both third party and custom software to Wunderkind GKE clusters.
 - Participated in a brutal on-call rotation with PagerDuty to provide 24/7 coverage for mission-critical systems.
 - Implemented and maintained a database migration system using Go migrate to allow tracking schema changes with SCM.
 - Deployed opencost.io to all Wunderkind GKE clusters to provide cost data to Prometheus.
 - Demonstrated usage of the GCP Billing Console to Research and Development Department executives.
- CI/CD with GitLab
 - Supported deployment of multiple applications using helm charts and GitLab CI pipelines.
 - Wrote GitLab CI pipelines and templates to enable the use of static analysis tools such as SonarQube.
 - Developed multi-stage Docker builds to reduce build time and create smaller deployment images.
- Infrastructure as Code
 - Created Terraform code to deploy or update GKE clusters and node pools to follow organization labeling standards.
 - Imported to GitLab CI Terraform state all existing GCP resources for a major application and created GitLab CI deployment pipelines to deploy and maintain cloud resources.
 - Migrated infrastructure code from Google Deployment Manager to GitLab CI with Terraform.

Databricks
Engineer

Documentation Platform

November 2020 - July 2023 (2 years 9 months)

Los Angeles, California, United States

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- Supported Databricks Documentation Team efforts to expand and improve Databricks public documentation for products running on AWS, Azure and GCP.
- Create and maintain CircleCI build and deploy pipelines for Databricks docs and related custom Sphinx extensions.
- Automated API documentation to enable internal teams to publish updates to documentation sites seamlessly.
- Improved test coverage for custom Sphinx extensions while debugging and enhancing them.
- Documented build and test processes for all documentation sites.
- Assisted Documentation Team members with errors in both local and CI builds.
- Provided instruction on Python and mentored junior engineers on the Documentation Platform Engineering team.

Gahan Corporation

Director of

Technology

May 2016 - July 2023 (7 years 3 months)

Los Angeles, California, United

States

- Establishing and operating a C Corporation that provides IT consulting services is a real pain, some of the work required is shown below.
- Incorporation Process
 - Choose a suitable legal structure, such as a C Corporation, to provide liability protection and facilitate growth.
 - Select and register a business name, ensuring it complies with legal requirements.
 - Prepare and file the necessary documentation, including articles of incorporation, with the relevant state authorities.
 - Wrote corporate bylaws outlining the internal rules and regulations of the company.
- Regulatory Compliance
 - Ensured compliance with federal, state, and local tax regulations.
 - Obtained an Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the IRS.
 - Identified and acquire any necessary licenses or permits for IT consulting services.
 - Maintained HIPAA compliance as necessary for clients.
- Client Engagement and Service Delivery
 - Developed strategies for attracting a diverse client base, including startups and larger enterprises like Databricks, Inc.
 - Established clear and comprehensive contracts specifying services, deliverables, timelines, and payment terms.
 - Defined a range of IT consulting services tailored to meet the needs of individual startups and larger corporations.

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Fox Corporation

Senior DevOps

Engineer

May 2020 - July 2021 (1 year 3 months)

Los Angeles, California, United States

- Monitoring with DataDog
 - Compiled data on New Relic alerts caused by Media Cloud systems for tuning purposes.
 - Automated deployment of DataDog agent configuration to Docker services with Jenkins and Ansible.
 - Deployed APM with Continuous Profiling, Log Management, Infrastructure (host and container), Real User Monitoring, Synthetic Monitoring, Network Monitoring, and Alerting to all Media Cloud services and systems with service level tagging to enable correlation of metrics with traces, alerts and logs.
- Infrastructure Maintenance and Support
 - Improved stability of video and audio transcoding software to reduce outages.
 - Participated in a 24/7 on-call rotation to provide incident response and issue resolution for all Media Cloud mission-critical production services.
- CI/CD with Jenkins
 - Supported developers using existing CI/CD system by patching Jenkins jobs and shared libraries.
 - Wrote Jenkins pipelines to enable execution and analysis of Python and Java unit tests.
- EKS Proof of Concept
 - Created Terraform code to deploy EKS clusters and related ECR repositories in multiple AWS environments.
 - Deployed a k8s-based Jenkins service which then deployed to a separate EKS cluster a simple Flask website and Postgres database to test EKS autoscaling performance.

Infor

Senior DevOps

Engineer

February 2020 - May 2020 (4 months)

Los Angeles, California, United

States

- Guided other members of the team with methods for improving the consistency and reliability of their code.
- Implemented a basic set of unit tests with Pester for PowerShell.
- Ran daily scrum meetings to improve visibility of work.
- Wrote Python as required to enable delivery of new code to a fleet of AWS EC2 instances deployed globally.

Infor via Taos

Senior Cloud

Engineer

September 2019 - February 2020 (6 months)

Greater Los Angeles

Area

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- Instructed junior team members on the use of Docker and other containerization technologies.
- Designed and implemented GitLab CI pipelines that increased repeatability and decreased manual action in deployments to production.
- Enabled regular deployments to production of a code base with languages as diverse as COBOL, Java, Fortran, Perl, C and Python.

Disney née Fox Media Engineer

Senior DevOps

December 2018 - September 2019 (10 months)

Greater Los Angeles Area

- Enabled media ingestion and storage for Disney+ as part of the Media Cloud team.
- Participated in an on-call rotation in support of maximum availability.
- Enabled regular deployments of new infrastructure and software with Terraform, Jenkins, and Docker Enterprise.

Infor via Taos Engineer

Senior DevOps

June 2018 - November 2018 (6 months)

Greater Los Angeles Area

- Updated Step Function and its constituent Lambda functions such that successfully processed events read from a Simple Queue Service queue would be written to a Kinesis stream
- Automated the deployment of DynamoDB tables and previously mentioned Kinesis stream with Infor's proprietary configuration management tool
- Implemented basic integration tests
- Supplemented and refactored existing unit tests
- Added API key authorization to existing API to enable access via an API Gateway to create the CMDB Client API
- Wrote Python to acquire statistics and publish them to a Grafana endpoint
- Created a Kafka producer base class to provide a formal description of requirements for statistics objects.
- Implemented GitLab Continuous Integration for testing and deployment

Taos

Development Engineer, PS Consulting

May 2018 - November 2018 (7 months)

Greater Los Angeles Area

- Participated in training on topics such as Python, Machine Learning, and Kubernetes.
- Acquired new certifications as required by Taos clients.

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Abiogenix via Gahan Corporation Engineer

Principal DevOps

August 2014 - April 2018 (3 years 9 months)
California

Alameda,

- Developed shopping cart for my uBox medication dispenser using Django, Python, and JavaScript.
- Deployed, managed, and automated configuration of Atlassian suite (JIRA, Bitbucket, Confluence) with Amazon EC2, Amazon ECS, Ansible, Docker, and Ubuntu.
- Deployed and maintained mail services for my-ubox.com with Postfix, Courier (IMAP), Ansible, Amazon ECS, and Docker.
- Administered and automated maintenance of Odoo ERP servers (development and production) with Ansible, Python, Docker, Amazon ECS and PostgreSQL.
- Migrated my-ubox.com and abiogenix.com to Route53 DNS.
- Instructed team members on the use of Atlassian products such as JIRA, Bitbucket, Confluence and SourceTree.
- Trained team members on proper use of git and gitflow to manage branching and deployment to production.
- Implemented push-to-deploy on Abiogenix web repositories to allow developers to deploy to production without using ssh.

Creative Artists Agency Engineer

DevOps

September 2015 - March 2016 (7 months)

Greater Los Angeles Area

- Implemented CI/CD for an internal project which was a year behind schedule to enable the developers to deliver bug fixes and new features daily with Jenkins, Ansible, Python, Web2Py, and Ansible Tower.
- Alerted stakeholders to failing jobs in Ansible Tower or non-functional infrastructure with New Relic, PagerDuty, Python, and Ansible.
- Trained and guided WorkDay migration team in the use of Python, Pandas and JupyterHub through completion of the project.
- Managed and monitored cloud infrastructure of roughly 30 EC2 instances using Ansible, Ansible Tower, BASH, CentOS, Ubuntu, and New Relic.
- Refactored an existing library of Ansible playbooks for scalability, speed, and stability.

Toyota North America Developer

Lead Python

December 2014 - July 2015 (8 months)

Torrance, CA

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- Provided instruction on the use of git, gitflow, Bitbucket, and best practices for commits and merges to Customer 360 developers after gaining consensus and approval of Customer 360 management with an A3 presentation.
- Refactored and developed web scraping software using ScraPY, Python, and Ansible.
- Wrote and implemented a Python style guide and provided instructions on compliance to team of remote Python developers.
- Ran daily SCRUMs for Customer 360 developers.
- Automated deployment of Customer 360 services to reduce time to deploy from several weeks to less than an hour with Ansible, BASH, Java, Ant, Maven, Tomcat, and Scala Build Tool.
- Designed, deployed, and implemented automated tests and deployment of Customer 360 code written in Java, Scala, and Python with Ansible, BASH, Ant, Maven, and Jenkins.
- Supported a team of 25 developers with Jenkins CI, Bitbucket, and Ansible to ensure they were able to release on time.

Mintspare Officer

February 2014 - January 2015 (1 year)

Francisco, CA

Chief Technical

Miami, FL / San

- Responsible for the development and maintenance of all Mintspare software and computer infrastructure with Ansible, PHP, Python, BASH, Bitcoin, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Apache 2, Ubuntu, Digital Ocean Droplets, AWS EC2, MySQL and HAProxy.
- Developed Mintspare websites using CakePHP, jQuery, HTML, CSS, Bitcoin, and MySQL.
- Interacted with Bitcoin server using PHP to allow automatic transactions for Mintspare customers.

VS Media Administrator

August 2013 - December 2013 (5 months)

Analyst / Email

Greater Los Angeles Area

- Managed email marketing system which sent roughly one hundred fifty thousand messages per day using PHP, BASH, Subversion, and CentOS.
- Documented control flow of email system software with Dia.
- Responsible for daily marketing campaigns.

Thrive Marketing Group Administrator

April 2013 - July 2013 (4 months)

Web Developer / Systems

Greater Nashville Area, TN

- Developed internal tool to allow non-technical call center staff to properly qualify technical leads using PHP, MySQL, REST, SOAP, HTML, CSS, and jQuery.
- Provided instruction on the use of git, gitflow, and GitHub to other developers.

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- Installed, configured and managed roughly 8 bare-metal servers using CentOS, Ubuntu, Gentoo, Windows Server, and BASH.
- Assisted with administration of office workstations with Windows 8.

WishB

July 2010 - September 2010 (3 months)

Web Developer

San Francisco Bay Area

- Developed WishB websites using PHP, HTML, MVC, jQuery, Subversion, and MySQL.
- Deployed development and production environments with CentOS, Apache2, BASH and MySQL.

Logitech

Software Engineer / Systems

Administrator

April 2008 - April 2010 (2 years 1 month)

San Francisco Bay Area

- Software Engineer
 - Used Dojo.js JavaScript framework for developing the Sightspeed video chat application.
 - Translated management requirements into new features.
 - Used Object Oriented Programming (OOP) with JavaScript.
 - Conducted extensive testing of code for use in enterprise software.
 - Wrote multi-process media server in PHP.
- Systems Administrator
 - Designed a custom Gentoo image for use with Amazon's EC2 cloud service and deployed that image from development to production environments.
 - Supported deployment of Gentoo Linux servers with appropriate software and configuration.
 - Provided support for the movement of more than twenty servers to a new data center.
 - Participated in the deployment of new servers for the launch of the LogitechVid service in Logitech DC.

Blowtorch

Web Developer / Systems

Administrator

November 2007 - March 2008 (5 months)

San Francisco Bay Area

- Web Developer
 - Created custom Drupal modules for use on the Blowtorch Entertainment video website.
 - Designed and created new tables in PostgreSQL database.
 - Participated in design meetings to offer suggestions for the look and feel of the Blowtorch Entertainment website.
- System Administrator
 - Configured Apache on CentOS development server and deployed that devserver for use of other members of the team.

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- Checked PostgreSQL database for errors and ensured proper quality of data.

Vinyl Interactive

Database

Administrator

June 2007 - November 2007 (6 months)

San Francisco Bay Area

- Used Linux command line tools and BASH scripting to automate database imports of three to four hundred thousand rows per day
- Administered and maintained several hundred-million-line MSSQL and MySQL database servers.
- Configured, installed, deployed, and administered a Storage Area Network to support a proprietary mass email system.

Fordela

Web Developer / Systems

Administrator

October 2006 - May 2007 (8 months)

San Francisco Bay Area

Area

- Web Developer
 - Designed and created new database tables for use with the Video Mill webapp.
 - Programmed new features for VideoMill web application using PHP, JavaScript and Ajax.
 - Converted existing non-framework codebase to CakePHP MVC framework.
- System Administrator
 - Designed, configured, installed, and administered subversion version control for the Video Mill web application.
 - Configured, installed, and maintained development and production servers running CentOS with Apache and MySQL.

OptyWeb

Systems

Administrator

November 2005 - May 2006 (7 months)

San Francisco Bay Area

- Webmaster
 - Designed and coded the Optyweb website with HTML and CSS.
 - Addressed client technical support issues, including the configuration of servers to run Apache with MySQL and PHP.
- System Administrator
 - Created install images and used an imaging tool to deploy new images for OptyWeb clients using FreeBSD, CentOS, Debian, Fedora, and Ubuntu Linux distributions.
 - Participated in the movement of more than sixty web servers from one datacenter to another.
 - Configured the switches in the new datacenter to allow for a minimum downtime for OptyWeb clients.

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U.S. Forest Service

Webmaster

April 2004 - March 2005 ·

Greater Seattle Area

- Webmaster
 - Was responsible for the development and maintenance of AirFIRE Team websites with PHP, CSS, and XHTML.
 - Administered the AirFIRE Team web server.

SAXOTECH A/SSAXOTECH A/S

Customer Fulfillment

Specialist

March 2003 - January 2004

Rockville, Maryland

- Was required to quickly grasp advanced concepts about software design to provide customers with emergency technical support.
- Within one month of hire was given charge of the entire support department.

GE-Zurich Warranty Management

Technical Support

Representative

April 2001 – August 2001

Dallas, Texas

- Supported Ge-Zurich customers with technical issues related to their PCs and other electronics.