Christopher Cuellar
Technologist & Educator

Work History

The Movement Cooperative
Senior Software Engineer

2020 - Winter 2022
Remote

As the principle architect and lead engineer of an internal tool called Orchestrator, I help manage complex data pipelines for The Movement Cooperative's growing membership of progressive advocacy organizations. Along with providing direct data support to our members, I also help maintain Parsons, our popular open-source python library that provides easy-to-use API wrappers for the most popular progressive tech and data warehousing tools.

UCLA Design Media Art
Guest Lecturer

2019 - Current
Los Angeles, CA

As a regular guest lecturer for the *Network Media* undergraduate studio course at UCLA's Design Media Arts department, I continue to develop an introductory web design curriculum grounded in a critical approach to internet making and inspired by the radical pedagogy developed with *Color Coded*.

Color Coded
Co-Founder

Spring 2015 - Summer 2021
Los Angeles, CA

Color Coded is a grassroots tech collective and learning space for people of color of all identities in and around Los Angeles. Since 2015, our team has facilitated free workshops and open studio sessions to help participants incubate their own tech projects, while learning & sharing skills. We also provide an immersive project-based learning curriculum that has trained our members to take on digital consulting projects. Clients have included Ruha Benjamin, Black Lives Matter LA, COiL LA and Solidarity Economy US.

Work History

Accelerate Change Network   Summer 2017 - 2020
Software Consultant   Remote

Accelerate Change helps non-profits experiment with digital solutions to scale their operations more rapidly. Since 2017, I've been consulting for Accelerate Change partners, including Pushblack, Parents Together, and Revolution English on a variety of digital infrastructure projects. I've also architected custom data pipeline and warehouse solutions to help them sustain the rapid audience growth of their clients and partners.

NationBuilder   Summer 2015 - Winter 2016
Full-Stack Software Engineer   Los Angeles, CA

As a full-stack engineer with a focus on frontend architecture, I was responsible for large-scale refactors of NationBuilder's core products. I upgraded the frontend from a monolithic Rails/jQuery stack to a more modular, testable architecture using React & modern NPM-driven build tools. I architected many new features for the core CMS product, including a custom integration with Dropbox that allowed customers and developers to edit NationBuilder websites using their favorite desktop IDEs.

Cargomatic   Summer 2013 - Spring 2015
Full-Stack Software Engineer   Los Angeles, CA

Joining Cargomatic as its second full-time developer, I quickly built and iterated on an Admin application for our service, allowing our growing business and operations teams visibility into all activity happening on our system. I contributed to and implemented all of the core features of the product, including shipment booking, shipment tracking, fleet management, geocoding and real-time mapping, service pricing, billing, notifications, as well as many other administrative roles required to start up the young company.

Civil Services   2009 - 2013
Co-founder, Lead Web Developer   Los Angeles, CA

Along with designer Dustin Kilgore, I founded a small design collective focusing on Web & Print projects for artists & non-profit organizations. We developed an online Cultural Asset Map of LA for the arts advocacy group, Arts For LA. Rather than relying on Google Maps, our team designed a custom interactive online map of Los Angeles using Mapbox & CartoDB. We customized all of the data layers and map markers to create a unique look and feel for the product.

Education	**SAIC MFA in Writing**	Fall 2008 – 2010
	Master's Thesis	Chicago, IL

Responding to emerging, location-based trends in social media & surveillance, I created my own location-based Twitter feed in the earliest days of widespread geolocation, using the Twitter and Google Map API's and a third-party GPS Android app to create an app/artwork hybrid.

Stanford University 1998 – 2002
B.A. in English with Distinction

Interests Passionate about social justice, cooperative business models, transformative justice and lifelong learning. Organizer and founding member of Color Coded & the Los Angeles Tenants Union.