

Darlington Gospel

Senior Blockchain Engineer | Smart Contracts & Full-Stack dApps

Location: Nigeria | Remote: Available

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Blockchain engineer with 10+ years of software experience and 6+ years in blockchain since 2020. Designs, audits, and deploys smart contracts in Solidity for EVM chains and Rust/Anchor for Solana. Has built dApps across DeFi, NFTs, and tokenization on Ethereum, Polygon, Solana, and ICP, and ties on-chain logic to real frontends and backends instead of leaving it as a standalone contract. Founded Dapp Mentors, where 5,800+ learners study blockchain development through courses, articles, and video.

CORE STRENGTHS

- **Audit-ready contracts.** Writes and tests smart contracts aimed at zero critical vulnerabilities in production, not just passing tests.
- **Gas discipline.** Optimizes transaction cost without cutting corners on security, with a track record of 30 percent gas reductions on audit work.
- **Edge-case testing.** Builds test coverage that catches failure modes before mainnet deployment.
- **Clear transaction UX.** Designs wallet integration and signing flows that give users honest feedback at every state.
- **Full-stack context.** Ties contracts to real Node.js/Python backends and React frontends, so on-chain logic ships as a working product.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder & Lead Blockchain Engineer, Dapp Mentors / Daltonic LLC (US-based)

2022 - Present

- Architected and deployed blockchain systems, including dApps, DeFi protocols, NFTs, and decentralized storage.
- Built end-to-end dApps with Solidity and Rust smart contracts, Node.js and Python backends, and React frontends.
- Integrated on-chain logic and tokenomics with IPFS and Sia decentralized storage.
- Conducted audits and implemented security patterns and gas optimizations, cutting gas costs by 30 percent.
- Owned the full lifecycle: design, testing, deployment, and post-launch operations.
- Authored a blockchain development book and 40+ articles on blockchain, DeFi, and Web3.
- Built courses on Solidity, Solana, DeFi, NFTs, and smart contract security.

Ecosystem Developer & Educator (Grantee), The Sia Foundation

2023 - 2024

- Awarded a developer grant to build decentralized storage solutions using the Sia Renterd API on the Sia blockchain network.
- Created a comprehensive YouTube tutorial series demonstrating practical implementations of distributed storage.
- Translated complex blockchain concepts into teachable content for developer community engagement.

Ecosystem Developer & Educator (Grantee), DFINITY Foundation

2023 - 2024

- Awarded a developer grant to build production-grade decentralized applications on the DFINITY Internet Computer (ICP) and Bitfinity network.
- Designed and delivered developer-focused courses accelerating onboarding and practical adoption of Bitfinity tooling.
- Converted production workflows into step-by-step educational content for the developer community.

Senior Software Engineer, Independent / Project-Based

2019 - 2022

- Built production smart contracts and blockchain-integrated APIs using Solidity, Node.js, and Python.
- Delivered systems with on-chain data processing, token interactions, and decentralized decision logic.
- Deployed and maintained dApps on Ethereum and Solana using Docker and VPS infrastructure.

Technical Writer & Developer (Remote), CometChat

2020 - 2022

- Contributed to developer-facing tooling and blockchain integrations for a communication platform.
- Built practical smart contract integration examples alongside technical documentation.
- Translated blockchain concepts into usable dApp examples and integration guides.

Software Developer (Full-Time), GIT Technologies Ltd., Port Harcourt, Nigeria

2019 - 2020

- Led full-stack development with backend APIs and early blockchain technology exploration.
- Trained teams and junior developers on backend, frontend, and blockchain fundamentals.

Software Developer (Internship), White Creativity, Port Harcourt, Nigeria

2017 - 2018

- Built web and mobile applications with early exposure to blockchain concepts.
- Mentored junior developers on development practices.

KEY PROJECTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Timeless NFT

NFT marketplace dApp with Solidity ERC-721/1155 contracts for minting, listing, bidding, auctions, and royalty enforcement. IPFS metadata, OpenSea-compatible. Hardhat-tested and deployed to Ethereum and Polygon with 30 percent gas savings.

DappPay

AI-driven, non-custodial payroll system on Solana using Anchor/Rust smart contracts. Handles on-chain organization management, worker registration, treasury funding, and batch payroll processing through atomic transactions, with a privacy-first architecture that keeps sensitive data client-side.

Fundus

Solana-based crowdfunding platform using the Anchor framework and Rust. Smart contracts handle transparent campaign creation, decentralized donation processing, and milestone-based fund release, backed by a comprehensive test suite. 16 stars on GitHub.

Votee

Solana-based polling application with on-chain governance. Smart contracts handle poll creation, candidate registration, voting mechanics, and result tabulation, with tamper-proof verification through blockchain confirmation.

Sia Vid TV

Decentralized media streaming platform using Sia blockchain for distributed storage, with chunked file handling for efficient upload, download, and streaming. 12 stars on GitHub.

OpenBench

AI dataset curation platform where every approved artifact is stored permanently on Sia Network through the official Sia Storage SDK, with all object IDs content-addressed and persisted for public verification.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Blockchain & Smart Contracts: Solidity (EVM), Rust/Anchor (Solana), token standards (ERC-20/721/1155, SPL), DeFi protocols (DEXs, liquidity pools, staking, governance), NFT systems, smart contract security and auditing, reentrancy prevention, formal verification

Testing & Deployment: Hardhat, Foundry, Truffle, testnet and mainnet deployment, gas optimization, IPFS, Sia decentralized storage

Backend & Infrastructure: Node.js (Express), Python (FastAPI), Rust, Web3.js, Ethers.js, web3.py, Solana Web3.js, Anchor client libraries, MongoDB, PostgreSQL, Docker, GitHub Actions CI/CD

Frontend & Web3 Integration: React, Next.js, TypeScript, MetaMask, Phantom, WalletConnect, wagmi, viem, transaction signing flows

EDUCATION

B.Sc. Computer Science Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Port Harcourt 2014 - 2018 | CGPA: 4.09 / 5.0

OPEN SOURCE & COMMUNITY

- Maintains 30+ public repositories on GitHub focused on blockchain dApps, smart contracts, and DeFi protocols.
- Contributed to Web3 Foundation Grants Programme projects and other open-source blockchain work.
- Leads the Dapp Mentors community of 5,800+ learners, providing free tutorials and open-source blockchain codebases.
- Published 45+ technical articles and produced 140+ YouTube videos on Solidity, Solana, NFT systems, and production blockchain deployment.