

Darlington Gospel

Senior Software & Blockchain Engineer (Full-Stack dApps & Smart Contracts)

Location: Port Harcourt, Nigeria | **Remote:** Available

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Website: [dappmentors.org](#)

Professional Summary

Senior Software & Blockchain Engineer with 10+ years of experience and 6+ in blockchain since 2020. Designed/audited/deployed smart contracts in Solidity (EVM) and Rust/Anchor (Solana). Built dApps for DeFi/NFTs/tokenization across Ethereum/Polygon/Solana/ICP. Integrated on-chain logic with backends/frontends for secure, optimized systems. Founded Dapp Mentors, educating 5,800+ via book, courses, 45+ articles, 140+ videos.

Core Technical Skills

Blockchain & Smart Contracts

- **Smart Contract Development:** Solidity (EVM), Rust/Anchor (Solana), token standards (ERC-20/721/1155, SPL)
- **DeFi Protocols:** DEXs, liquidity pools, yield farming, staking mechanisms, governance systems
- **NFT Systems:** Minting contracts, marketplace logic, royalty enforcement, metadata standards (OpenSea-compatible)
- **Security & Auditing:** Smart contract security patterns, reentrancy prevention, access control, formal verification
- **Testing & Deployment:** Hardhat, Foundry, Truffle, testnet/mainnet deployment, gas optimization
- **Decentralized Storage:** IPFS integration, Sia blockchain, distributed file systems

Backend & Infrastructure

- **Backend Frameworks:** Node.js (Express), Python (FastAPI), Rust
- **Blockchain Integration:** Web3.js, Ethers.js, **web3.py**, Solana Web3.js, Anchor client libraries
- **Databases:** MongoDB, PostgreSQL, SQLite (for off-chain data indexing)
- **DevOps:** Docker, GitHub Actions CI/CD, Linux/VPS deployment, blockchain node management
- **API Design:** RESTful APIs for blockchain data, WebSocket for real-time updates, GraphQL for complex queries

Frontend & Web3 Integration

- **Frontend Frameworks:** React, Next.js, TypeScript
- **Wallet Integration:** MetaMask, Phantom, WalletConnect, wagmi, viem
- **UI Development:** Tailwind CSS, responsive design, Web3-specific UX patterns
- **dApp Interfaces:** Transaction signing flows, contract interaction UIs, real-time blockchain state updates

Professional Experience

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

2022 - Present

- Architected/deployed blockchain systems (dApps, DeFi, NFTs, storage)
- Built end-to-end dApps with Solidity/Rust contracts, Node/Python backends, React frontends
- Integrated on-chain logic/tokenomics/governance with IPFS/Sia storage
- Conducted audits implementing security patterns and gas optimization (30% reductions)
- Owned lifecycle: design, testing, deployment, post-launch ops
- Authored book/40+ articles on blockchain/DeFi/Web3
- Created courses on Solidity/Solana/DeFi/NFT/security
- Built Dapp Mentors platform for 5,800+ learners

Ecosystem Developer & Educator (Contract) — The Sia Foundation

2023 - 2024

- Developed advanced decentralized storage solutions using Sia Renterd API on Sia blockchain network
- Created comprehensive YouTube tutorial series demonstrating practical implementations of distributed storage systems
- Translated complex blockchain concepts into teachable content for developer community engagement

Ecosystem Developer & Educator (Contract) — DFINITY Foundation

2023 - 2024

- Built production-grade decentralized applications on 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 developer ecosystem growth

Senior Software Engineer — Independent / Project-Based

2019 - 2022

- Designed and implemented backend services supporting blockchain workflows and decentralized applications
- 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, Solana, and other networks using Docker and VPS infrastructure

Technical Writer & Developer (Remote) — CometChat

2020 - 2022

- Contributed to developer-facing tooling and blockchain integrations for communication platforms
- Built practical smart contract integration examples alongside technical documentation
- Translated complex 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 explorations
- Built production systems using JavaScript, Python, and PHP with emerging Web3 integrations
- Trained teams and junior developers on backend, frontend, and blockchain fundamentals

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

2017 - 2018

- Developed web and mobile applications using React and Node.js with early exposure to blockchain concepts
- Built scalable frontend and backend components with focus on architecture and performance
- Mentored junior developers on software development best practices and emerging technologies

Key Projects & Achievements

OpenBench

2026 — Built OpenBench, an AI dataset curation platform where every approved training task, dataset, and benchmark artifact is uploaded to and permanently stored on Sia Blockchain Network via the official Sia Storage SDK. Sia upload is Stage 9 of a 9-stage automated pipeline; all object IDs are content-addressed and persisted to PostgreSQL, making every result publicly verifiable by fetching the corresponding CID directly from the network. Integrated Sia indexd for metadata tracking. Built with graceful demo mode fallback when Sia is unreachable, mirroring the same storage architecture used in OpenBucket.

Rebit

2026, in development — Building Rebit, a self-hostable, open-source video processing engine that stores all outputs permanently on Sia Network via the official Sia Storage SDK and indexd. Every source video, generated clip, transcript, and clip metadata is uploaded and pinned to Sia as part of the processing pipeline, with all object IDs registered with indexd for health monitoring and retrieval. Builds directly on the SDK and indexd integration experience from OpenBucket. Users hold their own BIP-39 recovery phrase; no output touches a centralized cloud bucket. Stack: Next.js, FastAPI, Inngest, Sia Storage SDK, indexd, PostgreSQL, Docker Compose.

Timeless NFT

2022 — Architected NFT marketplace dApp with Solidity ERC-721/1155 contracts for minting/listing/bidding/auctions/royalties. IPFS metadata; OpenSea compatible. TypeScript/Tailwind frontend with MetaMask integration, responsive galleries, real-time feedback. Hardhat-tested; deployed to Ethereum/Polygon with 30% gas savings.

DappPay

2025 — Built AI-driven decentralized payroll system on Solana using Anchor/Rust smart contracts and Next.js/TypeScript frontend. Implemented on-chain organization management, worker registration, treasury funding mechanisms, and batch payroll processing with atomic transactions. Designed privacy-first, non-custodial architecture where sensitive data remains client-side. Created natural-language command processing enabling conversational payroll operations. Integrated Phantom wallet for Solana transactions with optimized transaction bundling reducing costs.

QuantumPool

2025 — Developed decentralized pooling platform with ML-driven trading strategies on Solana and EVM networks. Built smart contracts for transparent fund management, automated trading execution, and profit distribution. Implemented FastAPI backend integrating market data aggregation, ML model inference, and blockchain transaction orchestration. Deployed complete production system with real-time monitoring and performance analytics.

Fundus

2023 — Built Solana-based crowdfunding platform using Anchor framework, Next.js, and Rust. Implemented smart contracts enabling transparent campaign creation, decentralized donation processing, and milestone-based fund releases. Created comprehensive testing suite ensuring contract security and reliability. 16 stars on GitHub demonstrating community adoption and code quality.

Votee

2023 — Developed Solana-based polling application with on-chain governance. Built smart contracts for poll creation, candidate registration, voting mechanisms, and result tabulation. Ensured transparency and tamper-proof voting through blockchain verification. Implemented frontend with real-time vote counting and results visualization.

Sia Vid TV

2023 — Architected decentralized media streaming platform leveraging Sia blockchain for distributed storage. Built TypeScript frontend integrating Sia APIs for secure uploading, downloading, and streaming. Implemented chunked file handling for efficient distributed storage and retrieval. 12 stars on GitHub showcasing innovative use of decentralized storage for media applications.

Solana Tokenise Project

2023 — Created Solana token sale platform using SPL SDK for token standards and smart contract implementation. Built purchasing interfaces, minting mechanisms, transfer logic, and metadata management. Implemented comprehensive on-chain token handling with secure wallet integration. 11 stars on GitHub demonstrating practical SPL token implementation.

Adulam NFT

2022 — Developed Ethereum-based NFT minting platform using Solidity and React. Implemented stage-based minting with whitelist verification, public sale phases, and automated airdrop distribution. Built responsive frontend with Tailwind CSS ensuring seamless mobile minting experience. Optimized gas costs through efficient contract design.

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, DeFi protocols, and Web3 development tools
- Regular contributor to blockchain ecosystems with forks and contributions to Web3 Foundation Grants Programme and other open-source projects
- Leads Dapp Mentors community (5,800+ learners) providing free tutorials, open-source blockchain codebases, and educational content
- Published 45+ technical articles on smart contract development, decentralized storage, blockchain security, and DeFi architecture
- Created 140+ YouTube videos covering Solidity development, Solana programming, NFT systems, and production blockchain deployment
- Authored educational courses including Fullstack NFT Minting, Fullstack NFT Marketplace, and comprehensive Web3 development programs

What Success Looks Like in My Work

- Secure smart contracts that pass rigorous audits and have zero critical vulnerabilities in production
- Gas-optimized contracts reducing transaction costs while maintaining security and functionality
- Comprehensive test coverage ensuring edge cases are handled before mainnet deployment
- Seamless wallet integration providing intuitive transaction signing and blockchain state feedback
- Well-architected tokenomics and governance mechanisms that align stakeholder incentives
- Production systems that handle mainnet deployment complexity while maintaining upgrade paths