Jerry Aska

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Backend-focused Software Engineer with experience building and operating production services at scale. Comfortable owning features end to end, collaborating across teams, and ensuring reliability, observability, and maintainability

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages: TypeScript, JavaScript, Python, C++, Bash
Infrastructure and Cloud: AWS (incl. CDK, CloudFormation, Lambda, IAM), Kubernetes, Helm, Docker
Dev Tooling: Git, Puppeteer, Jest, k9s, Linux
Production Systems: Monitoring and alerting, metrics analysis, debugging distributed services

WORK EXPERIENCE

Amazon Web Services, Wickr | Manhattan, New York

Software Development Engineer II – Backend and Messaging Team **Sep 2025 – Jan 2026**
Software Development Engineer – Backend and Messaging Team **Jul 2023 – Sep 2025**

- Led backend design and implementation of multi-region VPN routing for a previously single-region service
- Designed API contracts, data models, and request flows to propagate region selection end to end
- Extended Jest-based service canaries to monitor on-prem deployments and detect environment-specific failures
- Designed escalation workflows for canary failures, cutting customer notification time to ~45 minutes
- Deployed Wickr microservices to AWS isolated partitions using AWS CDK to meet IL6 compliance requirements
- Reduced region expansion time by one week through refactors removing manual steps and adding guardrails
- Mentored interns on observability and bot-management projects, supporting successful return offers
- Served in on-call rotations, debugging production issues via logs, metrics, and code-level investigation

Software Development Engineering Intern – Voice and Video Team **May 2022 – Aug 2022**

- Improved observability by migrating legacy dashboards and alarms to Amazon-native monitoring services
- Refreshed high-level system architecture diagrams to replace outdated and inaccurate documentation
- Identified onboarding gaps and improved documentation, accelerating time to productivity for new hires

New York University, Tandon School of Engineering | Brooklyn, New York

Lead Teaching Assistant – Computer Architecture and Organization **Jan 2022 – May 2023**

- Led weekly discussion sections for ~20 students, providing hands-on guidance and technical support
- Guided 160 students in software installation and troubleshooting across Verilog and x86 environments

Teaching Assistant – Introduction to Computer Science **Jan 2023 – May 2023**

- Instructed ~200 students in Linux-based workflows, shell commands, and basic scripting

EDUCATION

New York University, Tandon School of Engineering, Brooklyn, New York **May 2023**
B.S. Computer Engineering, Minor in Psychology

LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY

Founder & Sponsor – The Jerry Aska Awards

Villa Primary School, Antigua & Barbuda **2023 – Present**

- Fund an annual scholarship recognizing top-performing students across core academic subjects
- Provide $250 USD per awardee, totaling $1,000 annually to support academic achievement

Senator – National Society of Black Engineer (NSBE)

New York University, Tandon School of Engineering | Brooklyn, New York **Aug 2022 – May 2023**

- Represented peers and supported event execution at the chapter and national level