Kaitlyn Forks

Product Engineer — AI/Agent Tooling · TypeScript/Node · Full Stack

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Product-first, AI-forward engineer building agentic systems that ship real work — deterministic where it must be, agentic where it pays. At Progressive: agent orchestration for Claude and Copilot on our "Greek pantheon" harness, a Figma-MCP design-to-code pipeline, and the platform, docs, and DX that make other developers faster.

Founder, twice over: an on-device AI productivity app (iOS launched; Android in beta) and a native plant swap site — plus individual contributor on several startup initiatives that made it big.

Ex-biologist who modeled messy living systems in R/Python;

Ex-science teacher who makes complex systems legible — now applied to docs, DX, and developer conversations. Tech is Ecology: I build instruments with strong contracts, simple and modular enough to outlast, à la survival of the fittest.

SKILLS

Core	TypeScript, Node.js, Playwright, Puppeteer, Selenium/ChromeDriver, Chromium/CDP, React, GraphQL (Apollo), REST
AI/Agents	MCP (Chrome DevTools MCP, Figma MCP), Claude Code, multi-agent orchestration, LLM-driven workflows, prompt-based automation
Platform & DX	API design, structured error handling & observability, SpectaQL/API docs pipelines, Bruno, CI (GitHub Actions/GitLab), Datadog-style monitoring practices
Data	Python, Pandas, PostgreSQL/MySQL/DynamoDB, web data extraction → structured output

EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer **Progressive Insurance** *Feb 2025 – Present*

Life new-business platform (React/TS, Node, GraphQL)

AI HARNESS ENGINEERING & DEVELOPER TOOLING

- Architected a **hierarchical, sequential, and parallel state machine** giving developers an app's current and historical state on demand — paired with **Datadog RUM** and a dev "playground" for state visualization — used to pinpoint bug fixes and drive manual business processing across multiple terminal states.
- Stood up **agent orchestration for Claude and GitHub Copilot** on our "Greek pantheon" harness — role agents that plan, critique, build, and verify one another's work — so agentic development ships with review gates built in. Deterministic where it must be, agentic where it pays.
- Built the **design-to-code pipeline** (Figma MCP): design specs flow into production-conforming components instead of hand-translated mockups.
- Built the **Bruno API testing suite** as a standalone package: iterative end-to-end runs validating hundreds of API scenarios in minutes, replacing hundreds of hours of manual testing; adopted by QA as their automation foundation.
- Introduced **SpectaQL-generated API documentation** — a pipeline keeping the GraphQL schema browsable, searchable, and synced with implementation. Docs as a product, treated that way.

PLATFORM OWNERSHIP

- Sole architect of the **Socotra policy-vendor API integration** powering the new-business lifecycle (accounts → quotes → issuance → invoicing → payments), coordinating directly with three external vendors; shipped dynamic type generation from the vendor's Configuration API so contracts survive vendor changes.
- Designed the **centralized error-handling framework** used in limited launch: structured classification, single-point logging, environment-aware exposure policies protecting PII in production while preserving debug detail below it. Clear error messages are DX.
- Shipped the Approval Page redesign: completion rate **+10%**, abandonment **–18.5%**.

Founder & CTO **Throughline · throughlineproductivity.com** *2025 – Present*

- Founded and built a **voice-first, fully on-device AI productivity app** (iOS) for people with executive-function challenges — no server-side data, full user data sovereignty, with a self-correcting on-device training loop. Android currently in beta.
- Automated the business around the launch — agentic workflows carry the repeatable operations, so a solo founder can ship product weekly.
- Own everything: product direction, architecture, beta recruitment, investor conversations. Decide what to build, what to skip, what to kill — weekly, with imperfect data.

Founder & Principal Engineer **Forked Software LLC** *2021 – Present*

Independent consultancy

- Built an **autonomous agent development pipeline**: Claude Code + GitHub Actions with a mobile-first approval flow — agents implement, humans review from a phone; using on real client builds every day.
- **NSF INCLUDES Network (Washington University, 2025):** rescued data from a decommissioned network behind authentication. **Puppeteer** session automation against a legacy ASP.NET site — `__VIEWSTATE` extraction, cookie persistence and replay, full site mirroring with asset harvesting — plus **Selenium/ChromeDriver** bulk document extraction with explicit waits and audit logging. Delivered structured CSVs and a React filterable research interface: web data normal scraping can't reach, turned into clean, usable structure.
- **Spite House Studio (2022):** built the entire e-commerce platform (NestJS/Angular/SQL, Stripe, ShipStation) behind a **$250K+ Kickstarter** party game launch.

Software Engineer **Appriss Insights / Equifax** *Oct 2022 – Dec 2024*

- Led Node.js/Angular front-end for MOVAN, an ETL platform automating real-time victim notifications on perpetrator-status changes; optimized high-volume data ingestion workflows with backend teams (Python). Again, no PM for internal tools teams!

Full Stack Engineer **Anchor Yacht Charters** *May 2021 – Oct 2022*

- Architected booking/calendar systems (Node/Angular) and automated Stripe payouts; built a tax/fee microservice; shipped features directly with the C-Suite in a classic "fast paced start-up" — no true PM, ever.

Earlier: Junior Engineer at Varsity Tutors (Nerdy) — automated my own business-side job away in dev tools then got hired onto the engineering team for it.

EDUCATION & RESEARCH

- LaunchCode Software Development Bootcamp — 2020
- MA, Science Education — University of Missouri St. Louis
- BA, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology — Texas A&M
- 2 peer-reviewed publications (amphibian disease ecology; post-wildfire conservation methods) — built population models and hierarchical analyses in R/Python as a field researcher.

EXTRAS

- **Improv comedian** since 2018 (house team, The Improv Shop STL) — professionally thinking on my feet and talking to strangers, bringing levity in high stakes environments: Which turns out to be most of developer-business relations
- **Former middle-school science teacher** (Teach For America) — I explain complex systems for a living, to the hardest audience there is: Teenagers.
- Grew up in a house with a snake farm; dad co-wrote the *Field Guide to Texas Snakes* — comfortable with things that bite, including legacy DOM structures! (HA! See comedian entry above!)