

Sarah Foster

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Technical Skills

Programming (Python including Jupyter, NodeJS, legacy C++), monitoring and log aggregation, Linux administration, shell scripting (BASH), networking, server provisioning, SQL, Kubernetes operations, time-series parsing syntax in Bosun, Grafana, Datadog, Terraform, Pulumi, incident.io

Operating systems:

- Linux (Ubuntu, Red Hat Enterprise Linux, and Debian)
- Mac OS X
- Windows

Experience

Frenome, Brisbane, CA

March 2026-Present

Senior Site Reliability Engineer

- Contributed to the establishment of a new SRE team, forking from an infrastructure organization
- Built foundational observability structure in Datadog
- Maintained versioned infrastructure definition in Terraform and Pulumi
- Established Site Reliability Office Hours, liaising with the rest of the company to establish best practices
- Contributed to an on-call rotation for site reliability
- Utilized AI harnesses to iterate quickly on the creation of domain knowledge-driven tooling
- Coordinated with non-developer stakeholder teams to contribute code to company initiatives

TikTok, San Jose, CA

November 2021-March 2026

Tech Lead - Site Reliability Engineering, USDS

- Contributed to the establishment of a new SRE team within a new organization
- Interviewed, onboarded, and mentored new SREs across multiple teams
- Operated a large-scale microservices deployment in Kubernetes
- Proposed, executed, and documented foundational processes
- Coordinated and participated in a 24/7 SRE on-call rotation
- Provided critical metrics visibility to stakeholders through Grafana and bespoke aggregation services
- Coordinated with teams across countries to deploy new features and regions, in-person when needed
- Built award-winning natural-language tooling for code review pipelines using LLMs
- Normalized data at scale using commodity LLM inferencing
- Represented the organization in recruitment channels, both general and for underrepresented groups

Yahoo!, Sunnyvale, CA

November 2018-November 2021

Performance Engineer

- Orchestrated proofs of concept with vendors to showcase emerging technologies
- Certified new equipment for introduction in the datacenters
- Rebuilt firmware deployment infrastructure from a blank sheet of paper
- Worked with vendors to build, test, and support firmware packages
- Provided support for critical vulnerability management and rolling updates
- Built bare-metal server tooling and certification process, utilizing Ansible to run and gather results
- Coordinated asset management and configuration management synchronization in a testing lab
- Led the Bay Area LGBTQIA+ ERG during COVID, sustaining cohesion through remote events

Facebook, Des Moines, IA

October 2016-November 2018

Data Center Operations Engineer, Plan and Build

- Planned and coordinated the placement, cabling, networking, and provisioning of servers at web scale
- Scripting automatable processes and pulling metrics and status information for wildly variable builds
- Communicating across teams to orchestrate concurrent efforts
- Operating in the production operations space to handle breakfix tickets and technical escalations

- Bootstrapped and/or led multiple employee resource groups

Yahoo!, Omaha, NE

October 2014-October 2016

Site Operations Service Engineer

- Reduced siloing and brought technical excellence into an operations role
- Developed new solutions to improve data integrity on existing data and improve it on incoming systems
- Shared support and best practices across geographically diverse teams
- Documented and deployed new processes to support tooling across the organization
- Facilitated the escalation of issues from local teams
- Operated as a founding member of a team doing code review, CI/CD, and codified infrastructure

Yahoo!, Ft. Worth, TX and Omaha, NE

October 2011-October 2014

Data Center Technician

- Worked as a member of a team to ensure reliability of on-site servers
- Maintained and performed troubleshooting on servers and networking gear from multiple manufacturers
- Managed RMAs and inventory
- Streamlined server configuration, halving the time necessary to install new servers
- Traveled to assist multiple remote sites

Education

Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Texas at Arlington

Foci in Computer Science, Math, Mechanical Engineering, and Sociology

Completed Aug. 2010