

RYAN CALACSAN

Full-Stack Engineer

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Full-stack engineer with 5+ years of experience building production applications with React, Next.js, TypeScript, and PostgreSQL. Independently architected and shipped a 200,000+ line enterprise platform — from database design and API architecture to payment integration, CI/CD, and deployment infrastructure. Experience integrating LLM APIs (Claude, Gemini) into product workflows. Background in visual communication and project management from 15+ years in photography.

SKILLS

Frontend: React, Next.js, TypeScript, JavaScript, Tailwind CSS, Framer Motion, shadcn/ui, Responsive Design, State Management, Server-Side Rendering (SSR)

Backend: Node.js, Python, FastAPI, PostgreSQL, Drizzle ORM, Payload CMS, REST APIs, API Design, Zod, LLM APIs (Claude, Gemini)

Infrastructure: Docker, Vercel, Supabase, Cloudflare, Nginx, Turborepo, Git, GitHub Actions, Continuous Integration/Continuous Deployment (CI/CD)

Testing: Vitest, Playwright, Test-Driven Development (TDD), End-to-End Testing, Unit Testing

Integrations: Stripe, Salesforce, Clerk Auth, ShipStation, Webhooks, WordPress

EXPERIENCE

Principal Engineer | PrintNinja | Aug 2025 – Jan 2026

- Architected and built 200,000+ line full-stack platform using Next.js, React, TypeScript, and PostgreSQL with responsive design
- Migrated legacy PHP pricing engine (500+ variables, 4 product lines) to TypeScript with 100% mathematical parity, verified by 80+ automated tests
- Achieved 100x performance optimization on pricing calculations (11.47s to <100ms) through LRU caching strategy
- Integrated Stripe payment processing with webhook idempotency and Salesforce CRM sync with 80+ field mappings
- Designed database schema with 47+ migrations; authored 290+ technical documentation files for non-technical stakeholders
- Deployed 11-service Docker stack with Nginx, blue-green releases, and zero-downtime rollback

Front End Developer | PrintNinja | Mar 2025 – Aug 2025

- Hired as company's first in-house engineer to modernize web platform after years of contractor-built technical debt and no version control
- Conducted comprehensive audit of legacy systems across full stack, hosting, and Salesforce CRM; documented findings for non-technical leadership
- Developed modernization strategy and roadmap; promoted to Principal Engineer within 5 months to lead full-stack implementation

Freelance Web Developer | Self-Employed | 2020 – 2025

- Built responsive websites for small businesses and community organizations using React, Next.js, JavaScript, and modern CSS
- Self-directed learning path from frontend fundamentals to full-stack development through project-based work and structured coursework

Studio Manager | KH Photography | 2015 – 2019

- Led client consultations recommending products by media type, material, and size — direct domain experience with configure-price-quote workflows
- Managed studio operations, digital asset management, and production scheduling; published photographer (Mountain Gazette, Trails Magazine)

PROJECTS

QuoteCraft — Full-stack quote builder | Stripe payments | PDF export | 181 unit + 30 e2e tests | Next.js, TypeScript, Supabase

OutreachAI — LLM-powered healthcare outreach | Claude + Gemini streaming | dual TS + Python backends | Next.js, FastAPI, Docker

print-check-cli — Published npm package | CLI for print-ready PDF validation | 8 automated checks | Node.js, TypeScript

Chicago Current — Immersive scroll-driven photo essay | Framer Motion | Lenis | responsive parallax animations

Minimal Motion — Typography-focused experience | variable fonts | micro-interactions | CSS animations

EDUCATION

B.S. Biology | University of Illinois at Chicago

Frontend Developer Career Path | Scrimba (partnered with MDN)