

Marie Chatfield Rivas

Staff engineer who ships delightful, complex products while elevating team cohesion and capacity.

they/them/theirs
Seattle, WA

mariechatfield.com
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EXPERIENCE

data.world (acquired by ServiceNow in July 2025)

Staff Software Engineer

Senior Software Engineer

Remote

August 2022 — present

November 2020 — August 2022

I am a fullstack contributor to our knowledge-graph-based data catalog with a special focus on search and discovery. I have:

- Shipped high-impact, high-risk initiatives by designing an entire program around them—not just the code, but the communication, education, and rollout strategy needed to minimize customer disruption while maximizing adoption for major UX overhauls and foundational technical changes.
- Brought thoughtful judgment to architectural decisions and evaluated tradeoffs with awareness of customer needs and business priorities. Built full-stack systems with React, Node.js, Java, Elasticsearch, and LLM integrations, with particular attention to accessibility and semantic HTML/CSS.
- Cultivated deep cross-functional relationships with product, design, customer success, and revenue teams by consistently delivering on commitments and making others feel heard and capable.
- Served as a knowledge multiplier for the team: created learning resources, internal talks, and documentation that elevate collective capability and reduce time-to-productivity for new engineers.
- Developed emerging talent by creating growth opportunities: partnered with engineers at various levels and collaborated with their managers to identify stretch projects and accelerate skill development.
- Identified systemic friction points within the team and designed lightweight practices that improve developer quality of life—reducing on-call burden, strengthening documentation standards, and accelerating onboarding.

Pingboard

Senior Software Engineer

Front-End Software Engineer

Austin, TX

January 2020 — November 2020

September 2018 — January 2020

I worked on our graph-backed org chart and employee management product using React and Ruby, where I:

- Consistently shipped intricate, accessible features on time by combining rapid prototyping to derisk product decisions with polish and attention to detail—including a mobile-ready drag-and-drop editor for the org chart and Slack slash commands with account binding.
- Collaborated closely with product and design through discovery, scoping, and shipping—including user research, design iteration, and adoption metrics—earning trust as a partner in defining what to build.
- Advocated for user privacy throughout the development process, establishing practices to consider security implications from planning through code review.
- Designed the technical interview framework and evaluation system for engineering internship hiring, then managed an intern through structured feedback and development.

Square

Software Engineer

San Francisco, CA

July 2015 — August 2018

As a frontend-focused engineer building employee management features with Ember.js, Ruby, and Java, I:

- Designed, built, and maintained full-stack features with complex visual requirements, including coordinating a three-engineer team through a four-month project and leading reprioritization when requirements changed.

While working on a frontend infrastructure team supporting all back office software products, I:

- Optimized test infrastructure (up to 94% reduction in test resources), rolled out strict Content Security Policy without disruption, and created systems to identify and track test flakes—which were adopted by four other teams.
- Researched developer needs through quarterly surveys and documentation of institutional knowledge and processes, driving improvements to the frontend infra team's roadmap and tooling.

Beyond core responsibilities, I:

- Organized and facilitated community-building initiatives—external technical talks, internal career panels, women-in-engineering roundtables, and accomplishment-tracking workshops.
- Conducted 100+ technical interviews and managed an intern through structured feedback and development, investing significantly in hiring and growing the engineering team.

PROJECTS

CallMyCongress.com

November 2016 — December 2019

- Built and maintained open-source web app (Ember.js and Node/Express, automated Heroku deploy pipeline).
- Served 2,600 monthly active users, with more than 300,000 unique users over lifetime.
- Recommended resource in calls to action by Indivisible Guide, GitHub, Southern Poverty Law Center.

[Color Vision Deficiency PDF Viewer](#)

March 2018

- Created static website which simulates eight varieties of color vision deficiency for multiple-page PDFs in-browser.
- Recommended resource by several medical, scientific, and academic conferences; cited in several research papers to validate figures for accessibility.

TALKS & BLOGS

- [HTML vs. DOM](#)—Web Development Fundamentals *December 2020*
- [Individual Contributors Managing Interns](#)—Developing Teams by Delegating *Lead Dev Meetup Austin, July 2019*
- [Don't Just Put a <div> On It](#)—Semantic HTML for Accessibility and SEO *EmberCamp 2019*
- [Single-Page, Server-Side, Static... say what?](#)—Website Architecture Trade-Offs *December 2018*
- [Deep Dive on Ember Events](#)—JavaScript Event Model & Ember.js Implementation *EmberConf 2018, EmberFest 2017*
- [Dear Marie](#)—Advice column on tech industry quandaries and navigating life well *2019-2021*

EDUCATION

Rice University

Houston, TX

B.A. with Honors in Computer Science