Yorke Rhodes IV

Exploring technical roles at companies building developer tools and infrastructure.

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Expertise: Distributed Systems, Developer Infrastructure, Reliability Engineering, Security Engineering, Formal Methods & Program Verification, Technical Leadership
Languages: TypeScript, Rust, Go, Solidity, C++, Python

EXPERIENCE

Hyperlane — New York City
Founding Engineer — Apr 2022 to Jun 2026
Designed, built, and operated the Hyperlane protocol: security-critical infrastructure for moving data and assets between blockchains. Provided technical leadership to 6+ engineers across protocol and developer experience teams, delivering the core protocol, TypeScript SDK, deployment CLI, and partner APIs for products including Velodrome's privacy-preserving cross-chain swaps. Scaled to 200+ chains and 7+ VMs, maintaining production reliability through on-call rotations and incident response. Over 4 years, processed $10B+ with zero critical hacks and reached #1 among cross-chain bridges by deposited assets on DefiLlama.

Spearbit — Remote, Part-Time
Security Researcher — Apr 2023 to Jun 2026
Audited smart contracts across DeFi and Proof of Stake protocols including Eco stablecoin, Symbiotic restaking, and Royco. Reviewed Solidity and Solana programs for security vulnerabilities and incentive flaws.

Gauntlet — San Francisco
Smart Contract Engineer — Dec 2021 to May 2022
Designed and built Aera Finance, Gauntlet's first on-chain protocol: a risk-aware treasury management solution adopted by Compound and Uniswap. Manages ~$150M in assets and generates ~$5M in annual fees.

Celo — San Francisco
Partner, Smart Contracts Lead — Apr 2019 to Dec 2021
Led production smart-contract development for stablecoin, identity, and governance systems. Established a security-first release process with OpenZeppelin audits and Certora formal verification. Built the first production Coinbase Rosetta implementation for custody and exchange infrastructure. Built Proof of Stake validator and slashing logic; improved stablecoin oracle efficiency and identity protocol privacy.

IBM — New York City
Software Engineer, Blockchain Garage — May 2018 to Aug 2018
Built the IBM Blockchain Starter Kit, an open-source scaffold for Hyperledger applications with build, test, and deploy tooling for Go and Node.js. Shipped a CLI that streamlined the developer onboarding experience.

ConsenSys — New York City
Software Engineer — Jun 2016 to Aug 2017
Built the first Token Curated Registry (adChain), a decentralized whitelist of trusted advertisers for web publishers. Shipped a reusable ERC20 voting standard with partial locking and commit-reveal scheme. Developed Proof of Physical Address, an early smart contract protocol for automated mailing address verification using secrets sent via physical mail.

EDUCATION

Rice University — Houston
Student, Faculty Instructor, Founder of Rice Blockchain — Sep 2016 to May 2020
Taught two semesters of a full-credit blockchain course at the CoFES Institute alongside Professor Manolo Sanchez of the Jones Graduate School of Business. Magna cum laude, President's Honor Roll. Coursework in Compilers, Operating Systems, High Performance Computing, Secure Cloud Computing, and Formal Methods. Research on using software-defined networks to accelerate distributed consensus. Founded and led 50+ member student organization for blockchain education and development. Organized workshops, hosted Houston Ethereum Meetup, and established industry partnerships.

Bronx Science — New York City
Student, Robotics Lead — Sep 2012 to May 2016
Led FRC robotics team, implementing PID motor controls and computer vision. Established Java, SolidWorks, and Eagle CAD bootcamps. Honor Roll and National Honors Society.

SELECTED TALKS

ETHCC Restaking Day: Managing AVS Risks — Aug 2024
ETH Denver: interoperability for rollups and the modular blockchain stack — Mar 2023
Hack VC Whiteboard Sessions: Episode 1 with Hyperlane — Fall 2024