Valencia McMurray

Principal QA Engineer

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Principal QA Engineer & Test Automation Leader with 10+ years of expertise in architecting scalable test frameworks, driving CI/CD integration, and leading cross-functional teams to deliver high-quality enterprise software. Proficient in JavaScript, Cypress, and Playwright for end-to-end automation, with hands-on development experience to build custom testing tools and mentor QA engineers in code-first practices. Passionate about bridging quality and engineering through shift-left testing, process innovation, and risk-driven test strategies.

Skills

Languages: JavaScript, Clojure, Java, SQL

Front-End: HTML5, CSS, Angular, jQuery, Node.js

Back-End/APIs: RESTful APIs, PostgreSQL, AWS DynamoDB

Testing & Automation: Cypress, Playwright, Webdriver.io, Cucumber, Mocha, Postman

DevOps/Tools: GitHub, CircleCI, LambdaTest, TestRail, Jira

Experience

Groundswell / Principal QA Engineer
NOV. 2021 - PRESENT | REMOTE

- Architected a Cypress and Cucumber hybrid framework, reducing regression testing time by 70% and achieving 85% test coverage in CI/CD pipelines.
- Partnered with developers to design Javascript-based test utilities, accelerating defect detection by 35% and enabling shift-left testing for front-end components.
- Led QA process improvements (e.g., TDD adoption, code review integration), cutting post-release defects by 25% across 3 product teams.

Freelance / QA Bootcamp Architect
Summer 2023 | REMOTE

- Developed a QA automation curriculum with 20+ hands-on labs using JavaScript, Cypress, and Postman, resulting in 85% of graduates securing QA engineering roles.
- Built a Node.js/Express mock API server for training, enabling students to practice testing dynamic API behaviors and edge cases.

Aclaimant / QA Engineer, Team Lead
NOV. 2018 - JAN. 2023 | REMOTE

- Engineered a Webdriver.io test framework from scratch, reducing manual testing efforts by 60% and ensuring end-to-end validation of 200+ user workflows.
- Mentored 2 junior QA engineers in test-driven development

(TDD), improving unit test coverage by 45% and fostering collaboration with front-end teams.

Freelance / Web Developer & QA Consultant
SEP 2016 - NOV. 2018 | REMOTE

- Delivered over 15 client projects with zero critical post-launch bugs by leading remote QA teams and automating 85% of test cases via Webdriver.io and Mocha.
- Developed custom JavaScript test reporters to streamline defect triaging, reducing issue resolution time by 50%.

TubeMogul / Software Developer in Test
July 2015 – Sep 2016 | Emeryville, CA

- Automated UI/API tests for product features, ensuring 100% test coverage for critical workflows using TestRail and SQL.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to refine testing processes, reducing release delays by 20%.

Valtira / Cloud Developer
July 2014 – July 2015 | Minneapolis, MN

- Built Java backend APIs and Angular UIs, ensuring seamless integration and data integrity through rigorous testing.
- Established foundational expertise in JavaScript and responsive design, later applied to QA automation frameworks.

Education

Augsburg College / Computer Science, B.A.
SEP. 2009 - DEC. 2014 | Minneapolis, MN

Tutored peers in JavaScript and software development, with 90% of students improving grades by 1–2 letter tiers.