Jack Aponte

Movement technologist with 20 years of leadership and experience in digital security and technology strategy and implementation for community organizations and other nonprofits

THEY/THEM
OAKLAND, CA
@JACKAPONTE

WORK EXPERIENCE

Palante Technology Cooperative
Founding Worker-Owner / March 2010 - Present

- Envisioned and enacted a new model for providing ongoing, holistic technological services to community and nonprofit organizations in New York City and nationwide
- Developed and implemented systems for providing ongoing maintenance and support for Drupal, Backdrop, WordPress and CiviCRM sites
- Proposed, created and continue to grow new organizational digital security wing of Palante's work
- Conduct digisec assessment processes, analyze process results and make recommendations, and manage and conduct implementation of digisec solutions
- Guide organizations through creating policies and practices to help bolster their ongoing digisec efforts
- Develop and conduct a wide variety of trainings and workshops on all aspects of org digisec and other nonprofit tech needs
- Manage projects and ongoing client relationships
- Participate in business development, policy creation, budgeting, hiring processes and strategic planning as a business owner

Palante Technology (Solo Consultancy)
Nonprofit Tech Consultant / September 2000 - March 2010

- Provided tech assessments, planning, purchasing assistance, and ongoing support for nonprofits in NYC
- Managed all aspects of hardware and software for desktops, laptops, mobile devices, servers, networks and peripherals
- Developed, maintained and provided support for organizational websites and databases
- Conducted workshops, trainings and one-on-one tutoring
- Produced documentation for retention of important organizational IT information

Brooklyn Grassroots Technology Project
IT Director / September 2006 - August 2007

- Provided full technology support for the Audre Lorde Project, Families United for Racial and Economic Equality, and VOCAL-NY
- Developed model for increasing efficacy and accessibility of tech support services by focusing on three aligned organizations
- Conducted tech planning and assessment, acquired and implemented solutions
- Administered all aspects of organizations' tech, including networks, servers, workstations, peripherals, email systems, websites and databases
- Conducted trainings and workshops and created documentation

SKILLS

- Organizational digital security assessments, analysis, recommendations and implementation
- Community safety and security principles and practices
- Tech trainings and workshops that are accessible and grounded in movement values and priorities
- Facilitation in a variety of spaces and formats
- Project management and client relationships
- Curriculum and documentation development
- Strategic consulting and support on a variety of technical topics and tools
- Proficiency in Backdrop CMS, Drupal, CiviCRM, PHP, Apache, MySQL, Linux system administration, PGP encryption, password managers including LastPass, KeePassCX and BitWarden, multi-factor authentication, Signal, Twitter and other social media networks

MEMBERSHIPS

Aspiration Tech
Board of Directors
August 2013 - Present

Backdrop Content Management System
Project Management Committee
March 2016 - March 2022

Liberating Ourselves Locally (LOL)
Oakland Makerspace
Steering Committee
June 2016 - August 2017

LINC Project, National Center for Law and Economic Justice
Circuit Rider / August 2005 - August 2006

- Provided tech assessments, planning, implementation and support to low-budget nonprofits in NYC and nationwide working on issues of economic justice
- Worked with groups to identify affordable, accessible and sustainable tech and communications solutions
- Conducted workshops, one-on-one training and tutoring
- Administered day-to-day internal operations of the project

Compass for Change, North Star Fund
Project Coordinator / September 2003 - August 2005

- Produced an online activist and community organizing portal for the NYC area
- Organized multiple partner organizations and a project advisory board
- Supervised technological development of the directory of activist and community organizations
- Worked with organizations to help them access and use the tools provided by the project
- Conducted outreach and organized events
- Designed and maintained project website and publicity materials

EDUCATION

B.A., English Literature with a Concentration in Women's Studies Swarthmore College, 1998-2002

PUBLICATIONS

"Zoomboming Self-Defense: Digital Community Security in the Age of Coronavirus" and "Zoombombing Self-Defense: a Technical Guide," Palante Tech Coop blog, April 3 2020

"Puerto Rican Fight Lives On in People's Assemlies Locally and in Diaspora," *Truthout,* September 9 2019

"This Week's ICE Raids Show Trump's Tacit Support for El Paso Shooter," *Truthout,* August 9 2019

"Corporations are Poisoning People in Puerto Rico with Coal Ash," *Truthout,* June 10 2019

"Worker Coops: A Better Way to Make a Living in Tech," *Model View Culture* 2016 Quarterly No. 2, June 2016

"American Ugliness: Queer and Trans People of Color Say 'Not In Our Names,'" *Truthout,* June 14 2016

"Saneesha Stewart, Lawrence King, and why hate crime legislation won't help," *Against Equality: Queer Revolution Not Mere Inclusion,* AK Press, 2014