

KALU ONUKA DANIEL

Full-Stack Software Engineer & Engineering Manager

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Full-stack software engineer with 4+ years of experience building secure, production-grade systems using Next.js, FastAPI, and PostgreSQL, from regulated fintech infrastructure in Nigeria to distributed teams in Europe. I currently lead a 21-person engineering, QA, and marketing team on a part-time basis while taking on full-stack contract and freelance engagements, giving me both management range and hands-on technical depth. I also lead brand and graphic design work when a project calls for it, owning products from backend logic to visual identity.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Currently leads a 21-person engineering, QA & marketing team (part-time, 2 days/week) - available for full-time engagements.
- Refined engineering workflow to ship features 46% faster than previous delivery cycles.
- Led backend development for a regulated microfinance bank, securing sensitive financial transaction data.
- Grew from individual contributor to team lead, managing and mentoring teams across two companies and three continents' worth of clients.
- Combines full-stack engineering with brand and graphic design leadership and owns products end-to-end.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Engineering Manager | JengaTech Institution (Part-Time, 2 Days/Week) | Feb 2026 - Present

- Lead a 21-person team spanning development, QA, and marketing.
- Set engineering priorities and coordinate delivery across engineering, QA, and marketing functions.
- Continue hands-on full-stack contribution alongside management responsibilities.

Full-Stack Developer & Engineering Lead | JengaTech Institution (Part-Time, 2 Days/Week) | Feb 2025 - Present

- Own engineering flow end-to-end across both frontend and backend for internal and client-facing projects.
- Train and mentor upcoming engineers, translating complex concepts, API integration, database designs into practical, applied skills.

Rejoined in a senior capacity after an earlier stint here as a junior developer in 2023 (below).

Full-Stack Developer (Contract) | Lia, Greece - Remote | Oct 2025 - Jan 2026

Fixed-term contract engaged to maintain engineering continuity during a leadership transition; ran concurrently with the part-time JengaTech role above.

- Bridged complex backend data with the frontend user experience for an international product team.
- Mentored junior developers, helping them resolve technical roadblocks and maintain a high standard of code quality.
- Delivered a scalable product across time zones, meeting strict European performance standards.

Full-Stack Developer & Lead Graphics Designer (Remote) | Tonatel Beauty & Spa | Abia State & Port Harcourt, Nigeria | Dec 2024 - July 2025

Remote-first engagement with monthly on-site alignment visits to the Aba branch.

- Owned both frontend engineering and brand/graphic design direction - rebuilt the UI from functional to polished using React and Tailwind CSS.
- Led visual identity and brand design work alongside the engineering rebuild.
- Worked directly with users to identify friction points, then shipped performance fixes that made the product feel faster and more responsive.

Backend Developer (Contract) | OHF Microfinance Bank | Nov 2023 - July 2024

Led backend development for the bank's core digital services.

- Owned the security and reliability of financial transaction processing for the bank's digital services.
- Built and maintained APIs handling sensitive customer data, ensuring accurate, secure transaction storage in PostgreSQL.
- Partnered directly with the compliance team to keep backend logic aligned with financial regulations and industry standards.

Junior Backend Developer (Hybrid) | JengaTech Institution | Jan 2023 - Aug 2023

First professional role - grew into a team-lead position within 8 months.

- Started here and was promoted into leading a small team of 3 developers.
- Built the FastAPI foundations that allowed internal projects to scale.
- Refined team workflow to ship features 46% faster than previous delivery cycles.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

OND/HND in Computer Science | Abia State Polytechnic | 2020 - 2025

Software Engineering (Full-Stack Development) | JengaTech Institution | 2021 - 2023

Industry Standard Software Engineering - AWS & Elixir Specialization | JengaTech Institution | Jan 2026 - Mar 2026

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Backend: Python (FastAPI), RESTful API Design, PostgreSQL
- Frontend: React, Next.js, TypeScript, Tailwind CSS
- Cloud & Tools: AWS Deployment, Git/GitHub
- Currently Expanding: Elixir
- Design: Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, Brand & Visual Identity
- Leadership: Team Management & Mentoring, Technical Training & Coaching

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Music, Creative Experimentation, Reading