GABE COHEN

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Principal Identity & Standards Architect with 8 year delivering global auth systems, co-author of 4 W3C/OpenID Foundation specs, ex-Director of Open Standards at Block. Scaled proof-of-humanity protocol with partner integrations and novel deep-fake prevention. Seeking Staff/Architect or Technical PM role owning protocol, strategy, and ecosystem partnerships.

CONTACT

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GitHub: github.com/decentralgabe

AFFILIATIONS

W3C
Chair, Decentralized Identifier Working Group
January 2024 - January 2025

Author & Editor, Verifiable Credentials Working Group
August 2022 - January 2025

OpenID Foundation
Editor, Digital Credentials Protocols Working Group
January 2024 - January 2025

Decentralized Identity Foundation
Co-Chair, Claims and Credentials Working Group
Sept 2020 - Jan 2021

Editor, Identifiers & Discovery Working Group
January 2024 - January 2025

ACADEMIC HISTORY

B.S., Computer Science
University of California, San Diego

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER, WORLD ID
Tools For Humanity | January 2025 - Present

- Leading backend engineering on World ID, a decentralized, private, and secure global-scale solution for proof of human, used by 26M+ humans.
- Wrote the "Deep Face" deep-fake-resilient spec and aligned Legal, Product, and Security; launch slated Q3 2025.
- Built core partner integrations APIs adopted by 3+ external partners, shrinking integration time from weeks to days

DIRECTOR OF OPEN STANDARDS
Block | January 2024 - December 2024

- Chaired the W3C Decentralized Identifier working group
- Author & Editor of numerous specifications in the W3C Verifiable Credentials Working Group
- Led the development of digital identity standards, interoperability profiles, and open-source SDKs across 6 programming languages
- Led the integration of Mobile Drivers Licenses into Square and Cash App, partnering with the California DMV and securing a NIST Research and Development Agreement (CRADA)
- Active contributor at the Decentralized Identity Foundation, Open ID Foundation, and SIDI Hub

LEAD PLATFORM ENGINEER, VERIFIABLE CREDENTIALS
Block | January 2022 - January 2024

- Led a team of 4, building an open-source suite of Decentralized Identity & Verifiable Credentials projects, many contributors, 200+ GitHub stars
- Editor & implementer of multiple identity specifications across the W3C, Decentralized Identity Foundation, and OpenID Foundation.
- Evangelized at the Internet Identity Workshop (x4) and DEFCON

CO-FOUNDER & CTO
EcoMint | Oct 2021 - January 2022

- Won a Tezos Foundation grant and shipped an NFT-based crowdfunding project responsible for reforesting a 5-hectare site in Ghana.
- Managed a 3-engineer team; delivered audited smart contracts alongside a full stack software suite with zero critical issues.

PRINCIPAL SOFTWARE ENGINEER
Workday | July 2016 - January 2021

- Pioneered the Workday Credentials Platform, a Hyperledger based Decentralized Identity and Verifiable Credentials system
- Influenced multiple standards initiatives in the W3C, Decentralized Identity Foundation, and IMS
- Open sourced key cryptographic SDKs