

Kyrian Obikwelu

Senior Laravel Engineer and Software Architect

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Laravel Engineer and Software Architect with 6+ years building web applications, interactive products, developer platforms, AI-enabled systems, and open-source infrastructure. I turn business requirements into application architecture, APIs, working features, and production deployments. My work spans backend design, frontend implementation, testing, and operations.

I maintain the official PHP SDK for the Model Context Protocol (MCP), developed with Anthropic, The PHP Foundation, and Symfony. I also create and maintain open-source projects for AI, machine learning, scientific computing, developer tooling, and PHP infrastructure.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Systems. Backend architecture, REST APIs, queues, events, authentication, multi-tenant applications, background processing, WebSockets, testing, and deployment.

Product engineering. PHP, Laravel, Vue.js, Node.js, JavaScript, TypeScript, Livewire, Inertia.js, Filament, and Tailwind CSS.

Data and delivery. PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, Redis, Docker, Linux, Nginx, CI/CD, Git, AWS, and Playwright.

AI and open source. Model Context Protocol (MCP), LLM integrations, embeddings, semantic search, ONNX Runtime, and Rust through FFI.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Backend Engineer

Aystro Technologies · Palestine (Remote) · Jan 2025 – Present

Lead the design and development of workflow systems that run core business operations.

- Build scheduling, task automation, and real-time operational tracking into production platforms.
- Build and maintain multi-tenant booking, POS, and workflow applications for different client environments.
- Connect computer-vision services to configurable workflow engines in hardware-integrated software.

Backend Engineer (Contract)

Revicit · Lagos, Nigeria (Remote) · Sep 2025 – Jan 2026

Built a multi-channel CRM and marketing-automation platform for small and medium-sized businesses.

- Designed campaign workflows across SMS, email, social media, push notifications, and influencer channels.
- Built integrations with Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp.
- Built a shared inbox with audience segmentation, campaign analytics, click tracking, and engagement monitoring.
- Added AI-assisted reply suggestions and knowledge-base-assisted customer-support workflows.

Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer

Foris Labs · Anambra, Nigeria · Oct 2020 – Present

Lead the technical architecture and backend work for Foris Labs' educational gaming platform.

- Design gameplay systems for player progression, virtual economy, leaderboards, analytics, and social features.
- Maintain a shared authentication and account-management system across the web and game platforms.
- Build APIs for game functionality, player-data synchronization, achievements, inventory, and real-time interactions.
- Develop the C# SDK Unity clients use to communicate with Laravel backend services.
- Define and maintain engineering standards, development practices, and the platform's long-term architecture.

Technical Lead, University Election Systems (Contract)

Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO) · 2023 – 2026

Led the engineering team that built and maintained FUTO's university-wide electronic voting platform for Student Union Government elections, used across four election cycles from 2023 to 2026.

- Delivered FUTO's first electronic election system for Senate, Congregation, and Council elections, replacing paper ballots and manual counting.
- Improved the platform through yearly maintenance and upgrades informed by each election cycle.
- Worked with successive ICT and Student Affairs leadership to deploy and support each election.

Director of Programs

Stemnova NG · Sep 2020 – Dec 2024

Ran STEM education programmes that trained and graduated over 7,000 secondary-school students in programming, robotics, IoT, and engineering.

- Designed educational curricula and hands-on project modules.
- Mentored students, junior developers, instructors, and technical staff.
- Trained and supervised tutors delivering programmes across multiple schools.
- Led student projects presented at local and international science competitions.
- Wrote training standards, instructional materials, and operating processes for programme delivery.

Backend Developer

Tekzo Digitalis · Jan 2020 – Sep 2020

Built business software for clients in several industries with Laravel.

- Built school-management, event-management, and business-automation systems.
- Designed REST APIs and backend services around each client's requirements.
- Worked with clients to turn requirements into working software within project timelines.
- Took part in architecture, implementation, testing, and deployment.

OPEN-SOURCE LEADERSHIP

Official PHP MCP SDK — Core maintainer

Maintain the official PHP SDK for the Model Context Protocol (MCP), developed with Anthropic, The PHP Foundation, and Symfony.

The SDK grew from the architecture and original implementations created in the php-mcp ecosystem.

PHP ML Kit — Creator and maintainer

Built PHP ML Kit as a collection of machine-learning and scientific-computing tools for PHP:

- NDAarray, numerical computing inspired by NumPy and powered by Rust through FFI.
- Opal, image processing powered by libvips.
- SoundFile, audio I/O and resampling built on libsndfile and libsamplerate.
- ONNX Runtime PHP, bindings for ONNX model inference.

TransformersPHP — Creator and maintainer

Built TransformersPHP to run transformer models in PHP, with an API shaped after Hugging Face's Transformers library. It brings pre-trained models into PHP applications without asking the whole application to move to Python.

Whisper.php — Creator and maintainer

Built Whisper.php for local, offline speech recognition and transcription in PHP, using whisper.cpp.

ChromaDB PHP — Maintainer

Maintain ChromaDB PHP, a PHP client for the Chroma vector database that supports embedding storage, semantic search, and vector retrieval.

SELECTED PROJECTS

Tourney Jam

A multi-sport tournament operations platform for organizer workspaces, live scoring, standings, brackets, and public tournament viewing.

VoltLab

A browser-based circuit simulator with an explicit graph model, an educational solver, live values, flow overlays, and diagnostics for circuits that fail.

Revicit

A multi-tenant CRM and marketing-automation platform with graph-based workflows, audience segmentation, multi-channel campaigns, and a transaction-backed wallet.

Holy Child Secondary School

A production school-management platform for student records, academic setup, assessment, results, report cards, IDs, documents, and school portals.

Hajjez

A multi-tenant booking and operations platform with isolated tenant stores, rental availability, sales inventory, customer records, billing, invoicing, and payment workflows.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Engineering (B.Eng.), Electrical and Electronics Engineering

Federal University of Technology, Owerri · Oct 2019 – Dec 2024

Senior Secondary Certificate Examination (SSCE)

All Hallows Seminary, Onitsha · Sep 2012 – Jul 2018

ACHIEVEMENTS AND RECOGNITION

- Core maintainer of the official PHP SDK for the Model Context Protocol (MCP).
- Creator of TransformersPHP, with 750+ GitHub stars and 255k+ downloads.
- Creator of PHP ML Kit, a set of machine-learning and scientific-computing libraries for PHP.
- Global first-place winner, Stanford Center on Longevity Design Challenge 2021.
- Winner, Global Edtech Startup Awards (GESA) 2021.
- Contributor to the Laravel Framework and other PHP open-source projects.
- Core Team, Hack4FUTO.
- Participant, Sustain Africa 2025.
- Speaker and advocate for open-source software and sustainable technology communities.