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### How to Be a Good Corporate Citizen in Open Source

**Open Source London - April 2023** 

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**Open Source at VMware** @vmwopensource blogs.vmware.com/opensource











#### Agenda

and communities. source projects.

Resources and Final Thoughts



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Dynamics of collaboration: individuals, companies,

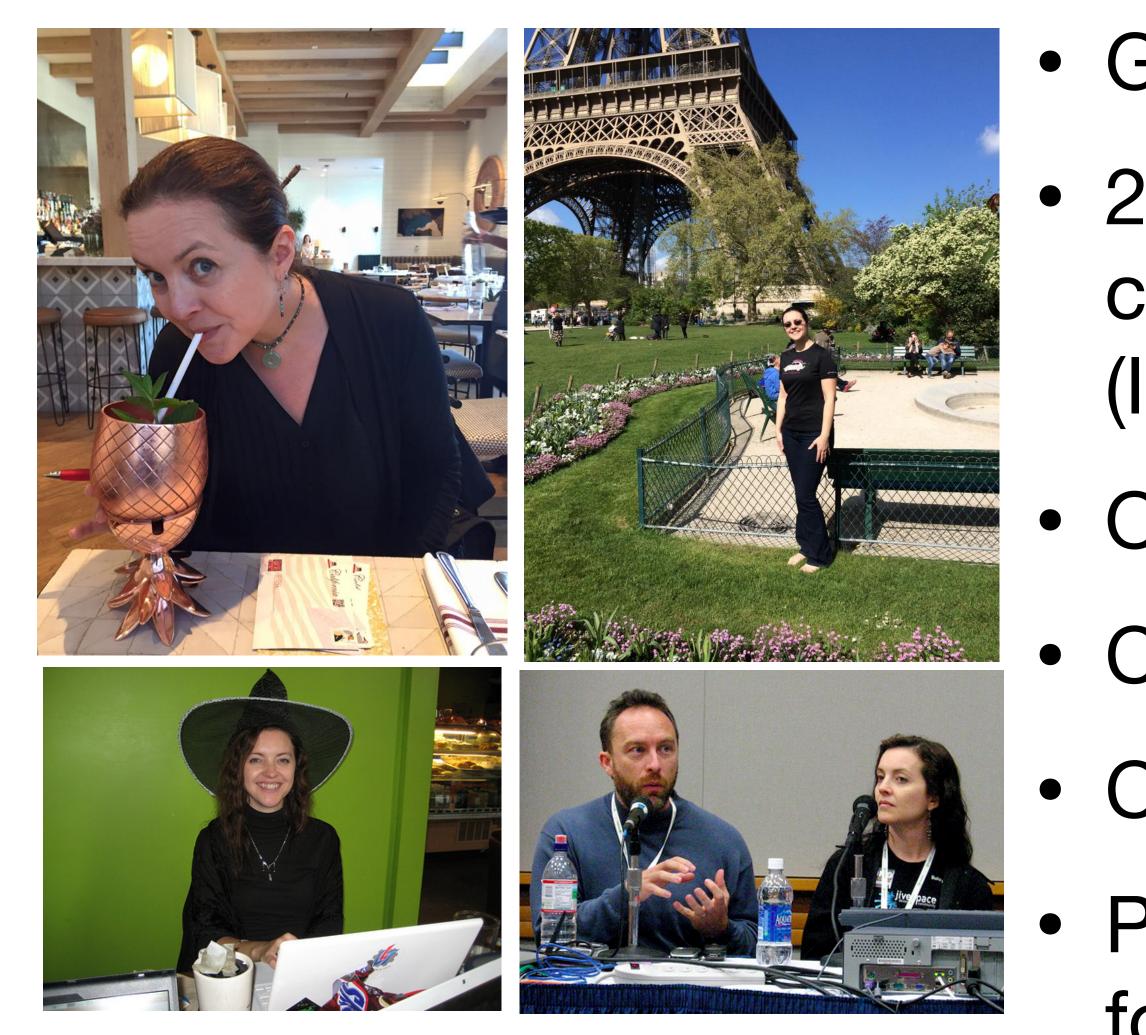
Contribution Strategy and Plans

Tips for being a good corporate citizen in open

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#### whoami



#### Photos by Mom, Josh Bancroft, Don Park



- Geek, traveler, reader
- 20+ yr tech career focused on community & open source (Intel, Puppet, Scale Factory, ...)
- OpenUK Board
- CHAOSS Board and Maintainer
- CNCF TAG Contrib Strategy co-chair
- PhD from the University of Greenwich focused on Linux kernel collaboration





# Image by the <u>CNCF</u> CC BY-NC 2.0 **Collaboration in OSS Projects:** Individuals, companies, and communities

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#### Individuals

### Make contributions and earn leadership positions



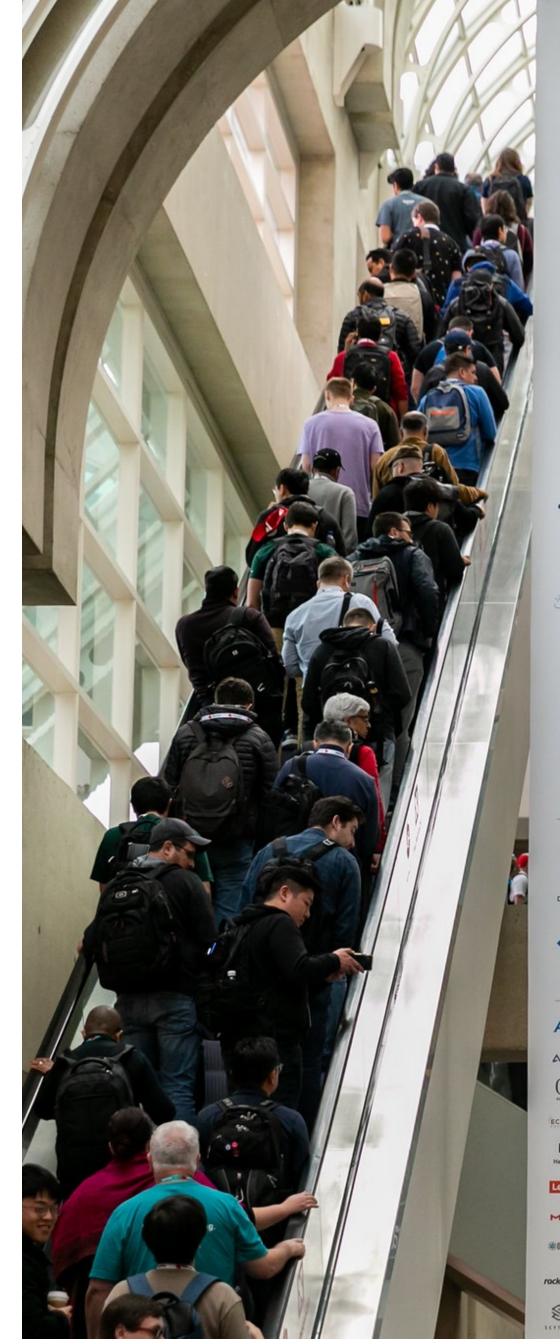
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#### Companies

### Employees contribute as individuals, but on their company's behalf





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#### @geekygirldawn

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### Community = People Community comes before company or individual needs





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### Your organization needs to balance individual, company, and community needs









### Contribution Strategy and Plans



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### Contribution Strategy and Plans

### Align with business goals to highlight importance and impact





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#### Which Projects?

### Focus on strategic projects with the biggest impact to your company



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#### Staffing

#### Find or hire people who want to contribute

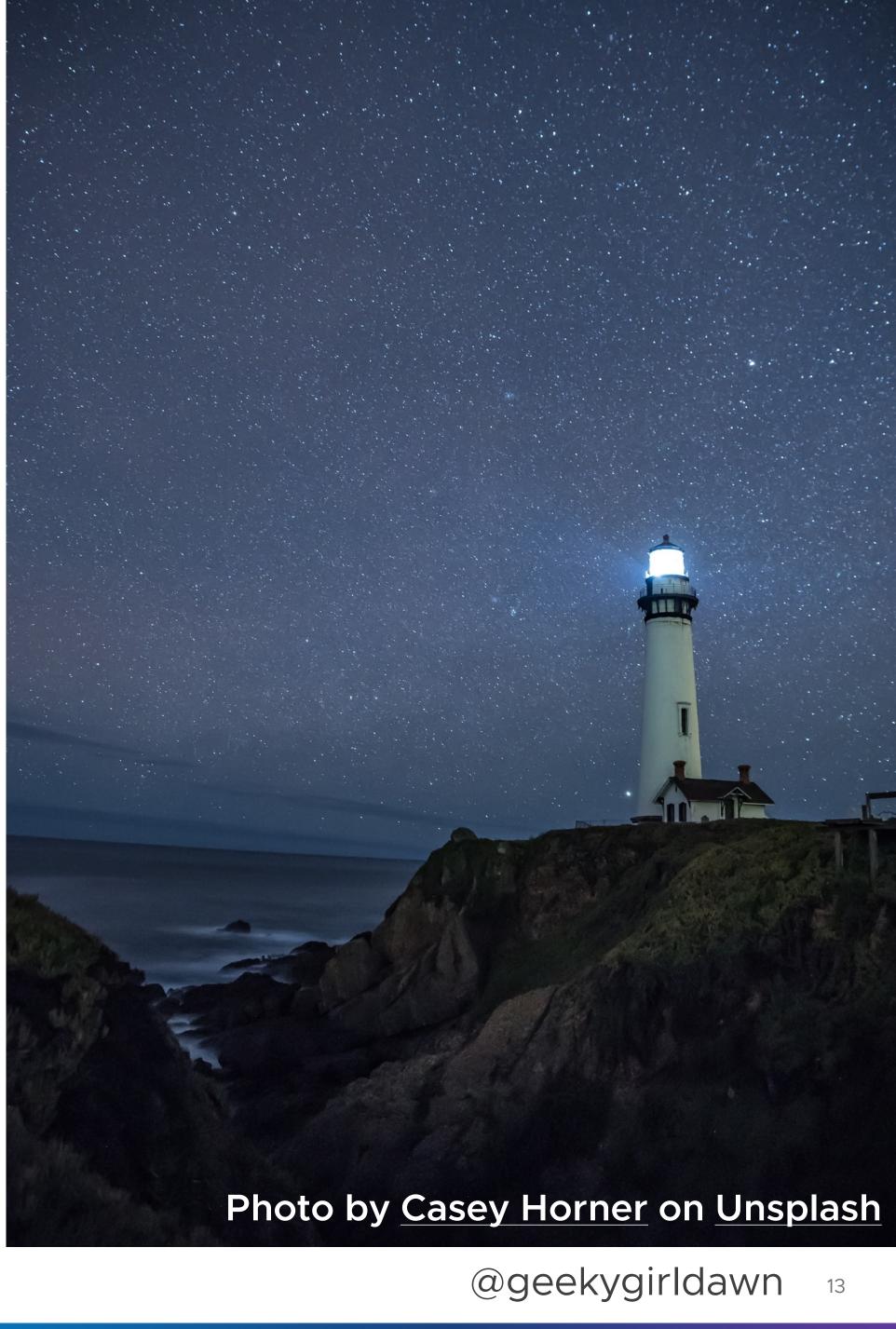




#### Guidelines

#### Guidelines and processes should make it easy to contribute





#### Measure Success

### Define success criteria and data required to measure it

https://chaoss.community



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#### Getting Started

### Lurk and understand before starting with a small contribution



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#### Learn from Feedback

#### Avoid getting defensive and prepare to iterate on feedback



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## Work with the Community

Discuss changes first and break them into smaller contributions



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#### Relationships

#### Attend events and get to know people



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#### Upstream Your Patches

#### Reduces your work and benefits the community





#### Maintenance Expectations

#### Don't expect someone else to maintain a large contribution





#### Open Sourcing Your Software

### Prepare to maintain it over the long-term and build community



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#### Resources

#### Linux Foundation's TODO Group https://todogroup.org/guides/

#### https://github.com/cncf/project-template

#### The Open Source Way Guidebook https://github.com/theopensourceway/guidebook/



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#### **CNCF Contributor Strategy TAG Docs & Templates** https://contribute.cncf.io/maintainers/



#### Final Thoughts

### Participation in OSS communities impacts your organization's brand. Strive to make it a positive impact.







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### Thank You!

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