An Introduction to Web Accessibility



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Outline

- 1. Introduction to Web Accessibility
- 2. The Legal Landscape
- 3. Basic Training for Content Creators
- 4. Concluding Thoughts
- 5. Questions and Answers

Web Accessibility

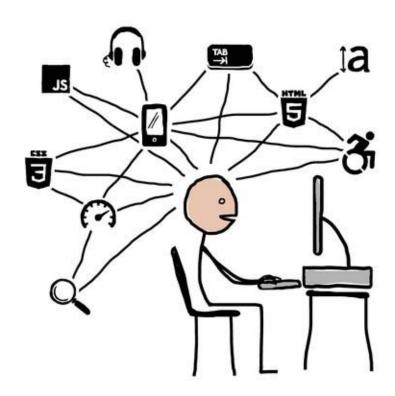
Refers to the inclusive practice of removing barriers that prevent interaction with, or access to websites, by people with disabilities.

Inclusive Web Design

'The design of mainstream products and/or services that are accessible to, and usable by, as many people as reasonably possible, without the need for special adaptation or specialized design.

INCLUSIVE DESIGN PATTERNS

Coding Accessibility Into Web Design



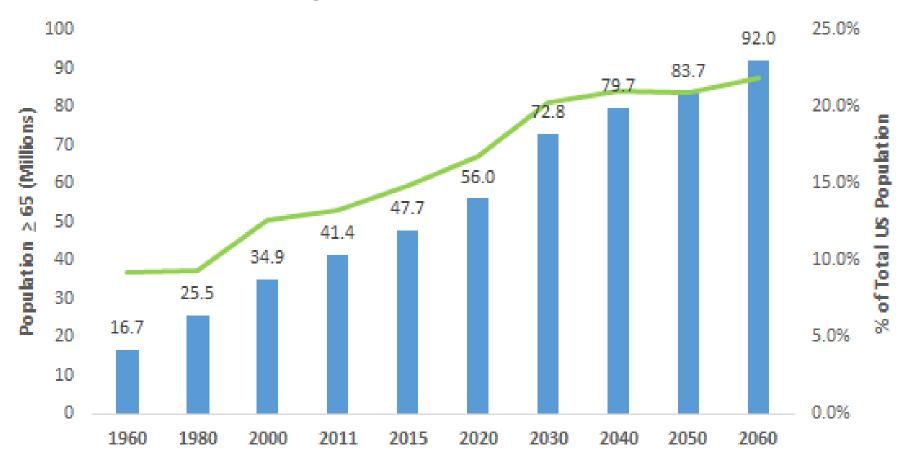


by Heydon Pickering

The Other 20%

According to the U.S. Census figures for 2000, 20% of Americans have a disability that impairs access to websites and Internet content.

US Population 65 Years and Older



Source: US Census Bureau

Web Accessibility and Usability

- There is a strong correlation between accessibility and usability.
- What is a usability issue for the general population can be a barrier to people with disabilities.
- Addressing accessibility issues often improves the user experience for everyone.





Closed Captions

80% of viewers using closed captions are not deaf or hard of hearing

Four Types of Disabilities

- 1. Visual
- 2. Auditory
- 3. Motor
- 4. Cognitive



Visual

- 1. Blindness
- 2. Low Vision
- 3. Color Blindness

Screen Readers

- 1. Most popular include JAWS and WindowEyes
- 2. Free versions include NVDA and Apple VoiceOver
- 3. Challenges
 - Reliance on the keyboard
 - Images with no meaningful alt text
 - Repetitive items that can't be skipped
 - Poor headings
 - Poorly structured forms

Autoplay Videos

Auto playing animations or video that includes music or audio makes some web pages all but impossible to access because the audio completely obscures the speech of the screen reader.

This means that the blind user can't hear the screen reader and therefore they can't navigate to the 'Stop' button (if there is one) to stop the noise.







If you are colorblind like me this @NFL game is going to be hard to follow. @buffalobills vs @nyjets

8:33 PM - 12 Nov 2015













Auditory

- 1. Mild to severe hearing loss
- 2. Reliance on sign language and lip reading
- 3. Provide transcripts and closed captioning for audio and video
- 4. YouTube automatic captioning is rarely sufficient

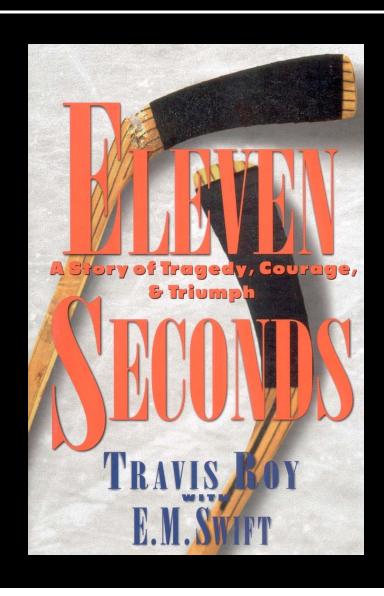
Auditory



Motor

- Traumatic Injuries
- Diseases and congenital conditions
- Not everyone can use a mouse, click on small links, or operate dynamic elements effectively.
- Assistive technologies include a mouth stick, head wand, sip and puff switch, oversized trackball mouse and adaptive keyboard

Motor

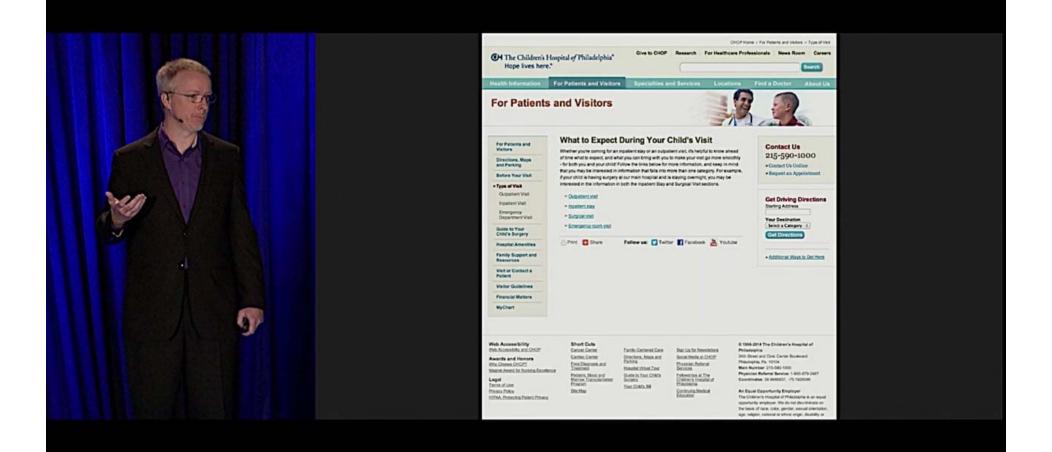




Cognitive

- 1. Challenges include too many objects displayed at once, too much text, too small text, and a lack of logic.
- 2. Basic usability principles can make a big difference.
- 3. Videos that automatically start on a website can be frustrating and even distressing for users with cognitive impairments, impeding their ability to concentrate when reading.
- 4. Take a 'less is more" approach.

Eric Meyer – Designing for Crisis



The Legal Landscape

Federal

- Americans with Disabilities Act (Title II)
 - Program access
 - Effective communications
- Section 508
 - Part of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
 - Section 508 Refresh (January, 2018)

Competing Standards in the U.S.

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)

- Published by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)
- WCAG 1.0 published in 1999
- WCAG 2.0 published in 2008
 - Three conformance levels (A, AA, AAA)

Section 508

- Different set of guidelines from WCAG
- Applicable to agencies that receive federal funding

Home » Section 508 Standards Refresh Toolkit

Section 508 Standards Refresh Toolkit

The following guidance will start agencies on the path to ensuring their information and communications technology (ICT) supports accessibility through conformance to the revised Section 508 standards. Additional guidance for coordinators, developers and procurement officials is being developed and will be added to this toolkit in the near future.

Revised Section 508 Standards

- ICT final standards and guidelines (January 2017)
- · About the ICT refresh
- · Overview of changes
- · Compliance dates
- About the Update of the Section 508 Standards and Section 255 Guidelines (April 2017)

Implementation Guidance

- Testing
- · Section 508 Transition Support Initiative

Get Help

- Training
- Ask an expert

News and Events

Section 508 Refresh- ICT Final Standards and

Guidelines

(January 31, 2017 - Archived Webinar)

- WCAG 2.0 and the Revised Section 508 Standards (March 28, 2017 Archived Webinar)
- Upcoming Training Opportunities











[contents]

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0

W3C Recommendation 11 December 2008

This version:

http://www.w3.org/TR/2008/REC-WCAG20-20081211/

Latest version:

http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/

Previous version:

http://www.w3.org/TR/2008/PR-WCAG20-20081103/

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Previous Editors:

Wendy Chisholm (until July 2006 while at W3C) John Slatin (until June 2006 while at Accessibility Institute, University of Texas at Austin) Jason White (until June 2005 while at University of Melbourne)

Please refer to the errata for this document, which may include normative corrections.

See also translations.

This document is also available in non-normative formats, available from Alternate Versions of Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0.

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https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG/

18F Accessibility Guide

Q Search - click or press '/'

Home
This site is currently in Draft as it's
accessibility, development best pra
Accessibility is one of the most imp
more completely. Users of all types account. And least of all, it is a required minor exceptions).
Accessibility works best when incor
adequately address accessibility co beginning, it's quite straightforward
done, is training and education. Eve accessibility concerns are and a bas
Here at 18F we follow WCAG2.0 AA WCAG has long been the gold stand
working on a refresh to the correct sets us up for a smooth transition v
standards allows us to use a set of
If you have any questions about acc Repo.
Disclaimer: This resource is intended
for the standards defined by the Ac their compliance criteria.

This site is currently in **Draft** as it's still being built. It will eventually contain resources for all things accessibility, development best practices, testing guides, and tools.

Accessibility is one of the most important aspects of modern web development. Accessibility means the greatest number of users can view your content. It means search engines will be able to read your site more completely. Users of all types will have a better experience if you take accessibility concerns into account. And least of all, it is a required by law for all federal EIT products to be accessible (with a few minor exceptions).

Accessibility works best when incorporated into an agile production environment. It's very hard to adequately address accessibility concerns at the end of a project, but if taken into account at the beginning, it's quite straightforward and cost effective. The best and perhaps only way to ensure this is done, is training and education. Every member of a production team should be aware of what accessibility concerns are and a basic understanding of how they are addressed.

Here at 18F we follow WCAG2.0 AA as our standard for accessibility. We do this for a couple of reasons. WCAG has long been the gold standard for accessibility on the web. The access board has also been working on a refresh to the correct 508 standards to incorporate WCAG2.0 AA into the standards. This sets us up for a smooth transition when that happens. Finally, under 1194.5 of the section 508 standards allows us to use a set of standards that meet the current standards.

f you have any questions about accessibility, 508, or would like help, please reach out on the GitHub Repo.

Disclaimer: This resource is intended to help 18F develop accessible products and is not a replacement for the standards defined by the Access Board. Please visit the <u>Access Board</u> for information on 508 and their compliance criteria.

The Legal Landscape

State of New York

NYS P08-005 (Follows the Section 508 Standard)

University at Buffalo

- New policy is under development
- WCAG 2.0 AA standard

Blog

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audioeye.com | nClusion Blog

School ADA Website Accessibility Complaints on the Rise

26 AUGUST 2016 on Accessibilty Law, Industry News, Education, nClusion

From <u>Education Week</u> - "Advocate Moves Needle on Website Accessibility."

What You Need to Know

- Educational establishments are being investigated in response to complaints received by the Office for Civil Rights.
- Complaints on disability discrimination were high with a focus on website accessibility.
- The U.S. Department of Education's has reached settlements in response to complaints received.

Categories

AudioEye Originals

Newsletters

From Around the Web

Press Releases

Accessibility 101

Thought Leadership

Industry News

Business Advantage

Accessibility Law



Higher Ed Accessibility Lawsuits, Complaints, and Settlements

Higher educational institutions face liability for inaccessible web content and technologies.

Atlantic Cape Community College (ACCC)

- Atlantic Cape Community College Consent Decree (PDF)
- National Federation of the Blind and Two Blind Students Resolve Complaint Against Atlantic Cape Community College - National Federation of the Blind
- . ACCC Press Release (PDF) Dan Goldstein and Trevor Coe
- Blind Students' Lawsuit Leads to Big Changes at N.J. County College Kelly Heyboer

Arizona State University

- Arizona State Settlement Agreement A.D.A.
- · Advocates for the Blind Sue Arizona State U. Over Kindle Use Marc Beja
- . Colleges Lock Out Blind Students Online Marc Parry
- Lawsuit Over Kindle Navigation by Visually Impaired Settled Jacqui Cheng

California Community Colleges State Audit

California Community Colleges State Audit (PDF)

Capella University/WebCT (La Marca v. Capella University)

- Capella U. Settles Lawsuit Against Former Student Brock Read
- <u>Lawsuit Charges Online University Does Not Accommodate Learning-Disabled</u>
 Students Dan Carnevale
- Web CT Criticisms Wikipedia

Case Western Reserve University

 Complaint Filed Against Case Western Reserve University - Reading Rights (via the Internet Archive Wayback Machine)

LAW OFFICE OF LAINEY FEINGOLD

Structured Negotiation | Disability Rights

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HOME / 2017 / JUNE / BIG WIN FOR BLIND SHOPPER IN FIRST U.S. ADA WEB ACCESSIBILITY TRIAL

BIG WIN FOR BLIND SHOPPER IN FIRST U.S. ADA WEB ACCESSIBILITY TRIAL

■ JUNE 13, 2017



On June 12, a judge in the federal District Court in South Florida made history. That history came in the form of a court order in a lawsuit filed by blind Florida resident Juan

Carlos Gil against regional grocer Winn-Dixie.

The lawsuit argued that the Winn-Dixie website wasn't accessible. Mr Gil could not read the store's online coupons using his screen reader or use other features on the site.

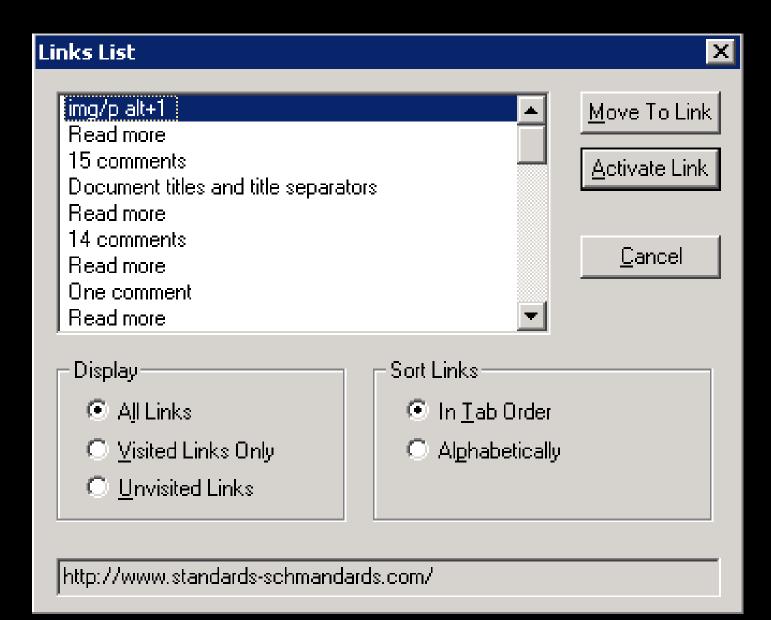
After a two-day trial the court ruled in favor of the plaintiff (Mr. Gil). That order is historic because it is believed that this is the very first trial in an ADA case about website accessibility against a private company, known legally as a public accommodation. Read the **Sevfarth Shaw blog post** that identified the historic

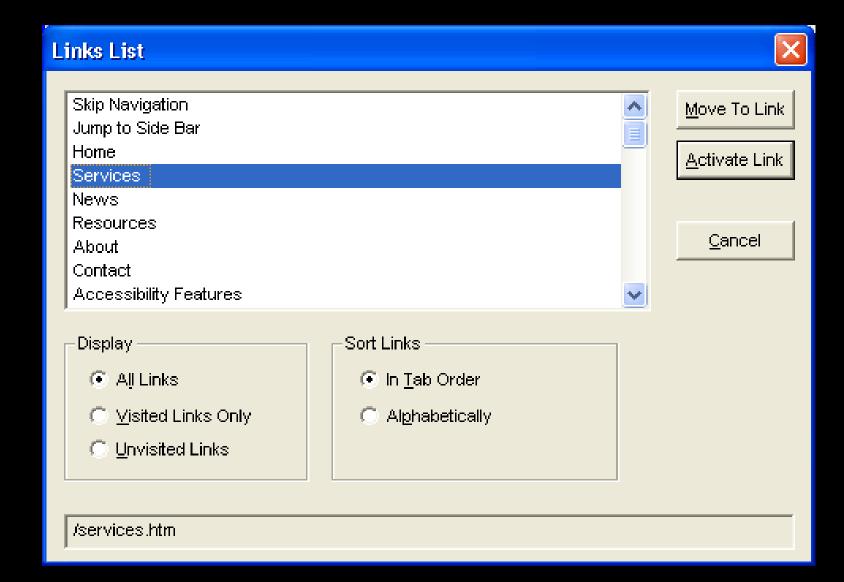
Training

- 1. Links
- 2. Headings (Semantic Markup)
- 3. Alt Tags
- 4. Keyboard Access
- 5. PDF's

Links

- Link text describes the destination and is understandable out of context. (No "click here" or "learn more")
- Link text is unique unless the links go to the same destination. (Non-Distinguishable Links)





Headings

- 1. Semantic markup conveys information about the meaning of the information rather than to define its presentation or look.
- 2. Especially important for headings
- 3. Headings should be in order and not skip levels
- 4. All pages should have an H1 heading (SEO)

Headings

61% of screen reader users reported that the first thing they did on a page was to scan the headings using the navigation tools in the assistive technology.

Heading List



BBC Home: 1

Explore bbc.co.uk : 2

Other people are searching for: : 3

Questions of Security : 3

Browse: 3

Business & Money : 4

Children's : 4

Entertainment: 4

Health: 4

Move To Heading

<u>C</u>ancel

Sort Headings:

- In <u>T</u>ab Order
- Alphabetically

Display:

- All Headings
- Level<u>4</u> Headings
- Level<u>1</u> Headings
- Level<u>5</u> Headings
- Level2 Headings
- Level<u>6</u> Headings
- Level3 Headings



Alt Tags

- Read by screen readers in place of images allowing the content and function of the image to be accessible to those with certain visual and cognitive disabilities.
- Writing good alt tags is an art. Understand the purpose and context of the image.
- Be succinct.
- Don't use "Image of" or "Picture of"
- Images that are purely decorative should use a null alt tag (alt="")

Keyboard Access (Manual Testing)

- Look for "Skip Links" Navigation
- Move through the page using the tab key, checking to make sure you can get to each item and that the order makes sense.
- Make sure the item that has "focus" looks different.
- Make sure you can activate each actionable item (Enter key simulates a "click")

What is it?

The #NoMouse Challenge is a global effort to raise awareness about accessible web design. Just follow these three simple steps:

Step 1. Use the Web without a mouse

If you or your organization has a website, try using it without a mouse. Use the keyboard instead. If you don't have a website, try a few of your favorite websites without a mouse, just using the keyboard. See below for Tips for using the keyboard to access web pages.

As you do this, ask the following questions:

- 1. Can I access all features?
- 2. Can I operate all buttons, sliders, and other controls?
- 3. Can I easily tell where I am on the page?

Step 2. Learn more about accessible web design.

See the section below titled What is accessible web design?. If you're a person who designs or develops websites, creates videos, or produces digital documents, always consider whether the content you're producing is accessible to everyone. Try to learn and apply new skills that will help you to produce more accessible content.

Step 3. Spread the Word!

Use the **#NoMouse** hash tag wherever hash tags are supported.











PDF'S (and other non-html documents)

- 1. There are approximately 80,000 PDF's and 3,000 Word documents on buffalo.edu
- 2. Acrobat Pro and Microsoft do a decent job of addressing accessibility issues
- 3. Sample process

Updating the Finish in Four Curricular Plans (using Excel 2013 and Acrobat Pro X)

In Excel

- 1. Change default language to English
- 2. Add Alt tags to the two images in the header
- 3. Update the meta-data as needed (title, description, keywords)
- 4. Save Excel document
- 5. Create PDF (Save as PDF)
 - 1. Check "minimum size" radio Button
 - 2. Open options
 - 1. Print specific number of pages required (usually 1-2)
 - 2. Check box for "document structure tags for accessibility"
 - 3. Save

In Adobe Acrobat Pro

- 1. Check the following
 - 1. Full accessibility check (under tools)
 - 2. All pages were properly printed, and no blank pages
 - 3. Meta data (file > properties > Additional Metadata

Testing

- 1. Site-wide automated testing tools
- 2. Browser Plugins
- 3. Screen Readers (NVDA and Apple VoiceOver)
- 4. Manual Testing

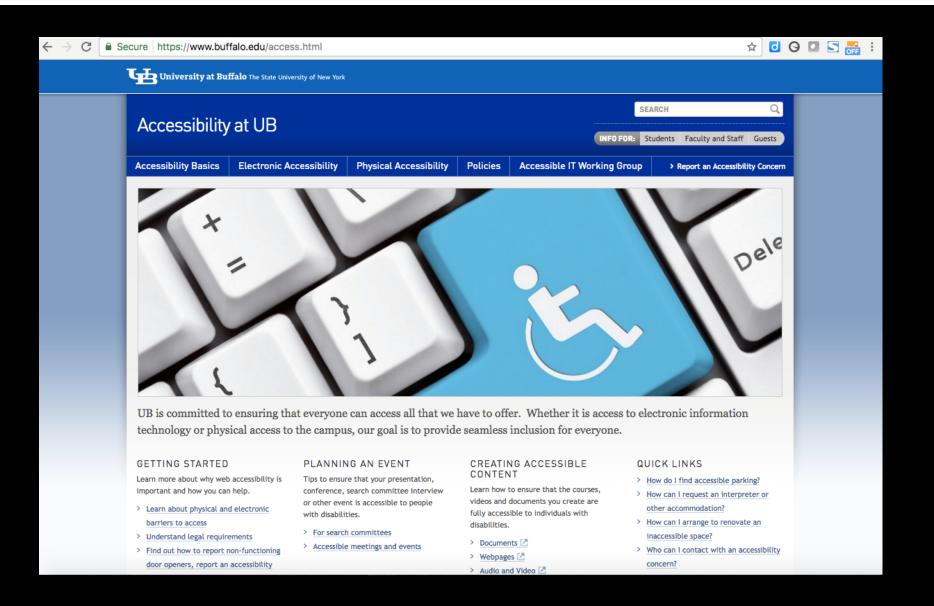
https://dobe0002.github.io/minnewebcon2017/

Primary Accessibility Standards

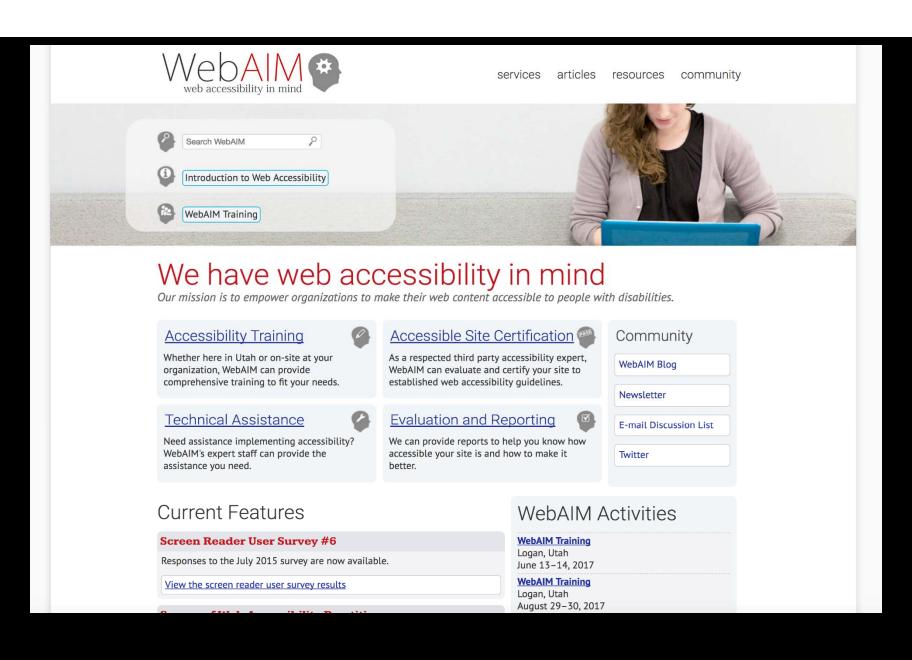
- 1. The site can be navigated using only the keyboard
- 2. All pages have the appropriate heading structure
- 3. All forms can be used with assistive technology (including search)
- 4. The site provides "skip links" navigation
- 5. All links are descriptive (no "click here")
- All links are distinguishable (go to the same location)
- 7. All images have the appropriate alt tags
- 8. All videos have the appropriate captioning
- 9. All pages have the required color contrast minimums
- 10. All PDF's have baseline accessibility (pass Acrobat check)
- 11. Accessibility Statement (help)

Getting Help





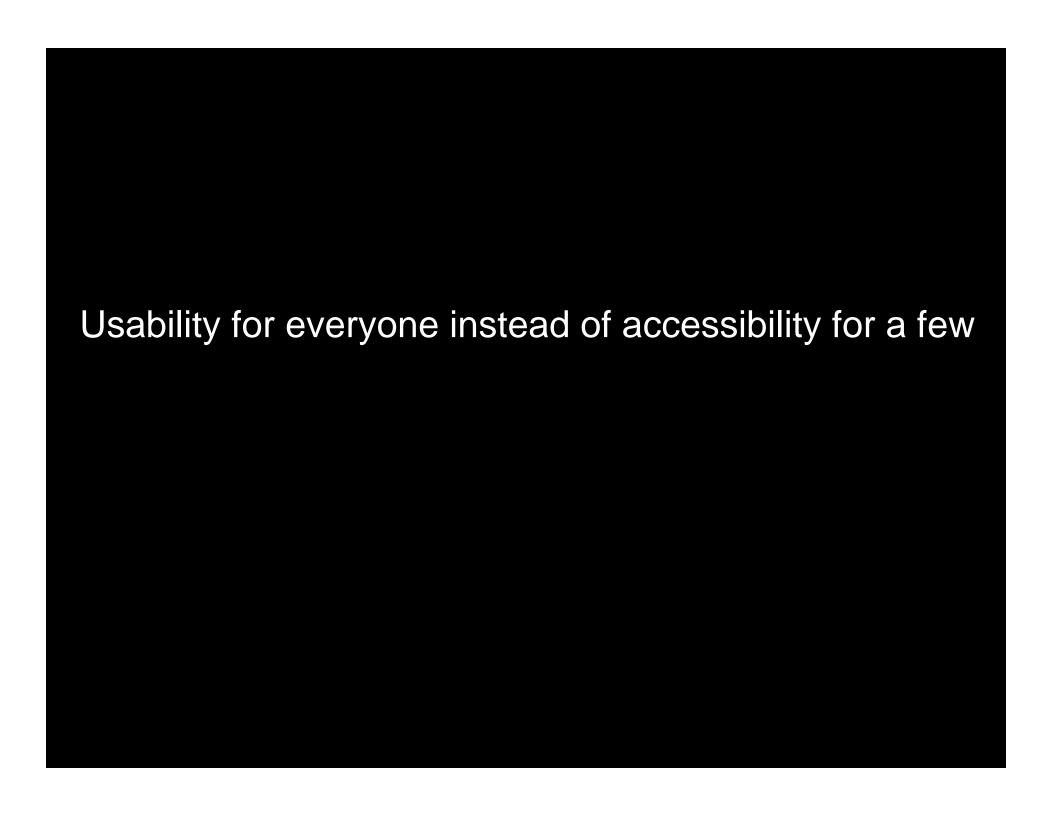
https://www.buffalo.edu/access.html



http://webaim.org/

Concluding Thoughts





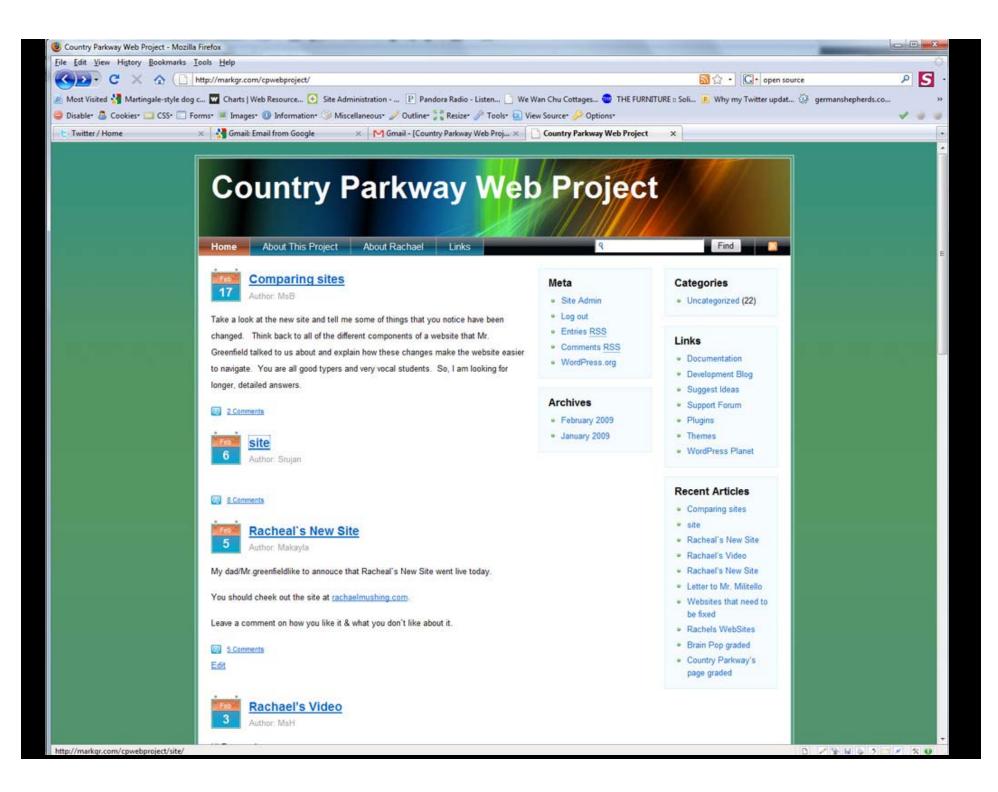


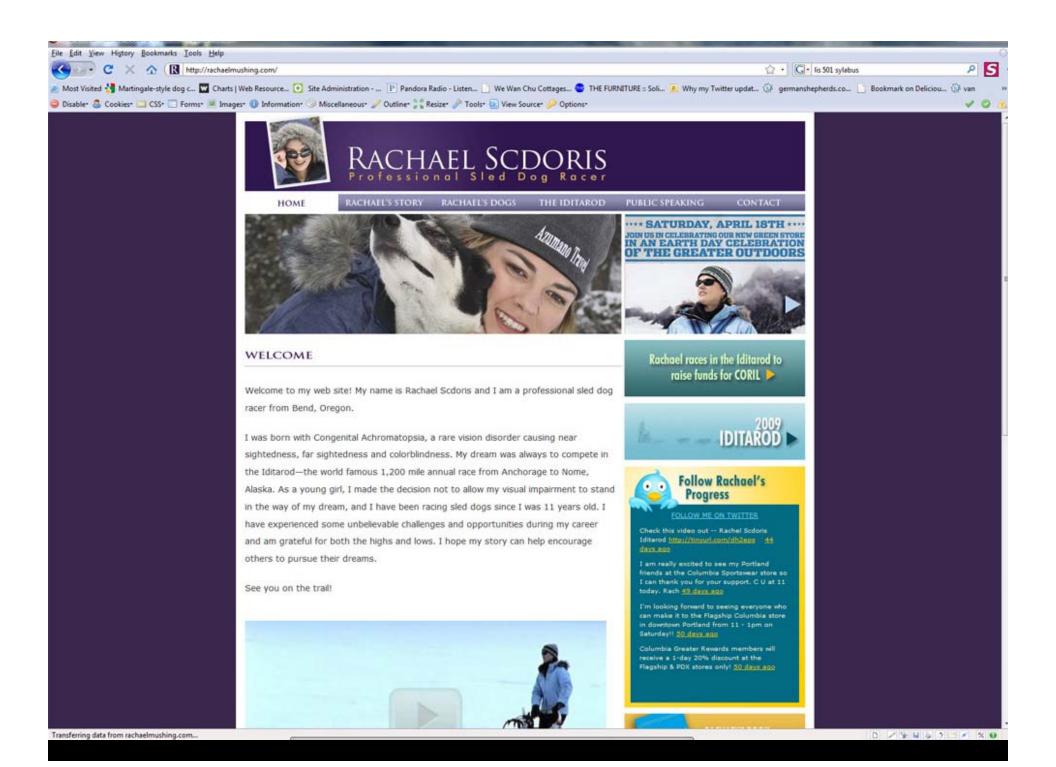


Rachael Scdoris

Professional Sled Dog Racer







Lessons Learned

- Web accessibility is not hard 3rd graders can do it!
- The process is quick and easy if you keep accessibility in mind from the start.
- This is about inclusion and empathy, not about rules and regulations.
- Using personas focuses on the human aspect.



Age: 10

Grade: 5

Favorite Subject: Math

Family: One younger brother and a dog named Rafe. Lives with Mom and Dad.

Disability: Deaf

Daisy Suzucki

Although I am deaf I am still having a lot of fun in my life. I don't like it when websites don't have captions.

Daisy had a serious case of meningitis when she was three years old. There were problems and she lost her hearing. (This is how Helen Keller became blind and deaf.) She is very smart and quickly learned sign language. Many of her friends in school learned to sign too. She wants to be a dcotor when she grows up.

Favorite Sites:



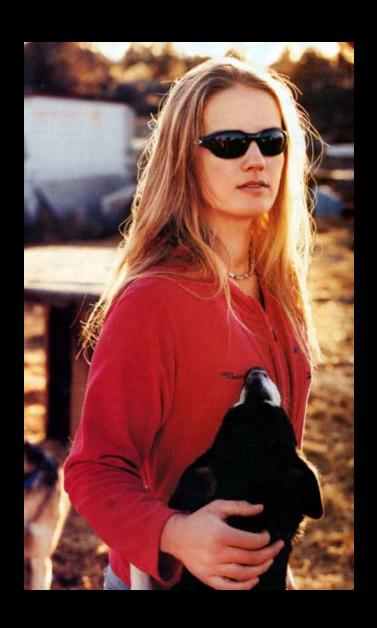
WebKinz



Poptropica



Math Magician



We are all temporarily abled

Thank You

mark a greenfield