BOUTROS ABICHEDID

boutrosabichedid.com | linkedin.com/in/boutrosabichedid/

TECHNICAL MANAGER | SENIOR DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY TECHNICAL LEAD

Driving Accessibility, Technical Excellence, and Team Optimization

Results-driven Accessibility Leader and Technical Manager with 17+ years of experience across enterprise-level digital accessibility, front-end development, and digital strategy. Adept at optimizing technical operations, resource management, and accessibility compliance to enhance usability, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness. Proven ability to lead high-performing teams, embed accessibility into development lifecycles, and deliver innovative, compliant digital experiences. Recognized for transparent leadership, strategic problem-solving, and fostering inclusive digital environments.

Key Achievements

- Led and optimized a 24-member onshore/offshore team, improving operational efficiency and reducing costs.
- Enterprise-level accessibility expert with deep WCAG/Section 508 knowledge and 112 certifications in accessibility, UX, and development.
- Authored and enforced digital accessibility standards and procurement guidelines across departments.
- Mitigated offshore consultant attrition, leading to significant cost savings.
- Consistently recognized Leader for championing accessibility and elevating development team performance.
- Recognized leader for transparent leadership, mentorship, and strong advocacy for technical excellence and accessibility.

Core Expertise

- Web & Document Accessibility compliance (WCAG, 508, CVAA)
- Technical Leadership, Team Management & Mentorship
- Operational Efficiency and Cost Optimization
- UX/UI Design, Usability & Performance Optimization
- CMS Platforms (Drupal, WordPress, Shopify)
- Accessibility Compliance and Integration
- Process Automation & Workflow Optimization

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UXDesign Accessibility Associate Director

U.S. Bank - Minneapolis, MN | 2021 – 2023

Served as Technical Manager for the team and Associate Director for the department, leading accessibility initiatives, enforcing standards, and developing strategies. Spearheaded training programs collaborated cross-functionally to integrate accessibility into development workflows and drove governance and policy development.

- Led a large team of UX Design Accessibility Consultants in an agile environment.
- Managed the day-to-day execution of accessibility initiatives across multiple product teams.
- Served as the primary point of contact and subject matter expert (SME) for cross-functional partners and business lines.
- Delivered human-centered, accessible solutions for diverse customer-facing products, enhancing U.S. Bank's reputation as a preferred financial institution.

Accessibility Lead

Law School Admission Council (LSAC) - Newtown, PA | 2019 - 2020

- Led LSAC's digital accessibility initiatives, establishing policies, guidelines, and procedures from the ground up.
- Managed and coached team members, providing leadership in accessibility standards.
- Developed LSAC's **digital accessibility policy** in coordination with Legal.
- Conducted accessibility audits for key projects, including Digital LSAT & LSAC University.
- Secured budget approval for the accessibility department for the 2021 fiscal year.
- Created company-wide accessibility policies, guidelines, and training programs (MS Word, PDF, Web).
- Served as the go-to accessibility resource, advising departments on compliance and best practices.
- Consulted with external vendors on accessibility matters and procurement standards.
- Developed and implemented LSAC's Accessibility Vision & Action Plan, fostering a culture of awareness.

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- Built an accessibility reference portal and wrote three custom accessibility checklists (PDF, Word, Web).
- Integrated Siteimprove Governance Tool for continuous website monitoring and reporting.
- Created LSAC's custom Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) for WCAG 2.1 AA compliance.
- Led document remediation efforts, converting thousands of MS Office and PDF files for accessibility.
- Established the Accessibility Integration & Review Process for digital content and procurement.

Technical Lead | Drupal Solutions Architect

IT Trailblazers - North Brunswick, NJ | 2018 - 2019

- Provided enterprise-level Drupal solutions and architecture for high-impact projects.
- Led **in-house and offshore teams**, ensuring high-quality deliverables and client satisfaction.
- Conducted technical and non-technical discussions with clients, assisting sales and project management in securing new projects.
- Authored company-wide documentation on web standards, including accessibility, QA, SEO, and best performance practices.
- Established and integrated web development standards and processes into workflows.
- Managed an **agile development team**, overseeing technical decisions and priorities.
- Led an offshore QA team, improving and standardizing web quality deliverables.
- Audited websites for accessibility, SEO, and performance violations, providing solutions.
- Developed and presented technical proposals and business value presentations to executives.
- Estimated **technical effort costs** for project delivery.
- Conducted interviews for **Drupal and QA positions** and mentored junior developers and interns.

Senior Web Developer

Campbell Soup Company - Camden, NJ | 2016 - 2018

Web Development & Management

- Managed 40+ public-facing WordPress websites and APIs, supporting corporate and brand marketing initiatives.
- Developed and maintained front-end components and back-end RESTful services for WordPress sites.
- Led **technical projects** for WordPress and accessibility during the initiation stage of digital projects.
- Standardized web development workflows, including JIRA and Bitbucket processes.
- Managed third-party providers, ensuring adherence to company web development standards.
- Conducted code reviews, enforcing coding standards and improving web deliverables.
- Led a team of developers, providing mentorship, task prioritization, and technical direction.
- Integrated Elasticsearch for improved site search functionality and Google Structured Data for SEO.
- Automated image optimization, significantly improving page load times.

Accessibility & Quality Assurance (QA)

- Developed and enforced company-wide accessibility guidelines aligned with WCAG 2.0 AA.
- Integrated Siteimprove web governance tool, enhancing user experience and accessibility compliance.
- Conducted accessibility and QA audits, automating violation detection and remediation.
- Provided accessibility training for employees and vendors to ensure inclusive web practices.

Technical Standards & Process Improvement

- Authored technical documentation covering accessibility, image optimization, PHP CodeSniffer, and WordPress coding standards.
- Established **code review processes**, improving maintainability, readability, and efficiency.
- Standardized **project and issue tracking with JIRA**, enhancing development speed and support efficiency.

Code Development & Workflow Optimization

- Developed custom WordPress plugins and themes, enhancing functionality and performance.
- Standardized development workflow using JIRA and Bitbucket, training vendors and contractors for efficiency.
- Implemented code review processes, improving quality, readability, and maintainability.
- Streamlined project and issue tracking by enforcing JIRA use, increasing efficiency and support effectiveness.

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IT Application/Web Developer

Rutgers University - New Brunswick, NJ | 2016

- Managed a multi-site Drupal platform with 60+ websites for the Office of Creative Services.
- Provided technical support and collaboration across teams, including staff and project managers.
- Resolved technical issues and implemented new features through the web support ticketing system.

Web Developer & Web Designer

Princeton University - Princeton, NJ | 2013 –2015

Web developer and web designer for the Princeton Neuroscience Institute and the Lewis-Sigler Institute. Focused on delivering robust, clean, efficient, accessible and maintainable solutions. I took full ownership of both departments' online presence: gathering requirements, design, development, content creation, deployment and maintenance.

- Enhanced the 2 departments' online brand nationally by building prospective student awareness and increasing alumni engagement.
- Designed and developed the Drupal based PNI fully responsive websites (public and internal) and the fully responsive PNI Full Screen Image Slider. Variation of slider is also used as a Full Screen Saver at the main lobby of PNI building.
- Designed and developed the Drupal based, fully responsive Lewis-Sigler Institute website.
- Designed and developed Drupal based, fully responsive QCB Graduate, QCB Certificate and Integrated Science websites.
- Designed and developed the fully responsive Tank Lab Website.
- Created responsive, accessible Drupal sites that boosted visibility and engagement.
- Trained staff to maintain Drupal content and updates independently.

Website Developer & Designer Freelance)

CMA - Princeton Junction, NJ | 2013

- Developed interactive digital products, enhancing user engagement and functionality.
- Delivered custom site enhancements and built engaging digital experiences.
- Performed website maintenance and custom coding to improve performance and usability.

Chief Developer & Co-Founder

Blue Olive Online - Clarks Summit, PA | 2010 – 2012

- Led end-to-end web development, from front-end design to back-end programming.
- Created **elegant, user-friendly, and accessible websites**, ensuring a seamless user experience.
- Developed efficient, semantic, and robust code for optimized performance and maintainability.
- Handled all client communications and project delivery.

Technical Writer & Educator

Boutros AbiChedid Blog | 2010 – 2016

- Authored/co-authored 175+ free tutorials on WordPress, Drupal, and web development, educating developers.
- Shared custom **WordPress code snippets**, enabling developers to freely integrate them into their websites.
- Focused on accessible, maintainable, and high-quality code to promote best practices in web development.

Chief Developer and Founder

BAC Software Consulting - Beverly, MA | 2008 - 2009

- Delivered complete web solutions with a focus on accessibility, SEO, performance, and QA testing to ensure high-quality products.
- Owned all aspects of web development, including requirements gathering, design, coding, and deployment.
- Focused on accessibility, SEO, performance optimization, and QA testing to ensure high-quality deliverables.
- Managed **content edits**, ongoing **maintenance**, and ensured long-term website performance.

Web Developer for LED Systems

Osram Sylvania - Danvers, MA | 2007 – 2008

• Designed and developed the Osram Sylvania JavaScript-powered LED Signage Calculator web app.

Control Systems Software Engineer

VSEA - Gloucester, MA | 1997 - 2001

- Developed software for VIISta 810 and VIISta 3000 Ion Implanters, with expertise in C++ and the Varian Control System (VCS) proprietary software.
- Authored **test procedures and documentation** for various Ion Implanter systems (e.g., facilities, magnet calibration, vacuum systems, and interlock monitors).

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- Designed and developed both text-based and graphical user interfaces (GUIs) for Ion Implanter components.
- Installed and troubleshot VCS software, providing training for others on its use.
- Collaborated closely with cross-functional teams, including technicians, engineers, and other software developers.

CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Web & Document Accessibility

- Deque University: 29 certified courses in web & document accessibility
- WebAIM: Accessibility Certificate in Accessible Documents: Word, PowerPoint & Acrobat (April 2020)

Web Design, Development & UX

- Lynda.com: 53 certified courses in web design, development, and UX
- eClasses.org: 29 certified courses in web design & development (3–8 weeks long each class)

Specialized Curricula

Deque University (May 2020):

- IAAP WAS Certification Preparation
- Accessibility Program Management
- Native Mobile Apps Accessibility
- IAAP CPACC Certification Preparation

eClasses.org:

- Web Business (2011)
- Web Graphics & Multimedia (2010)
- Web Programming (2008)
- Web Technologies (2008)

EDUCATION

• M.S., Electrical Engineering – University of Alabama at Birmingham

Thesis: Experiment Design for Modeling and Control Strategies of E. Coli Fermentation Process (1996, 125 pp)

- M.S., Health Physics (MSHP) Georgia Institute of Technology
- **B.S.**, **Electrical Engineering (BEE)** Georgia Institute of Technology

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Web Accessibility: WCAG 2.1, WAI-ARIA 1.1, Section 508, UAAG 2.0, ATAG 1.0, CVAA

Document Accessibility: Adobe Acrobat, MS Word, MS PowerPoint, MS Excel

Screen Readers: JAWS, NVDA, Narrator, VoiceOver

CMS Platforms: Drupal, WordPress, Shopify

Web Frameworks: jQuery, jQuery Mobile, Bootstrap, AngularJS

Scripting Languages:PHP, JavaScript, ColdFusionMarkup & Styling:HTML5, CSS, Less, SassDatabases:MySQL, Microsoft Access

Programming Languages: C, C++

Graphics & Code Applications: Visual Studio Code, Net Beans, PhpStorm, Dreamweaver, Photoshop

Query Language: SQL

Data Interchange Formats: JSON, XML

Cloud Computing Platform: Amazon Web Services (AWS)

Workflow Management Tools: Gulp, Grunt Automation: Jenkins

Version Control: Bitbucket, Github

Methodologies: Agile

Design: UX/UI, Mobile-First, Responsive Web Design, Adaptive Web Design

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