

ERICA DREISBACH

Full stack developer - WordPress expert - digital accessibility specialist

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

IAAP CPACC-certified accessibility specialist with 15+ years building WCAG 2.2-compliant WordPress solutions for healthcare, education, and nonprofit organizations. Expert in manual accessibility testing, screen reader optimization, and remediating overlay-dependent sites. Proven track record delivering enterprise-level lead-generating websites, client training, and ongoing consultation. *Jeopardy!* challenger (Season 33), bringing peak intellectual curiosity and problem-solving to technical challenges.

CERTIFICATIONS & CREDENTIALS

IAAP Certified Professional in Accessibility Core Competencies (CPACC) - 2025 International Association of Accessibility Professionals

Trusted Tester Certification - In Progress - 2026 Department of Homeland Security Section 508 compliance methodology

CORE COMPETENCIES

Full Stack Front End Web Development • WordPress Architecture • WCAG 2.2 AA/AAA Compliance • Manual Accessibility Testing • Screen Reader Optimization (VoiceOver) • WordPress Theme & Plugin Development • Accessible Component Development • ARIA Implementation • Accessibility Auditing & Remediation • Overlay Remediation • Technical Documentation • Client Training & Education

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal developer + accessibility consultant

Dark Black LLC - Chicago, IL - 2010 – Present

Web development + accessibility consulting:

- Conduct comprehensive WCAG 2.2 accessibility audits for enterprise clients in healthcare, education, and nonprofit sectors, providing detailed remediation roadmaps and implementation support

- Perform manual accessibility testing using VoiceOver and axe DevTools across desktop and mobile platforms, identifying barriers automated solutions miss
- Remediate websites with overlay widgets using genuine semantic HTML, ARIA labeling, and keyboard navigation solutions
- Create technical documentation and accessibility runbooks for client development teams, establishing sustainable accessibility practices
- Provide accessibility training and consultation to stakeholders, developers, and content creators

Technical leadership:

- Develop performance-optimized WordPress sites with WCAG 2.2 AA/AAA compliance that maximize ROI through clean architecture, trusted tools, and minimal cruft—delivering 95+ PageSpeed scores and years of low-maintenance operation
- Implement [Schema.org](https://schema.org) structured data (JSON-LD) for enhanced SEO and AI/LLM discoverability
- Deploy security best practices including security headers, CSP, and vulnerability remediation
- Build accessible forms, navigation patterns, modal dialogs, and interactive components with proper focus management
- Ensure color contrast compliance, touch target size, and responsive accessibility across all viewport sizes

Recognition + impact:

- Recipient of two national awards for accessible web design and development (Communicator Award of Excellence 2016, GLOC Media TOP 10 2016)
- Domain expertise serving healthcare organizations, education advocacy groups, and sustainable manufacturers
- Past clients include: VISA, ODEA, Healthy Schools Campaign, Educare, Better Scientific Software

Website developer

Pepper Group - Palatine, IL - 2023 - 2026

- Lead developer for WordPress sites serving a combined 1,000,000+ monthly visitors; developed custom plugins and advanced analytics implementations including edge case debugging and Google Tag Manager
- Created comprehensive technical documentation and security protocols for 20+ client websites
- Maintained accessibility standards, semantic HTML, and performance across diverse client portfolio
- Implemented advanced security measures including tarpits for brute force attack mitigation and alternative CAPTCHAs workable for traffic from mainland China

Marketing + communications manager

Social Venture Network - San Francisco, CA - 2006 - 2009

- Managed communications for national network of 500+ socially responsible business leaders
- Led organizational rebranding including accessible website redesign and custom HTML email templates
- Developed communication strategies for mission-driven enterprise audience

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Accessibility specialization: WCAG 2.2 (A/AA/AAA) • Section 508 • ADA Title III • ARIA 1.2 • Manual Testing • VoiceOver • axe DevTools • WAVE • Lighthouse • Semantic HTML • Keyboard Navigation • Screen Reader Optimization • Focus Management

Core development (15+ years): HTML5 • CSS3/SCSS • JavaScript (ES6+) • PHP • WordPress (custom themes/plugins) • Drupal • jQuery/AJAX • Git/GitHub • Responsive Design • Mobile-First Development • Content-heavy and media-rich sites (video repositories, content footprint 2k+ pages) • Member-only Content (Ultimate Member, native WordPress content gates)

Performance + security: PageSpeed Optimization • Security Headers • CSP Implementation • Lazy Loading • CDN Configuration • Vulnerability Remediation

SEO + structured data: [Schema.org](https://schema.org) (JSON-LD) • Technical SEO • Semantic Markup • AI/LLM Discoverability

Additional proficiencies: Adobe Creative Suite • Figma • Shopify • HubSpot • Webflow • MySQL • Google Tag Manager • WP Engine • AWS

EDUCATION

Brown University - Providence, RI
Bachelor of Arts, Political Science
Significant coursework in Mathematics and American History

PROFESSIONAL APPROACH

Accessibility philosophy: Genuine accessibility requires semantic HTML, proper ARIA implementation, and manual testing—not automated overlays. I advocate for code-level solutions that serve all users, including those using assistive technologies.

Ideal engagements: Ongoing retainer or consulting arrangements with mission-driven organizations requiring accessibility auditing, WordPress development, overlay remediation, team training, and technical documentation. Specialty focus on healthcare, education, nonprofit, and manufacturing sectors requiring ADA/Section 508 compliance.

Available for full-time, contract, or retainer-based consulting - Remote or Chicago-based