

Erica Dreisbach

WordPress Expert | Digital Accessibility Consultant

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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

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

Trusted Tester Certification | Department of Homeland Security, Section 508 Compliance Methodology | 2026

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 and Plugin Development, Accessible Component Development, ARIA Implementation, Accessibility Auditing and Remediation, Overlay Remediation, Technical Documentation, Client Training and Education

Professional Experience

WordPress Expert and Digital Accessibility Consultant | Dark Black LLC | Chicago, IL | 2010 – Present

- 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
- 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
- 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
- Implement Schema.org structured data (JSON-LD) for enhanced SEO and AI/LLM discoverability
- Deploy security best practices including security headers, CSP, and vulnerability remediation
- 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
- Recipient of two national awards for accessible web design and development: Communicator Award of Excellence (2016) and 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, and 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 a diverse client portfolio
- Implemented advanced security measures, including tarpits for brute force attack mitigation and alternative CAPTCHAs workable for traffic from mainland China

Marketing and Communications Manager | Social Venture Network | San Francisco, CA | 2006 – 2009

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

Technical Skills

Accessibility: 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: HTML5, CSS3/SCSS, JavaScript (ES6+), PHP, WordPress (custom themes and plugins), Drupal, jQuery/AJAX, Git/GitHub, Responsive Design, Mobile-First Development, content-heavy and media-rich sites (video repositories, 2,000+ page content footprints), member-only content (Ultimate Member, native WordPress content gates)

Performance and Security: PageSpeed Optimization, Security Headers, CSP Implementation, Lazy Loading, CDN Configuration, Vulnerability Remediation

SEO and Structured Data: Schema.org (JSON-LD), Technical SEO, Semantic Markup, AI/LLM Discoverability

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

Education

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science | Brown University | Providence, RI

Significant coursework in Mathematics and American History

Additional Information

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.

Availability: Full-time, contract, or retainer-based consulting | Remote or Chicago-based