
Danielle Bastien

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Front-End Web Developer - Accessibility Technical Lead

Danielle is a subject-matter expert front-end web developer working to bring accessible and usable experiences to users in the browser on any given device with any tool or interfacing method that enables access and inclusion.

Danielle's expertise includes project estimation and organization, design analysis, interpretation and architectural planning through an accessible and scalability lens and the development and implementation of interfaces, tooling and processes to enable the software development lifecycle. Danielle enjoys exploring new ideas, prototyping and iterating solutions and writing technical documentation. Danielle's colleagues would describe them as an attentive to detail, disciplined, organized, and resourceful individual who leads with curiosity.

Danielle holds a great responsibility to customer success, execution of their work can be what creates ease, delight and inclusion; or difficulties, frustration, and barriers to entry; the product of their work is extremely impactful to customers and not something they take lightly.

Currently, Danielle is seeking opportunities that will allow them to develop and promote technologies that are functional, delightful, accessible and inclusive.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Technical Lead - Front-End Web Developer, Software Engineer Approach Controls, Inc

Oct 2022 - Present

- Mentor developers on best practices and web fundamentals for front-end development through continuous communication, knowledge-sharing events, 10 training modules, and personalized training, feedback and code reviews, leading to an improvement in code quality and a 30% decrease in bug reports.
- Leading architecture and deployments on the shared User Interface library of over 100 components, meeting Level AA WCAG requirements.
- Collaborating with other Technical Leads on development department standards and best practices, increasing code quality by 70%
- Conduct codebase audits on angular web application, node.js and UI library codebases to facilitate the development process by implementing essential tools and automation in the development lifecycle, such as AXE checking, linting, unit tests, and pre-commit hooks to improve the development experience and reduce repetitive tasks by 30%.
- Reviewing and logging over 150 tickets for technical debt and creating and implementing a debt management action plan and tracking system for progress.
- Create reusable HTML, CSS, and Typescript Angular components for the shared UI components library with samples, unit and interaction testing, and documentation managed using React Storybook. With accessibility and interaction testing at 75% coverage.
- Implement routing, views, subscriptions, and observables for the application to connect data streams while utilizing reusable components from the shared library.
- Develop and troubleshoot popular libraries and frameworks such as Angular, Material UI, eCharts, RxJS, Socket.io, Node.js
- Triaging and fixing bug tickets. Debug legacy code and increase app unit test coverage from 0 to 90%

- Create angular upgrading plans, technical documents and story tickets to bring the framework version across repositories from 10-12 to 17.
- <https://youtu.be/dlnU300UYTI>

Technical Lead - Front-End Web Development - Accessibility, Software Engineer

Sep 2019 - Oct 2022

Postmedia Network Inc.

- Relaunching sites from WordPress to a new accessible platform built with the Python Django framework out of Postmedia's network of 130+ brands in 1 year.
- Led guiding over 35 stakeholders, digital department-wide teams and 6 unique development pods of 2-6 developers on meeting AODA WCAG Level AA compliance, front-end development standards and best practices from the planning phase to peer reviews and quality assurance checks.
- Collaborating with the design teams during design reviews to help walk through accessibility needs and how designs can translate to different assistive technologies and fit the design system, resulting in over 70 reusable and 100% Level AA accessible components.
- Lead architecture and code reviews on mobile-first responsive web development, accessibility, custom design system for maintainability, and asset delivery for a department of 20 developers.
- Architect and led a development team project for updating module loading strategies for custom typescript components and user-generated content for platform scalability, resulting in a 60% reduction in page load times and improvement in Core Web Vitals: largest contentful paint and cumulative layout shift.
- Developing over 10 modular and reusable HTML, CSS and Typescript components for the design system, with Jest unit tests at 90% coverage, ensuring all components were accessible, themeable, responsive using design tokens with custom linting implementations
- Writing cross-browser mobile-first responsive CSS, utilizing custom properties, CSS grid, flexbox, support queries and media queries for over 80 million monthly visitors across brands and utilizing 14 different browser and device combinations.
- Coding feature development such as user-generated story pages, above-the-fold headline layouts, category pages, car research tools and marketing pages with Python Django and vanilla JavaScript (TypeScript), and user subscription portal with React.
- Writing semantic HTML and utilizing WAI-ARIA for accessibility W3C WCAG Level AA minimum, utilizing graceful degradation and progressive enhancement Javascript
- Testing components and user journeys and flows with zoom, keyboard only, screen readers, and other tools to cover various input modalities and assistive technologies for usability and 100% WCAG conformance and beyond standard guidelines.
- Writing Django CMS Admin panel, unit testing at 90% coverage, REST APIs, and content migrations
- Writing custom Webpack configurations for typescript, Gulp configurations for SCSS, to support conditional loading to increase site speed to less than 10s mobile load time and 0 content layout shift.
- Writing over 10 portals of 30+ pieces of technical documentation for the design system and front-end architecture, and accessibility training materials
- Utilize AXE and WAVE testing tools and teach how to use them to 4 cross-functional agile teams. Implementing a version of Django AXE into the continuous integration pipeline for the development department.
- <https://youtu.be/Hw0S44-HZzw>

Front-End Web Developer, Software Engineer

Sep 2015 - Aug 2019

411 Local Search Corp. (yellowpages group)

- Awarded Top Performer March 2016 and Year 2016
- Oversaw the front-end codebase, and acting champion for UX & accessibility within the organization for over 19 million visitors and 1.5 million listed businesses.
- Redesign completed in AngularJS, hybrid upgraded to Angular 4, then cli-based upgrading to Angular 9

- Writing semantic HTML, WAI-ARIA for search engine optimization and accessibility, templating for user-generated content, use of SVG, microdata and Web APIs for 1.5 million business listings to achieve the most visited local search engine in Canada.
- Developing cross-platform and cross-browser responsive CSS, utilizing CSS grid, flexbox, support queries and media queries for 20 different browser and device combinations
- Developing JavaScript in Typescript to create and implement components, code split and lazy load routing, apply graceful degradation and progressive enhancement best practices for client and server-side rendering (ng universal and PWA) to improve performance by over 80% from legacy performance.
- Using RxJS observables and other library operations when fetching JSON from microservices and creating app services. Implementing third-party integrations widgets, User Interface libraries, component libraries, and tracking codes.
- Developing template-driven and reactive forms and custom form validators, smartphone and autofill optimized HTML inputs for lead generation pages optimized for mobile traffic accounting for 70% of site visits.
- Developing reactive JavaScript to implement business rules for the management of customer products and services through internal financial tools
- Implementing Angular Material component library for internal tools, and Angular Bootstrap component library for the main site
- Volunteered for the internal committee doing photography, video, graphics, event planning, budgeting, organizing and staffing events for over 150 employees

Software Engineer

Apr 2013 - Sep 2015

Site Technologies Inc. Veloxsites

- Software as a Service (SaaS) product development of website builder tools for thousands of small and medium businesses.
- Designed and executed HTML layouts, leveraging templating for user-generated content and writing LESS for layout theming, resulting in visually appealing and functional web layouts for customers to choose from.
- Developed custom forms with both client and server-side validators, ensuring high-quality data input while applying appropriate sanitization techniques to prevent security issues
- Utilized object-oriented PHP to create efficient code that allowed for seamless CRUD operations with MySQL, streamlining backend processes.
- Integrated third-party widgets, UI libraries, jQuery plugins, and tracking codes to seamlessly enhance functionality for customer dashboard control of their website
- Optimized multimedia assets, including video and sound editing, social media graphics, and asset processing, improving website load times by 40% and overall usability and user experience (UX)
- Created over 50 graphics, and videos for corporate promotional materials, technical documentation and user training materials.

Web Developer

Oct 2012 - Oct 2012

Windsor Historical Society - Veterans Memories Project

- Developed front and back-end of static website, designed user experience and visuals to showcase our feature documentary film.

VOLUNTEERING & LEADERSHIP

a11yTechNetwork

Jan 2024 - Present

Creator

Facilitate and moderate for the a11yTechNetwork Discord Server

Climate Town Knowledge Hub

May 2023 - Present

Maintainer

Website to aggregate important resources in the fight against climate change

<https://hub.climatetownproductions.com/>

IncluCity Calgary

Aug 2023 - Oct 2023

Volunteer

Web accessibility content guidelines and experience design reviews and beta website reviews

PROJECTS

Bird Photos Volume 1

Feb 2023 - Mar 2023

<https://bird-photos.daniellemlbastien.com/>

I curated, designed, and published a book featuring my bird photography, along with creating a companion progressive web application.

Tech: Contentful, Gatsby React (Javascript, Typescript), GraphQL, HTML, CSS

Features:

- About author page with bio, headshot, social links and buy book links
- CMS database for birds, categories and sub-categories
- Progressive web app - able to install as an app from chrome desktop, mobile device
- SEO (search engine optimization) friend URL slugs
- Level AA web accessibility
- Responsive & modernized image formats (webp, avif)
- Home landing page displays bird categories with thumbnail
- Bird category page lists all birds with thumbnail, breadcrumb, and sub-category navigation with total
- Bird sub-category page lists all birds with thumbnails, breadcrumb
- Bird page photo gallery, breadcrumb

Danielle's Cooking

Dec 2022

<https://cooking.daniellemlbastien.com/>

Progressive web application designed to share recipes with my grandmother, who does not have access to the internet.

Tech: Contentful, Gatsby React (Javascript, Typescript), GraphQL, HTML, CSS

Features:

- CMS database for recipes and categories: ingredients, meal type, meal style, diet
- Progressive web app - able to install as an app from chrome desktop, mobile device
- Responsive & modernized image formats (webp, avif)
- Level AA web accessibility
- Home landing page displays featured recipes and FODMAP recipes
- All recipes page lists all recipes and categories
- Category pages list all related recipes, special notes on FODMAP
- About the author page

SKILLS

Software Development: Animations API, Automated Testing, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), Cross-browser Compatibility, Document Object Model (DOM), Forms, Git, Google Ads, Google Tag Manager, History API, HTML, HTML 5, Internationalization (i18n), JavaScript, LESS, MQTT, Node.js, Observer APIs, RESTful API (REST API), SASS / SCSS, Search Engine Optimization, Semantic HTML, Social Preview Optimization, SVG, TypeScript, Unit Testing, WAI-ARIA (Accessible Rich Internet Applications) , Web APIs, Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), WebSocket, Web Standards

Frameworks, Libraries, Tools, Methodologies: Agile, Angular, Atomic Design, AXE, BEM, Bootstrap, Contentful, Contentful, CSS Custom Properties (Variables), CSS Grid, CUBE CSS, Cypress, Django Python, Flexbox, Gatsby, Google Cloud Services, GraphQL, Jasmine + Karma, Jenkins, Jest, jQuery, jQuery UI, Material UI, Mocha, Puppeteer, React.js, RxJS, SMACSS, Styled Components, Svelte, Vanilla Extract, WordPress

Design & User Experience (UX): Design Systems, Design Tokens, Graceful Degradation, Inclusive Design, Keyboard Testing, Progressive Enhancement, Responsive Web Design (RWD), Screen Reader Testing, User Experience (UX) Patterns, Web Accessibility, Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)

Software: Adobe After Effects, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Lightroom, Adobe Photoshop, Confluence, Figma, JIRA, Mural, Sketch, VS Code, Zeplin

EDUCATION

Certificate in Web Design, Development and Maintenance
Humber College

Advanced Diploma in Film and Television Production
Humber College

Specialized in Post Production Graduated with Honours