

Danielle Bastien

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Staff Engineer, Design Systems & Accessibility

Skilled front-end web developer specializing in accessible and user-friendly experiences across devices and interfaces. Experienced in project estimation, design analysis, and architectural planning with a focus on accessibility and scalability. Proficient in developing interfaces, tools, and processes to streamline the software development lifecycle. Known for attention to detail, discipline, and resourcefulness. Seeking opportunities to advance inclusive technologies.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Technical Lead - Senior Software Engineer

ecobee (Generac Holdings Inc.)

Jul 2024 - Present

- Mentor developers on best practices, accessibility and web fundamentals for front-end development through continuous communication, pairing sessions, demonstrations, feedback and code reviews.
- Advising and participating in technical architecture planning for upgrading a static HTML site to a dynamic single-page application site. Providing technical requirements for front-end frameworks, tooling, and accessibility conformance for WCAG 2.2 Level AA.
- Liaise with the generac legal team and offer solutions for WCAG 2.2 Level AA conformance
- Triage bug tickets, automated pipeline results, quality assurance reports and provide guidance on remediating screen reader, keyboard, accessible name, content issues on the website for developers, designers and content editors.
- Build continuous integration workflows in GitHub to replace CircleCI
- Maintaining Gatsby React static site with semantic HTML, CSS and Typescript React components, with Jest unit tests at 85% coverage, ensuring all components remain and improve their accessibility
- Perform code reviews for other developers, evaluating coding standards, best practices, use of semantic HTML, CSS, Typescript and React; testing keyboard and screen reader testing on static development snapshots before the work is merged into production.
- Writing content type and content migrations for Contentful Content Management System (CMS)
- Participating in working groups reviewing designs for new features to discuss accessible implementations of focus order, focus management, interaction flows, and the semantics of what the design should represent, what actions should trigger feedback, if labeling or structural elements are missing from the design what impacts or substitutions would ensue.

Technical Lead - Senior Front-End Developer, Software Engineer

Approach Controls Inc.

Oct 2022 - Jun 2024

- Leading architecture and deployments on the shared User Interface library of over 100 components, meeting Level AA WCAG requirements with automated integration testing reports and manual testing for conformance.
- Collaborating with other Technical Leads on development department code standards and best practices for maintenance, security and accessibility, increasing code quality by 70%

- Conduct 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 automated accessibility checks, 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 accessibility remediation, creating and implementing a debt management action plan and tracking system for progress, presenting prioritization to stakeholders.
- 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.
- Mentor developers on best practices, accessibility 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.
- <https://youtu.be/dlnU300UYTI>

Technical Lead - Senior Full-Stack Developer, Software Engineer

Postmedia Network Inc.

Sep 2019 - Oct 2022

- 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 coaching 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 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 semantic HTML, CSS and Typescript components for the design system, with Jest unit tests at 90% coverage, ensuring all components were accessible, that custom widgets supported expected keyboard functionality, themeable, responsive using design tokens with custom linting implementations
- Writing cross-browser mobile-first responsive CSS for reflow and zoom, 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 strategies on a case-by-case basis per feature
- 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 WCAG 2.1 Level AA conformance and best practices beyond standard guidelines.
- Utilizing SVG, JSON+LD schema, modern Web APIs and implementing 3rd party APIs
- Writing article pages with the Google AMP, Facebook IA frameworks
- Writing Django CMS Admin panel, unit testing at 90% coverage, REST APIs, and content migrations
- Modifying Django packages for internal use cases and submitting to open-source repositories
- 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.
- Asset optimization, compression and formatting
- Writing over 10 portals of 30+ pieces of technical documentation for the design system and front-end architecture, and accessibility training materials for referencing WCAG 2.1 Level AA conformance, how to test, available tools and their limitations, shared responsibilities.
- 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 Developer, Software Engineer

411 Local Search Corp. (Yellow Pages Group)

Sep 2015 - Aug 2019

- Awarded Top Performer March 2016 and Year 2016
- Oversaw the front-end codebase, and acting champion for UX & accessibility WCAG 2.1 Level AA conformance 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 reflow 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 semantic 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
- Asset optimization, compression and formatting
- Volunteered for the internal committee doing photography, video, graphics, event planning, budgeting, organizing and staffing events for over 150 employees

Software Engineer

Veloxsites (Site Technologies Inc.)

Apr 2013 - Sep 2015

- Software as a Service (SaaS) product development of website builder tools for thousands of small and medium businesses.
- Designed and executed semantic 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

Windsor Historical Society - Veterans Memories Project

Oct 2012 - Oct 2012

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

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

PROJECTS

Portfolio

Mar 2023 - Present

<https://daniellemlbastien.com/>

Tech: Svelte (Javascript, Typescript), HTML, CSS, Playwright

COVID Care

Feb 2021 - Present

<https://github.com/dmlb/covid-care>

Tech: Angular (Javascript, Typescript), HTML, CSS, Cypress, Github Actions

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

VOLUNTEERING & LEADERSHIP

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

May 2024 - Nov 2024

Volunteer

Conducting assistive technology usability testing sessions as note taker and presenter

IncluCity Calgary

Aug 2023 - Oct 2023

Volunteer

Beta website conformance testing and reporting for WCAG 2.1 Level AA

SKILLS

Software Development: Animations API, Authoring Tool Accessibility Guidelines (ATAG), 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