|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| TAMI Site Report | * Overall Status: **High Risk** |

# **Project Name:** Usability & Recommendations Report for <http://www.texasarchive.org>

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Status Code Legend |  |
| * **On Track:** Good usability | * **High Risk**: Needs improvement |
| * **At Risk**: Could use improvement | * **Off Track**: Immediate attention needed |

Keywords:

* **Sidebar**: is the space on the website off to the right or the left side that contains a site navigation menu
* **Widget**: is like an app for the site it displays information in a small self-contained field and has code build in to make it easy to update.
* **Alt text**: this stands for alternative text it’s used to describe pictures within a site. This is particularly useful for blind users.
* **SEO**: Search engine optimization. This helps you with staying at the top of Google’s search engine. This helps it easier for users to find your site.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The home page: (<http://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php/Main_Page>)  First impressions as a user I wasn’t sure if I had reached the home page. There was no clear indication that this was your landing page. My first instinct was to load the site from the title bar. As a first-time user, I not only checked to see if this was the home page, but my next step was to look at the about section of the site.  I had no clear indication as to what I was looking at upon first arrival, and noticed a real lack of narrative/purpose. This can drive away visitors which seems to be the purpose of your site is to collect visitors and interest them in the upcoming and recent events.  I do believe the visual slider does work for the site. It would be nice to see the first slide have a mission statement to clue in the user as to what TAMI is and what you do. It would be beneficial to remove the widgets displaying, news, events, and tech Texas, and placing them on the sidebar or removing them from the homepage. The space below the slider would be an excellent space to put the about section and give visitors an essence of who you are and what you do.  Another positive, I liked the Texas themed color scheme I think it works for the site and it’s not overpowering. The font was very legible.  If your team is looking at doing a site overhaul, perhaps using a site design with a scrolling home page. Themes such as Illdy <https://colorlib.com/illdy/> on WordPress would work well, <https://www.apple.com/iphone/> is another good example. This type of design gives you a piece of the entire site from one page. It would execute what you’re currently doing on the home page with a more streamline approach. | Home page improvements:  * Add a mission statement of statement of purpose on your home page. This can be an about section. The site needs something to let your visitors know who you are. * Alt text needs to be added to all images in the slider. This will help with SEO and site accessibility for blind users using screen readers. * Change the URL title to something like (<http://www.texasarchive.org/home>) this would help your SEO and increase usability by helping users realize which page they’ve landed on. Having a clear URL also helps any blind users trying to access your site via a screen reader. * Change the menu tab tile from “video” to reflect it’s the home page. A title such as “home” it is less confusing to visitors and easier to navigate. I suggest making videos its own menu tab and create a new separate “home” tab. See figure 1 below:   *Figure 1: tab menu "video" used to title home page tab.*   * The widgets displaying, news, events, and Tech Texas, need to be placed on the sidebar section of the site or removing them from the homepage. They currently clutter and impede site flow. * I recommend mentioning services on the home page and navigate them to the services page via a button. * Keep the slider, however I would update it with a mission statement on the first slide, and provide alt text for all its images. * Good readable text. |
| News page: (<http://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php?title=News:Front>)  The information provided in this page is placed in nice readable chunks separated by pictures and videos. Each main news section starts with headings. That are placed in formatting background. This helps visual readers with sight flow. See figure 2 below for reference.  Figure 2: formatted background helps separate news sections  However, I noticed the text color changes from the main page. Before it was a deep blue and had a Texas color theme to this page were on this page the site uses just black. It’s a small detail on site flow I would update. Also, none of the pictures have any alt text. The videos could use captions and descriptions for deaf and blind site visitors. | News page improvements:  * Alt text needs to be added to all images. This will help with SEO and site accessibility for blind users using screen readers. * Change the URL title to something like (http://www.texasarchive.org/news) this would help your SEO and increase usability by helping users realize which page they've landed on. Having a clear URL also helps any blind users trying to access your site via a screen reader. * Tab flow changes in the TAMI Joins UH for National Women's Conference Commemoration section it moves from the picture on the right to the left were the header is. This would be confusing to a blind user or anyone navigating through a keyboard. See figure 3 below for reference.   Figure 3:TAMI Joins UH for National Women's Conference Commemoration section   * Keep text color theme the same as the home page * Good information in nice readable sections with headings |
| Events page: (<http://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php?title=Events:Calendar>)  I like the big calendar it works. All the information is accessible through the keyboard. Only thing I can think to add is the widget on the Homepage that lists the events to the sidebar navigation for ease of use. See figure 4 below.  Figure 4: Events widget used on the home page | Events page improvements:  * Overall functional good design. Easy to navigate even with just a keyboard. Only recommendation would to add the widget from the homepage to the sidebar for ease of navigation and seeing all events in one area. |
| Education Page: (<http://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php/TeachTexas:Main_Page>)  This page goes back to the home page design with the slider and I think it works, but again I’m a bit confused as to what the purpose of the page is. It would be helpful to let the visitors know why there is an education page let them know it’s mission and then let them see the different programs. This section needs more context to work otherwise it’s not creating interest and it makes the site confusing.  The images on the sliders also need alt text. | Events page improvements:  * Add a mission statement of statement of purpose on your education page. Let visitors know why your site is trying to teach them and why they should check out Texas weather or lumber jacks. The visitors need something to over ache the purpose of this material on the site. * Alt text needs to be added to all images in the slider. This will help with SEO and site accessibility for blind users using screen readers. * Change the URL title to something like (http://www.texasarchive.org/Education) this would help your SEO and increase usability by helping users realize which page they’ve landed on. Having a clear URL also helps any blind users trying to access your site via a screen reader. * Color theme and slider work for the page design. * Teach Texas Updates widget works on this page. |
| Services Page: (<http://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php?title=Services>)  Good clear information. I understand what services the page is trying to provide this is clearly indicated. The page also gives insight that leads the visitor to your other site page round up. Good flow of information. Uses headers and all the link information is accessible through a keyboard. I suggest keeping with the  First instance of the info@texasarchive.org email address link isn’t formatted the same as the second instance of email link. I would change that to match and make it more noticeable. See figure 5 bellow.  Figure 5: Screenshot of the same email link in two different formats | Services page improvements:  * Change the URL title to something like (http://www.texasarchive.org/Services) this would help your SEO and increase usability by helping users realize which page they've landed on. Having a clear URL also helps any blind users trying to access your site via a screen reader. * Keep text color theme the same as the home page * Change the first instance of the email link to match the more visible second instance of the link. * Good page information, that is easy to use and understand * Text leads you to another helpful and relivant part of the site. |
| Preservation Page: (<http://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php?title=Preservation>)  Good clear information. The information on this page is very helpful and informative and it flows well with the use of headers and sub-headers. All links are accessible through keyboard navigation. | **Preservation page improvements:**   * Alt text needs to be added to all images. This will help with SEO and site accessibility for blind users using screen readers. * Change the URL title to something like (http://www.texasarchive.org/Preservation) this would help your SEO and increase usability by helping users realize which page they've landed on. Having a clear URL also helps any blind users trying to access your site via a screen reader. * Keep text color theme the same as the home page * Good information flow * Good use of headers and sub-headers |
| Round-Up Page: (<http://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php?title=Texas_Film_Round-Up>)  Good clear information. Good use of headers on the page. The information on this page is very helpful and informative and it flows well with the use of bullet points. All links are accessible through keyboard navigation.  Leads you to event information. The PDF files seem to be marked up for screen reader use. | **Round-Up page improvements:**   * Alt text needs to be added to all images. This will help with SEO and site accessibility for blind users using screen readers. * Change the URL title to something like (http://www.texasarchive.org/Round-Up) this would help your SEO and increase usability by helping users realize which page they've landed on. Having a clear URL also helps any blind users trying to access your site via a screen reader. * Keep text color theme the same as the home page * Good information flow * Good use of bullet points * PDF seems to be screen reader accessible. This would need to be checked over with a screen reader to see if it meets web accessibility standards, however digging into the inspection code I noticed PDF markup tags. |
| Contribute Page: (<http://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php?title=Contribute>)  Clear Information. However, this page has lots of blank space that needs to be eliminated or fixed. see figure 6 bellow.  Figure 6: blank space on contributions page.  Visitors only using a keyboard for navigation cannot navigate to the “donate” button. Form fields have labels and this | **Contribute page improvements:**   * Fix the blank page on the page. This interferes with site flow. * Donate button should be accessible through keyboard navigation. * Change the URL title to something like (http://www.texasarchive.org/Round-Up) this would help your SEO and increase usability by helping users realize which page they've landed on. Having a clear URL also helps any blind users trying to access your site via a screen reader. * Keep text color theme the same as the home page * Form fields have labels. This makes it easier for visitors using screen readers to understand what information is needed for each form field * Links are formatted in a clear way. |
| **About page**  (<http://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php?title=About>)  Good clear information. The information on this page is very helpful and informative and it flows well with the use of headers and sub-headers. The spacing also helps with braking up information in more manageable chunks. All links are accessible through keyboard navigation. | **About page improvements:**   * Alt text needs to be added to all images. This will help with SEO and site accessibility for blind users using screen readers. * Change the URL title to something like (http://www.texasarchive.org/About) this would help your SEO and increase usability by helping users realize which page they've landed on. Having a clear URL also helps any blind users trying to access your site via a screen reader. * Keep text color theme the same as the home page * I would make the contact information available below the staff members name and not a link from their name. It just makes the information more noticable and easy to access. * Good flow of information * Nice use of headers |

# Contact Information

If you need more information or help reading through the report. Or to set up a sit-down meeting to go over site recommendations with your development team please contact Usability Inc’s, Project Manager for time meeting information or email the Site Analysis for report information.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Micheal McBride**  Title: Project Manager  Email: msm142@txstate.edu | **Anneka Bath**  Title: Site Analysis  Email: acb217@txstate.edu |
|  |  |