

# Katrina Yates

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## Experience

### The Walt Disney Company | Senior Creative Developer (UX Engineering focus) | 2022 – PRESENT

HTML, SCSS, JSON, jQuery, JavaScript, PHP, React, WordPress, Gutenberg, Node, CI/CD, Docker, Gitlab, Jira, Confluence, Figma

- Lead Developer & Technical Lead:
  - **Lead Development** of high-traffic Disney sites including [Disney Parks Blog](#), [Disney Experiences](#), and [in.DisneyConnect](#), delivering fast, accessible, and scalable digital experiences.
  - **Architected and maintained “Aloha,”** a custom WordPress theme and plugin framework empowering non-technical teams to create and manage content across **multisite platforms** with built-in scalability and performance optimization.
  - Contributed to RESTful APIs and content syndication systems, ensuring secure data flow between web and mobile platforms.
  - **Collaborated with mobile teams** such as *Cast Life* to syndicate content and create a unified digital ecosystem.
  - Worked with **CI/CD pipelines** across multiple environments (Local, Dev, QA, Prod) using GitLab and Docker.
  - Acted as **technical lead** during cross-functional projects, partnering with designers, product owners, and vendors to deliver consistent Disney brand and guest experiences.
- Leadership & Mentorship:
  - Served as a **technical mentor** to developers, designers, and content producers, leading **stand-ups**, **retrospectives**, **scope-out** sessions, and **roadmap** planning to improve communication and delivery flow.
  - Conduct monthly training sessions for non-technical partners on Aloha, Gutenberg, Divi Builder, and internal publishing systems.
  - Authored detailed **Confluence documentation** for developers, producers, and enterprise users across Disney Experiences Technology.
  - **Technical Speaker** at [WordCamp](#), sharing insights on scalable development and UX-driven design at enterprise scale.
- UX Collaboration & Quality Assurance:
  - Implemented and refined user interfaces from finalized designs, ensuring interaction, accessibility, and performance matched UX intent
  - **Collaborated** with creative and vendor teams to ensure cohesive design and UX consistency across platforms.
  - Conducted **code reviews** and **UX testing** to optimize performance and maintain consistent standards.
  - Developed and delivered **event and campaign microsites** using Salesforce, Certain, and internal tools (e.g., *Disney Cruise Line reveals*).

### nSide | Software Engineer (Front-End / UX) | 2020 – 2022

React, JavaScript, Git, GitLab, CSS, HTML

- Developed front-end systems for a school safety platform, focusing on **responsive design** and **accessibility**
- Built responsive, accessible UI components supporting real-world user workflows.
- Implemented **forms**, **tagging systems**, and **user-facing workflows** to improve usability and efficiency.

### Independent Contractor | Creative UX Developer | 2019 – 2022

WordPress, JavaScript, Bootstrap, Git, GitHub, Figma, Axure

- Designed and developed custom websites and **interactive prototypes** for small businesses and creative clients
- Translated finalized designs into responsive, cross-browser user interfaces with a focus on UX execution.

### Cellairis | Technical District Manager | 2012 - 2018

- Managed multi-location teams of technicians and sales specialists across regional stores.
- Led hardware and software repair operations while improving training and communication processes.

## Education

**Master of Science – Computer Information Systems | Florida Institute of Technology | Expected 2026**

**Bachelor of Science - Computer Science | University of North Alabama | Florence, AL | 2022**