Elizabeth Zagroba: Context-Driven Software Tester

Website: elizabethzagroba.com | Twitter & LinkedIn: @ezagroba

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Work Experience

Mendix | low-code software platform in Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Team Lead

April 2020 – present

May 2018 – present

Test Engineer

- Built skills in others through pairing, mob/ensemble, code review, and in mentor role
- Wrote feature-level API tests using the Python requests library & API spec in OpenAPI
- Advocated for, amplified, and connected work within & among teams as servant leader
- Uncovered risks and information about the system through exploratory testing
- Captained a 3-month refactor and upgrade of 8-year-old crucial legacy product
- Guided lean, iterative development on my team and through the Agile guild I facilitate
- Brought in knowledgeable workshops to reinforce and extend quality on all teams

Medidata Solutions | clinical trial software platform in New York, New York Senior Test Engineer I & II Nov. 2016 – Apr. 2018

- Coordinated communication and pair testing sessions with London and San Francisco product teams to establish API contracts for the integration of their products
- Paired with product expert for compatibility testing; paired with interview candidates
- Wrote bi-weekly test reports to illuminate priorities and blockers to project managers

Huge Inc. | digital agency in Brooklyn, New York QA Analyst

April 2015 - Oct. 2016

- Explored applications & determined priorities among internal, external, offshore teams
- Evangelized about mind maps for visualizing coverage and improving communication

New York Public Radio | listener-supported radio stations in New York, New York

Quality Assurance Manager Sept. 2011 – Mar. 2015

- Explored all changes to web, iOS, and Android apps from a 16-person team
- Tested cross-domain login, platform upgrades, iOS/Android apps for millions of users
- Managed JIRA database; became point person for existing backlog and writing tickets
- Evaluated designs for improved UX, continuity of content, and integration with CMS

Online Producer

Oct. 2009 - Aug. 2011

• Juggled competing priorities for four teams/five managers; taught users new workflows

Conference Speaking, Workshop Facilitation, and Organizing

Co-organizer: Test Craft Camp (unconference in the Netherlands)	2019 – present
Peer conferences: DEWT, BREWT, ET19, MICST (Medidata)	2016 – present
TestBash speaker: United States, England, Germany, Netherlands	2016 – present
Let's Test speaker: Sweden and South Africa	2016 – 2019
Agile Testing Days speaker, Germany and United States	2017 – present

Published Articles

Test Buddy - A Balancing Act: Finding a Place for Exploratory Testing	2020
Ministry of Testing - Stop Tuning Out and Start Tuning In	2020
Ministry of Testing - Defining Story Completion As A Software Tester	2019
Ministry of Testing - How To Use Mind Maps To Develop Clarity	
With Your Software Testing Strategy	2016

Awards

Excellence, voted by the 500+ person R&D department at Mendix	2020
Collaboration, voted by 150+ person technology department at Huge Inc.	2015

Trainings & Courses

Inspiring Testing - Test Leadership Workshop (Fiona Charles)	2020
Design Behind the Plan - Advanced Test Strategy (Fiona Charles)	2020
Python for Testers (Kristoffer Nordström)	2019
Getting a Grip on Exploratory Testing (James Lyndsay)	2018
Rapid Software Testing (Paul Holland)	2017
Inspired Change Leadership (Selena Delesie)	2015
BBST Foundations & Bug Advocacy (AST)	2014

Competencies & Skills

Python, JIRA, Trello, Mendix, developer tools, context-driven exploratory testing, Agile, API testing, bug advocacy, usability testing, troubleshooting, time management

University Education

B.A. in Mathematics, Summa Cum Laude	2005 – 2009
Colby College, Waterville, Maine	

Interests

tea, biking, gardening, Dutch, music, infrastructure, wordplay, podcasts, moonwalking