Part 1: Project Overview

My website is my personal UX portfolio that showcases my skills and also provides insight into who I am as a designer. My target audience for this portfolio are hiring managers who are interested in filling UX roles for their companies and are primarily concerned with getting a quick overview of a potential employee's skill set and design process.

Keeping this target in mind, I designed my portfolio to be minimal, skimmable and easy to follow using generous white space, clear sectioning and emphasis through the use of high contrast color. My portfolio includes a main homepage with a tagline about myself and an overview of my featured projects. This page is intended to give the viewer a quick summary of the kind of work I've been doing and what I'm interested in. After getting this overview, the viewer can move onto one of the project case study pages (only CalmZone for now) to get deeper insight into my overall design process. I designed the project case study page to be easily skimmable through the use of clear headings and boxed elements. Finally, the viewers can move onto the "About" page which shares details about myself related to my background and how I view design.

In order to make this portfolio engaging, I've used different kinds of animations that grasp the viewer's attention, emphasize important content and clearly communicate what is going on through feedback. The triggers for my animations are on load, scroll, click and hover. I purposefully decided to include a variety of different interaction methods to make the overall experience more engaging and less uniform. My hope is to augment the viewing experience through animations that don't distract the viewer but instead guide them along a single path that tells a clear and impactful story.

Part 2: Interactions

On Load/Refresh

On loading/ refreshing the main homepage, the name on my portfolio as well as the down arrow icon animates. The name pulses only once since it's simply to create interest. The down arrow; however, animates repeatedly so that the viewer knows there is content to view below the fold.

On Scroll

On scrolling down the main homepage to the first project, the "Featured Projects" title zooms in and the project description for the first project fades up. Similarly, scrolling down to each project animates its description to draw attention to itself.

On Hover

Hovering over a project thumbnail zooms in the image to subtly prompt the user to click on it.

On Click

Clicking the "back to top" button in the footer smoothly scrolls the page back up to the top so that the change is not jarring.

Part 3: External Tools

For animations

   I.   [Animate.css](#)

      A. I chose to use animate.css because I found that it had a large variety of animations available that could easily be customized using predefined classes.

      B. I used this library to add a pulse animation to my name on the banner and also to animate the down arrow on the banner to indicate that the user should scroll down to see more content.

C. This external css library was used to make my hero banner more interesting by making elements on the banner move on screen load.

II. [Animate on Scroll](#)

A. I chose animate on scroll to add emphasis to different parts of my website when a user scrolled down so that the animations would immediately draw attention to the most important parts of each section on the page.

B. I used this css library to have section titles slide in to the page on scroll and also to have project details move into view when a user reached the projects section of my homepage.

C. This library really helped me control what parts of my website the viewer would be drawn to and in what order.

For responsiveness

III. Bootstrap.js

A. I chose to use bootstrap to make my website responsive to different screen sizes because it has a clear, established grid system and a wide variety of predefined classes to help with customizing my design.

B. I used bootstrap to define the widths that different elements on my page would take and create the overall layout of my pages for different screen sizes.

C. This made sure recruiters could easily view my website on both desktop and mobile and would not be restricted by what device they were using to view my portfolio.
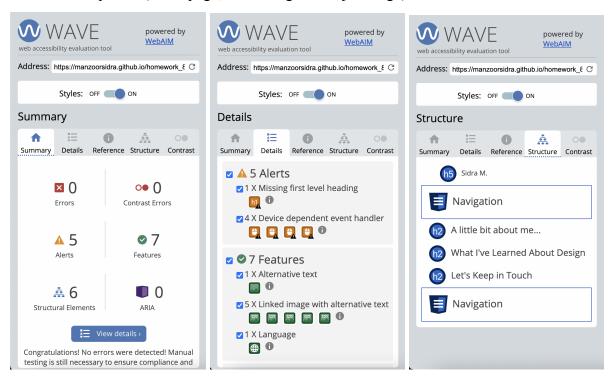
Part 4: Iterations/ Changes

On the homepage initially, I wanted to make a "view project" button appear when the viewer hovered over one of the project thumbnail images; however, when I actually started implementing the website, I felt that this would be redundant since I already had a "view project" button right next to the project thumbnail. For homework 8, I removed the button appearing on hover and instead added in a zoom animation when a user hovers over a project thumbnail. I also changed the brown text color on my website to orange to improve the contrast after realizing brown over black would have readability issues. Finally, I changed the width of some images on my case study page because they appeared too large if displayed at full width on a larger screen size.
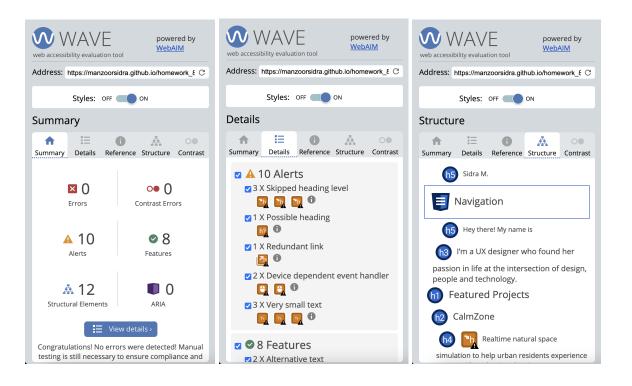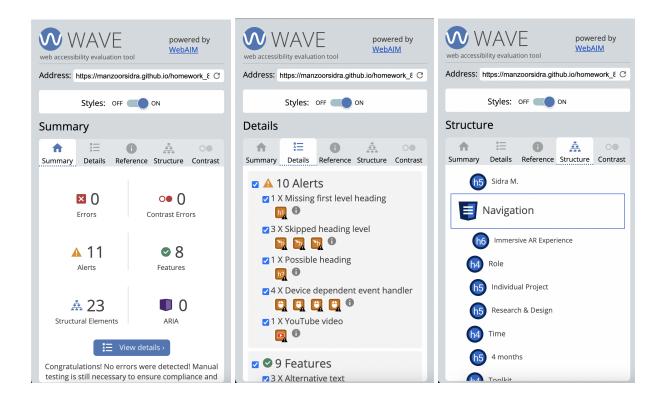
Part 5: Challenges

One of the main challenges that I experienced while working on my website was using bootstrap. I had a difficult time figuring out how to customize the predefined themes from the bootstrap css file to match it to my portfolio design. After getting help from my TA Jason and also searching online, I found that a lot of the customization that I wanted could easily be achieved through using different combinations of bootstrap's predefined classes. Working with those, I was able to easily make my implemented website exactly match my envisioned design and also work properly on different screen sizes using the column width classes for all elements on my pages.

Appendix

Wave Tool Reports - (Homepage, About Page & Project Page)

References

All icons are from the figma [iconify plugin](#)

All images are by me

Libraries Used:

I.   [Animate.css](#)

II.   [Animate on Scroll](#)

III.   [Bootstrap 4](#)