

Matthew Lepage

Senior UX Designer, Accessibility Specialist in Brooklyn NY

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Professional Experience

Accessibility Designer, Freelance: 2024 - Present

- Freelance consultant on web accessibility best practices, legal needs, and feature roadmapping.
- Worked with startups to build accessibility backlogs and set compliance goals, highlighting design options for complex solutions and pairing with developers on implementation.

Senior Accessibility Designer: 2021 - 2024 at 2U Inc.

- Facilitated platform-wide VPAT of our education platform, acting as liaison with external auditing firms and translating feedback into actionable tickets for our design and development teams. Paired with developers to provide on the fly accessibility implementation guidance.
- Led design system component definition and development for dozens of partner interfaces, focusing on design system process and best practices that factored in accessibility.
- Facilitated exploration sessions with product teams to build end-to-end user journey maps, building a shared understanding of our user's lifecycle.
- Ran accessibility workshops for design, engineering, and product teams to build cross functional expertise in accessibility, and build understanding of WCAG compliance needs.
- Built checklists and workflows for teams to include accessibility in their processes.

Senior Product Designer: 2015 - 2021 at 2U Inc.

- Lead designer of full redesign of our online university application ecosystem, from requirements gathering and initial research through final development and agile iteration.
- Ran UX research with students and university partners to identify user needs on both sides of the applications and admissions process. Built prototypes, and paired with developers to see final designs through completion.
- Designed a form builder and student management system that reduced new partner standup time by 80%, while replacing developer maintenance tasks with self service partner facing tools.
- Redesigned our customer facing forms for applying to online universities, including design of company wide forms components for our design system.
- Ran internal user research on marketing content teams to design, and led design for internal content management system and site builder currently used to build and maintain branded marketing sites for over 200 university partners.
- Worked with a small UX team as it rapidly grew and our processes scaled, specializing in the overlap between inclusive thinking and product design.
- Mentored junior designers, ran design sprints and critiques, and built onboarding processes and materials. Reviewed incoming resumes and interviewed potential new hires.

User Experience Engineer: 2014-2015 at iQ License

- Led design and front-end development for a B2B brand licensing management startup.
- Designed and prototyped licensing portals for major brands, visiting partner offices to run exploratory user research interviews and test designs on target users.
- Built initial front-end of a licensing portal in Ember.js and SCSS.
- Conducted in-person user interviews after product launch to identify usability issues.

Web App Developer: 2012 - 2013 at Next Jump Inc.

- Designed and implemented shopping UIs and built help center tools as a full-stack engineer.
- Collaborated with customer success teams to identify consistent sources of user pain in our platform and bring suggested fixes to broader development teams.

Volunteer Experience**Indie Arcade Curation Department Head, MAGFest, 2019 - Present**

- Led curation for the indie DIY space of an annual non-profit gaming festival with 25,000 attendees. Responsible for artist outreach, showfloor selection, coordination with contributors, and festival PR.
- Ran live panels at events on hardware-based game design and game accessibility.
- Designed web and livestream assets for online events, interviewing dozens of artists for charity livestreams.

Skills

- Figma, Sketch, Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop for Visual Design and Prototyping
- Interface design for web, mobile, and VR/AR
- Inclusive Design, Design System creation and usage, User Research
- Information Architecture, Product Facilitation, and Agile Methodology
- HTML/CSS/JS, React, Python, and SQL
- VoiceOver on Mac and iOS, TalkBack and NVDA

Education

Cornell University, Masters of Professional Studies in Human and Information Sciences

Cornell University, B.A. in Psychology