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 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 accessibility implementation guidance.
- Led design system component development for dozens of partner interfaces, focusing on design system process and accessibility best practices.
- Built end-to-end user journey maps with product leadership to establish a shared understanding of our user lifecycle.
- Ran accessibility workshops for design, engineering, and product teams to build expertise in accessibility and 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 development and agile iteration.
- Ran UX research with students and university partners 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 online university application system, used by over 70,000 prospective students annually.
- Ran internal user research on marketing content teams and led design for internal site builder currently used to build and maintain branded marketing sites for over 200 university partners.
- Scaled up UX team processes around 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 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. Managed artist outreach, showfloor selection, coordination with contributors, and festival PR.
- Ran live panels on hardware-based game design and game accessibility.
- Designed web and livestream assets, 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