

## Assignment 8 -- Implementing a Web Portfolio Writeup

Link to Website: <https://nicolearaya.github.io/puiFinal/index.html>

### Description

The purpose of my final project is to implement a portfolio with the homepage, one case study, and one about page. The audience of this website is hiring managers and recruiters. Therefore the aim is to be professional with a clean and clear layout and tone. I wish to communicate my visual design skills, user-centered thinking, and problem solving skills through the case study of designing a data story of accessibility in the Olympics. I made the website interesting and engaging through the use of unobtrusive animations and micro-interactions, as well as balancing text with images. The background of the homepage illustration is a blob animation created with CSS transitions. The color of blue and white complements the calm tone of the portfolio, while bringing some visual interest of motion.

This responsive website has a unified style of grey, dark blue, and purple, complemented with a homepage illustration that I created in the same color scheme. Links are animated with a slight hover function indicating that they are clickable. My design is accessible with proper alt text and structure.

### Part 2: Interactions

- **Homepage cursor motion effect:** on the top section of the homepage with my name and illustration, I included a cursor animation composed of interactive soft body motion dynamics. It is common on modern websites to include cursor effects to bring visual interest and interactivity to the site. I only included this on the top part of the homepage so as to not interfere with the project information.
- **Homepage Olympics case study card animated hover effect:** on the homepage, under “Selected Works,” hover over the “Visualizing Olympics Accessibility” card. A dark blue box-shadow will appear behind the card as feedforward that the card is clickable.
  - Note: The second and third case study cards do not have this effect as they are not currently built out as case studies. Therefore I did not want them to look clickable.
- **Navigation links hover effect:** on any page, hover over the navigation links on the right-hand side (Projects, Resume, About) to view the animated underline and color change.
  - Note: Resume currently does not link to any live PDF as my resume is still under construction.

- **Olympics page / About page cursor:** I added an effect to the cursor on the Olympics case study page and my About page to add visual interest, interactivity, and motion. I included a black dot that follows the cursor around the page for fun and to draw attention to where the cursor is located.
  - This is inspired by professional websites found on awwwards.com such as <https://www.haritos.co/> and <https://www.jomor.design/>

## Part 3: External Tools

- Bootstrap
  - I used Bootstrap to aid my responsive design, using the containers, rows, and columns to position the boxes in a proportional and readable manner. Bootstrap's CSS library has responsive breakpoints built into the grid framework, so I could just customize my images and text within the grid.
  - I used it by adding the CSS library to the header and the JavaScript to the end of the body section.
  - Bootstrap adds readability, structure, and responsiveness to my website. It also adds the ability to change the navigation links into a hamburger menu on smaller screens.
- P5.js
  - I chose to use p5.js because I want to learn this tool (and processing) to bring my interactivity and artistic features to my programming designs. This library provides many interactive affordances that are easily accessed by calling the built-in p5 functions.
  - I used p5 by including the JavaScript library in the header of my webpages, then adding and linking my custom scripts. Within my JavaScript files, I used functions provided by the p5.js library.
  - I used p5.js to create the cursor effect animations to the pages of my website. On the homepage, the white soft body cursor effect creates visual interest and speaks to my artistic sensibility, as the effect looks similar to a paint splash when the cursor is moved quickly and the soft body stretches.

## Part 3: Iterations

- Firstly, I changed the text on my homepage so that it does not overlap with the image. I realized this overlapping text and image does not work well responsively, as the image will move to a new line, and the overlap does not add anything to the website, so I removed it.
- I added an About page that was not included in the mockup. Since the portfolio needs to eventually have an About page, and it was not too difficult to program, I decided to include it to make the website as a whole seem more like a real portfolio.

## Part 4: Challenges

- The greatest challenge was learning how to use external libraries and integrate them into my website framework. I had to familiarize myself with how Bootstrap's grid system and column sizing works, including much trial and error.
- Secondly, it was difficult for me to learn how to use the p5.js canvas system within my website. I began using the online sketch editor, then needed to solve the problem of making a canvas that spans the whole screen and adapts responsively whenever the screen is resized or scrolled.

## Appendix

### Accessibility Check Screenshots

Homepage:

The screenshot shows the WAVE web accessibility evaluation tool interface. On the left, the 'Summary' tab is selected, displaying the following data:

Category	Count
Errors	0
Contrast Errors	0
Alerts	0
Features	5
Structural Elements	9
ARIA	2

A message at the bottom states: "Congratulations! No errors were detected! Manual testing is still necessary to ensure compliance and optimal accessibility." On the right, the homepage content is shown, featuring a large h1 heading "Nicole Araya, Product Designer". Below the heading is a bio: "Hello! I am data-driven, curious individual passionate about building accessible and inclusive digital platforms. I thrive at the intersection of technology, art, and storytelling." To the right of the bio is a vector illustration of a woman giving a presentation. At the bottom right is a teal button labeled "</> Code".

The following apply to the entire page:

Nicole Araya Projects Resume About

# Nicole Araya, Product Designer

**h2** Hello! I am data-driven, curious individual passionate about building accessible and inclusive digital platforms. I thrive at the intersection of technology, art, and storytelling.

</> Code

The following apply to the entire page:

Nicole Araya Projects Resume About

## Summary

	0	0
Errors	0	Contrast Errors
Alerts	0	Features
Structural Elements	9	ARIA
<a href="#">View details</a>		

Congratulations! No errors were detected! Manual testing is still necessary to ensure compliance and optimal accessibility.

The following apply to the entire page:

Nicole Araya Projects Resume About

# Nicole Araya, Product Designer

**h2** Hello! I am data-driven, curious individual passionate about building accessible and inclusive digital platforms. I thrive at the intersection of technology, art, and storytelling.

</> Code

The following apply to the entire page:

Nicole Araya Projects Resume About

## Details

	Count	Type
Features	5	5 Features
Alternative text	3	3 X Alternative text
Linked image with alternative text	1	1 X Linked image with alternative text
Language	1	1 X Language
Structural Elements	9	9 Structural Elements
Heading level 1	2	2 X Heading level 1
Heading level 2	1	1 X Heading level 2
Heading level 3	3	3 X Heading level 3
Unordered list	1	1 X Unordered list
Navigation	1	1 X Navigation
Main content	1	1 X Main content
ARIA	2	2 ARIA

## Olympics Case Study Page

The following apply to the entire page:

Powered by WebAIM

Nicole Araya Projects Resume About

# h1 Olympics

h6 DOMAIN Data Visualization UX/UI

h6 MY ROLES Co-Lead Designer UX Engineer

h6 TEAM Marie Konopacki Miu Kumakura

h6 SKILLS Literature Review Competitive Analysis Usability Testing Contextual Testing Stakeholder + User Interviews

Olympic games since 1952 COUNTRY WINS VS GDP </> Code

The following apply to the entire page:

Powered by WebAIM

Nicole Araya Details aria-controls="navbarSupportedContent" aria-label="Toggle navigation"

# h1 Olympics

h6 DOMAIN Data Visualization UX/UI

h6 MY ROLES Co-Lead Designer UX Engineer

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h6 SKILLS Literature Review Competitive Analysis Usability Testing Contextual Testing Stakeholder + User Interviews

The Olympics have long been hailed as the highest standard of athletic achievement. During a Harvard computer science course on data visualization, I worked in a team to build a website that challenges the idea that the Games are a simple meritocracy by contextualizing medal wins with social, economic, and political factors.

Olympic games since 1952 COUNTRY WINS VS GDP </> Code

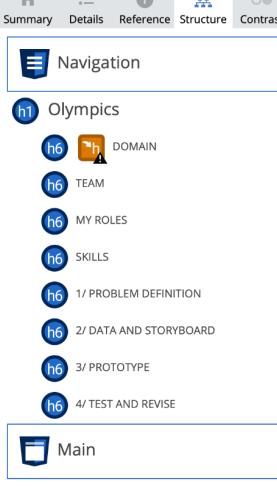
The following apply to the entire page:

Address: <https://nicolearaya.github.io/puiFinal/assets/proj>

Styles: OFF  ON

Structure



Nicole Araya  Projects  Resume About

# Olympics

Data Visualization UX/UI Co-Lead Designer UX Engineer

Marie Konopacki Miu Kumakura Literature Review Competitive Analysis Usability Testing Contextual Testing Stakeholder + User Interviews

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Olympic games since 1952  COUNTRY WINS VS GDP

## About Page

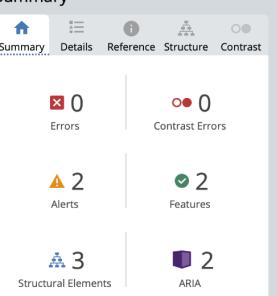
The following apply to the entire page:

Address: <https://nicolearaya.github.io/puiFinal/about.html>

Styles: OFF  ON

Summary



Congratulations! No errors were detected! Manual testing is still necessary to ensure compliance and optimal accessibility.

Nicole Araya  Projects  Resume About



"headshot of nicole cropped in a circle"

Nicole Araya is a product designer from Los Angeles, CA. She is currently pursuing a Master of Human-Computer Interaction at Carnegie Mellon University, School of Computer Science. She is a recent 2021 graduate from Harvard University, where she majored in Visual and Environmental Studies with a minor in Computer Science. She has worked as a product designer for BlueOcean.ai and the Harvard Design Collective, and has worked with startup clients such as GOOD/Upworthy, PlayHouse: Show Companion and Pandemic Risk Management Services. She also works as the artistic director of the Harvard Lampoon and is the lead designer for MIT Libraries' Unlocking History Group, managing  accessibility workflow for research

The following apply to the entire page:



Nicole Araya

Projects  Resume About

**Structure**

Styles: OFF  ON

Summary Details Reference Structure Contrast

-  Navigation
-  Main

Nicole Araya is a product designer from Los Angeles, CA. She is currently pursuing a Master of Human-Computer Interaction at Carnegie Mellon University, School of Computer Science. She is a recent 2021 graduate from Harvard University, where she majored in Visual and Environmental Studies with a minor in Computer Science. She has worked as a product designer for BlueOcean.ai and the Harvard Design Collective, and has worked with startup clients such as GOOD/Upworthy, PlayHouse: Show Companion and Pandemic Risk Management Services. She also works as the artistic director of the Harvard Lampoon and is the lead designer for MIT Libraries' Unlocking History Group, managing  accessibility workflow for research and education materials.

The following apply to the entire page:



Nicole Araya

Projects  Resume About

**Details**

Styles: OFF  ON

Summary Details Reference Structure Contrast

-  2 Alerts
  - 1 X No heading structure 
  - 1 X Redundant link 
-  2 Features
  - 1 X Alternative text 
  - 1 X Language 
-  3 Structural Elements
  - 1 X Unordered list 
  - 1 X Navigation 
  - 1 X Main content 
-  2 ARIA
  - 1 X ARIA 

Nicole Araya is a product designer from Los Angeles, CA. She is currently pursuing a Master of Human-Computer Interaction at Carnegie Mellon University, School of Computer Science. She is a recent 2021 graduate from Harvard University, where she majored in Visual and Environmental Studies with a minor in Computer Science. She has worked as a product designer for BlueOcean.ai and the Harvard Design Collective, and has worked with startup clients such as GOOD/Upworthy, PlayHouse: Show Companion and Pandemic Risk Management Services. She also works as the artistic director of the Harvard Lampoon and is the lead designer for MIT Libraries' Unlocking History Group, managing  accessibility workflow for research and education materials.