Somy El

Digital Accessibility and Development
Specialist

PROFILE

A professional in science, technology, and health, I strive to connect my expertise in development and programming with my knowledge in humanities to create accessible digital products tailored to everyone's needs.

Email: acces.handitech@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

January 2023 – Present FREELANCE DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY AND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT | Fiverr

- Conduct independent WCAG 2.1 audits on websites and applications.
- Communicate technical issues with actionable recommendations for both developers and non-technical stakeholders.
- Use NVDA, VoiceOver, and TalkBack to validate assistive technology compatibility.
- Provide pragmatic accessibility solutions that enhance user experience while balancing project constraints.
- Delivered client satisfaction through tailored reports, achieving an average 98% client approval rate.

April 2022 – January 2023 SOFTWARE DEVELOPER FOR THE BLIND (INTERNSHIP) | University Laboratory, Paris 8 University

- Analyze missing software functionalities to identify user needs.
- Propose digital solutions to meet those needs.
- Develop usage scenarios based on:
 - 1. Virtual agents for blind users to facilitate user interaction.
 - 2. Interfaces with interactive elements for dyslexic users.
- Translate scenarios into algorithms and validate through discussions with various user groups.
- Write, integrate, and test code functionalities for macOS and Windows.
- Added three major features to the software:
 - 1. Copy-paste text adapted to target users.
 - 2. Selective removal of attachments.
 - 3. Intelligent text search.
- Developed a smart method for reading statistical tables for blind users.

January 2021 – June 2021 VOLUNTEER WEB DEVELOPER | Association in France

 Developed and optimized inclusive web interfaces using HTML5, CSS3, and JavaScript while applying WCAG 2.1 accessibility standards.

- Collaborated with teams to identify and resolve 95% of accessibility obstacles through regular audits and user testing.
- Implemented navigation solutions compatible with assistive technologies like screen readers and keyboard navigation for a seamless user experience.
- Conducted accessibility audits and automated checks using tools like Lighthouse and Axe, reducing manual testing time by 40%.

EDUCATION

- Master's Degree in Digital Humanities (In Progress)
 Paris 8 University, Paris
- Master's in Mathematics and Computer Science Applied to Humanities and Social Sciences (2020 – 2022)
 Paris 8 University, Paris
- Bachelor's Degree in Physics (Equivalent to a Bachelor's Degree) (2014 2017)
 Ibn Zohr University, Morocco

SKILLS

Technical Skills

- **Programming Languages**: HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, React.js, Angular, Node.js, Python, PHP
- Web Accessibility: WCAG, ARIA, Accessibility Testing (Axe, Lighthouse, WAVE)
- Development Tools: Git, Bootstrap, Jira, Trello, Asana
- **Methodologies**: Agile/Scrum, User Testing

Interpersonal Skills

- **Teamwork**: Collaborated with multidisciplinary teams to design accessible solutions.
- Autonomy: Managed projects independently while proposing accessibility improvements.

KEY PROJECTS AND CERTIFICATIONS

- AutMath: An educational robot for autistic children.
- Book-Recycling: A shared online library for used books.
- JavaScript Algorithms and Data Structures | April 2023
- Front End Development Libraries | September 2023

VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITIES

- Member of the University Environmental Club (2015 2017)
- Secretary of the University ENACTUS Club (2016 2017)
- Volunteer Mathematics Teacher (2018 2019)
- IT Department Volunteer in an Association (2021 2022)
 Volunteer Trainer in Adaptive Computing for the Blind and Website Accessibility Testing (2024 – Present)

LANGUAGES

• French : Advanced • English : Advanced