



Sarah Proper

Designer, Developer & Accessibility Advocate

Certified Professional in Accessibility Core Competencies (CPACC)

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Professional Summary

Technical Director, Business Owner, and overall web enthusiast with over a decade of extensive experience creating accessible digital solutions. Specializes in merging creative vision with technical architecture to improve user experience and client satisfaction, leveraging skills in design, development, and accessibility compliance. Committed to pioneering inclusive systems, optimizing digital experiences, aligning technical strategies with business goals, and fostering innovation with measurable improvements.

Employment history

Founder, Sarah Proper Designs, LLC

JUN 2018 – PRESENT / REMOTE

- Direct complete design & development operations, bridging the gap between creative vision, technical structure, and business goals.
- Implement comprehensive web accessibility standards through detailed audits and strategic remediation planning for digital platforms.
- Analyze market trends and client requirements to devise targeted strategies, enhancing digital user experience.

Technical Lead, Iced Coffee, Please.

JAN 2021 – PRESENT / REMOTE

- Guide technical strategy, manage project lifecycles, and ensure timely delivery while maximizing resources.
- Lead technical advancements, achieving measurable improvements in product quality while prioritizing accessible and inclusive systems.
- Coordinate technical operations, analyze system performance, and implement data-driven enhancements.
- Pioneer cutting-edge technical solutions that strengthen product accessibility and promote inclusive design principles.

Senior FareHarbor Sites Engineer & Designer, FareHarbor

DEC 2018 – DEC 2019 / DENVER, CO

- Led front-end development for a WordPress multisite theme used by 1,600+ global tour and activity operators, enhancing their digital presence and streamlining booking capabilities.
- Optimized user experience to boost bookings, improved site speed, and overall performance, leading to measurable business growth.
- Developed a mentorship program, established a code review process, and championed accessibility initiatives.
- Presented at the 2019 FareHarbor Conference: "Put Your Best Site Forward: Website Optimizations and Best Practices."

Skills

Accessibility:

- Program development and implementation at multiple development life cycle stages
- Audits and remediation strategies
- Mentoring, training, and advocacy
- Knowledge of WCAG 2.0 – 2.2+, WAI-ARIA, and Section 508
- Testing with NVDA, Jaws, VoiceOver and TalkBack

Design:

- Wireframing & Prototyping
- Design systems & component libraries development
- Figma, Sketch, and the Adobe Creative Suite

Development:

- HTML5 / CSS3, Sass
- Javascript (ES6+), jQuery, Vue.js, React.js
- PHP, Timber, Twig
- NPM, Gulp, Webpack
- Github, Bitbucket
- Wordpress, Drupal, Shopify
- DevTools, Lighthouse

Leadership:

- Cross-functional collaboration
- Effective communication
- Technical documentation
- Quality assurance & code review
- Process optimization
- Training and presentations

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IAAP – International Association of Accessibility Professionals

APR 2021 – APR 2027

Credential ID 21JFCSP081



Front-End Developer, Blue State Digital

MAR 2017 – NOV 2018 / WASHINGTON, DC

- Primary front-end developer on WordPress and Drupal sites that significantly impacted non-profit and advocacy organizations.
- Enhanced user engagement across a variety of digital platforms, from responsive email templates to quizzes and surveys, marketing landing pages, and donation pages.
- Led a team of 7-11 individuals, was responsible for project estimation, resource allocation, code quality, and multiple retainer projects, all while meeting tight deadlines and maintaining high client satisfaction.
- Orchestrated quality assurance workflows and piloted a code review program.
- Awarded first place for Best New Product at the 2017 Blue State Hackathon with "Ad Block for Good".

Front End Developer, Interactive Strategies

MAR 2015 – MAR 2017 / WASHINGTON D.C.

- Built pixel-perfect, large-scale, responsive websites on WordPress, Drupal, and Sitecore CMS platforms for a diverse set of client needs and requirements.
- Used modern technologies to ensure compatibility across browsers, seamless functionality on various devices, and adhered to accessibility standards.
- Collaborated in small, cross-disciplinary teams within an Agile environment.

Freelance Front End Developer / Designer, Self Employed

JAN 2013 – JUN 2018 / ARLINGTON, VA

Front End Developer Contractor, ITX Corp.

JUN 2014 – DEC 2014 / PITTSFORD, NY

Education

BFA, New Media Design, Rochester Institute of Technology

SEP 2010 – DEC 2014 / ROCHESTER, NY

RIT's new media design major combines visual communication, design strategy, and user experience to produce innovative digital media creators. The program emphasizes visual, ux, and information design combined with web programming.

For an expanded view of my experience and projects, visit my LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/sarahproper](https://www.linkedin.com/in/sarahproper)

