

# Kara Lock VanRoekel

#### CONTACT

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#### **EXPERTISE**

Accessibility evaluation

Agile methodologies

ARIA

Assistive Technology

HTML and CSS

Native apps: iOS and Android

Project leadership and coordination

Training

Usability research and analysis

UX and inclusive design

WCAG 2.0 and 2.1

**VPATs and Support Statements** 

#### **EDUCATION**

University of Michigan **Graduate School of Information** 

M.S.I. Human-Computer Interaction

**Cornell University** 

B.A. Archaeology, Art History

#### **EXPERIENCE**

#### Sr. Accessibility Specialist

#### September 2020 – Present

#### **Thomson Reuters**

- Accessibility specialist supporting the HighQ product suite, driving both remediation and accessibility consulting for new features and functionality.
- Drafting VPATs while working to streamline the process and creating a VPAT drafting guide for other team members.
- I lead a small pod of accessibility specialists in brainstorming and analyzing designs for accessibility feedback and recommendations, as well as providing mentoring and guidance in resolving design and development issues.
- I am involved in interviewing applicants to the accessibility team.
- I organized team participation in internal GAAD (Global Accessibility Awareness Day) activities, and helped organize and lead three accessibility presentations in the 2021 Thomson Reuters Tech Unconference.

#### Manager, Accessibility Services Level Access

Oct 2018 - September 2020

- - Managed a team of 5-6 accessibility analysts and consultants.
  - Principle accessibility consultant for enterprise level clients.
  - Continued to grow the internal usability practice, Developed and lead customized in-person and remote accessibility training for developers, designers, QAs, and business executives.

## Sr. Accessibility Consultant

Jan 2018 - Oct 2018

#### **Level Access**

- Accessibility project lead for a clients from the boutique level to fortune 500 companies, consulting on accessibility issues and UX and design optimization.
- Conducted manual, automated, and functional accessibility assessments of websites, iOS and Android apps. Worked with clients on remediating accessibility issues on all platforms.
- Founded internal usability studies practice, and worked with clients to develop and execute usability studies with diverse participants representing a spectrum of disabilities and reliance on assistive technologies.

### **Accessibility Specialist** Simply Accessible

May 2016 - Jan 2018

- Conducted manual, automated, and functional accessibility assessments of client products; including desktop and mobile websites as well as iOS and Android native apps. Worked with clients on customized guidance in remediating accessibility issues on all platforms.
- Collaborated with clients to build strategies around sustainable accessibility programs, and consulted on accessibility and inclusive design at all stages of product design and development.
- Worked with clients to develop and execute usability studies with diverse participants representing a spectrum of disabilities.
- Developed and led customized accessibility training.