

The HistoryMakers Digital Archive: Accessibility Conformance Report

WCAG Edition (Based on VPAT® Version 2.4)

Report Details

- **Name of Product/Version:** The HistoryMakers Digital Archive Website
- **Report Date:** October 2, 2020
- **Product Description:** The HistoryMakers Digital Archive — stories assembled from life oral history interviews with historically significant African Americans.
- **Contact Information:** [Zhu Sun](#), Chief of Staff, The HistoryMakers

Evaluation Methods Used

The website was thoroughly evaluated by accessibility experts, who audited a representative sample of pages via manual code inspection & use of assistive technologies. The results were then delivered as a comprehensive report and issues log spreadsheet to facilitate remediation prior to VPAT authorship. Assistive technologies that were used include: JAWS 2020.2008.24 and NVDA 2020.2.

The website was tested using Google Chrome 85.x & Mozilla Firefox 81.x, which were the latest stable versions at the time of testing.

Notes

The website does not support Microsoft Internet Explorer; an alternative browser should be used to view content on the site.

Applicable Standards/Guidelines

This report covers the degree of conformance for the following accessibility standard/guidelines:

Standard / Guideline	Included In Report
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Level A: Yes• Level AA: Yes• Level AAA: No
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Level A: Yes• Level AA: Yes• Level AAA: No

Terms

The terms used in the Conformance Level information are defined as follows:

- **Supports:** The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criterion without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation.
- **Partially Supports:** Some functionality of the product does not meet the criterion.
- **Does Not Support:** The majority of product functionality does not meet the criterion.
- **Not Applicable:** The criterion is not relevant to the product.
- **Not Evaluated:** The product has not been evaluated against the criterion. This can be used only in WCAG 2.x Level AAA.

WCAG 2.1 Report

Note: when reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.1 Success Criteria, they are scoped for full pages, complete processes, and accessibility-supported ways of using technology as documented in the [WCAG 2.1 Conformance Requirements](#).

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

Notes: please see the “Remarks & Explanations” column for success criteria 1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) for important context information.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks & Explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A)	Supports	Images used within the site contain appropriate textual alternatives, either describing the function of the image or declaring that the image is purely decorative.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	The website does not contain either audio-only or video-only content requiring alternatives. All interviews contain both an audio and a video track.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Supports	All interviews contain closed captioning for the video content and are also accompanied by a transcript of the audio.
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Does Not Support	Interviews do not currently contain audio description or media alternatives describing the content of the video track. The HistoryMakers project understands that audio description is an important affordance and is actively investigating its provision. However, the large

		majority of videos on the site are talking-head-style interviews containing mostly dialog. The speaker is clearly identified within the textual transcript, and can be inferred from other page content and the audio track.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)	Supports	<p>Information and relationships within the site are conveyed via semantic html markup, or in text. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headings are implemented in an appropriate order and with appropriate markup • List markup is used for filters in the Maker Directory and tag categories in the Topic Search • The currently selected page in a list of search results is indicated programmatically
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)	Supports	The reading order of content within the site is presented consistently & in a meaningful order.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A)	Supports	Instructions provided by the site, such as those for the Search Syntax, do not refer to content through a single sensory characteristic.
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)	Supports	<p>The site occasionally uses color to emphasize content, but these instances are always accompanied by visual and textual alternatives. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The selected Biography presentation options include a color change, an underline, and a textual alternative to indicate selection

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The map view uses hue as well as color changes to inform users about how many stories or HistoryMakers related to a given state. A textual alternative for the map is also provided
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)	Supports	Audio does not have to play automatically on the site. By default, all interview video content must be manually started by users; however, a setting can be toggled to allow autoplay if desired.
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)	Supports	All content within the site is operable exclusively via a keyboard. The vast majority of interactive content within the site is implemented with native HTML links, buttons, and input elements.
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A)	Supports	The site does not include any keyboard traps.
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 only)	Supports	The site does not provide any keyboard shortcuts to users.
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A)	Not Applicable	The site does not include any timeouts for users.
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A)	Supports	The site does not include any blinking or scrolling content. The only moving or auto-updating content provided by the site is in video interviews. By default, users must manually start each video and navigate to the next page in a video series. While settings to allow auto-playing and auto-advancing video content are available, these can be turned off at any time.

2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A)	Supports	No content on the site, including in interviews, flashes more than three times in one second.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A)	Supports	A skip link is provided on all pages that allows users to skip directly to the unique content of a page. This link will bypass the main navigation area and any other repeated blocks of content, such as the filter results options on the Maker Directory or My Clips pages.
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A)	Supports	All pages contain appropriate page titles describing their topic. When a meaningful change has happened on a page, such as when switching between the grid and map views for the Maker Directory, the page title will update.
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A)	Supports	The focus order within the site always matches the reading order of a given page, and generally moves from top to bottom & left to right.
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A)	Supports	Link text within the site is always unique & will generally be meaningful out of context.
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 only)	Not Applicable	The site does not rely on any pointer gestures or mouse movement.
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 only)	Supports	The site does not rely on mouse down events to activate any piece of content on the site.

2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 only)	Supports	The programmatic names for links and buttons always include the labels visually displayed to users.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 only)	Not Applicable	The site does not include any functionality that relies on users moving a device.
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A)	Supports	The language of each page is explicitly specified. All interviews and page content are presented in English.
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A)	Supports	No page refreshes, major content adjustments, or other changes of context occur when a component receives focus.
3.2.2 On Input (Level A)	Supports	No page refreshes, major content adjustments, or other changes of context occur when a user adjusts a checkbox, radio button, or select dropdown.
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A)	Not Applicable	The site does not detect input errors. Authentication and any relevant error messages are handled by third parties, including LibLynx.
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A)	Supports	Persistent visually displayed labels are supplied for each form field within the site. Instructions are provided for the advanced features of the search box.
4.1.1 Parsing (Level A)	Supports	Elements within the site contain unique id attributes, accurate start and end tags, and are nested according to the html specification.

4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A)	Supports	Interactive components within the site contain a programmatic name and role. Where relevant, such as the collapsible filter options within the Maker Directory, components contain a programmatic state indicating if the content is expanded or collapsed.
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Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks & Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	The site does not include any live video content requiring captioning.
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA)	Does Not Support	Interviews do not contain audio description for video track contents.
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	The site does not restrict users to viewing content in either portrait or landscape orientations.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 only)	Not Applicable	No form fields within the site collect information required by this criterion. Authentication for access to the site is provided by third parties, including LibLynx.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA)	Supports	The colors used within the site provide a contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1 for all content, regardless of text size.
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA)	Supports	All content on the site can be magnified to at least 200% without loss of content. At a certain magnification level, typically after 200%, users will be sent to the responsive view of the site which provides an equivalent experience optimized for smaller screen sizes.

1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA)	Supports	The site does not include images of text, with the exception of The HistoryMakers logo, which is exempt from this criterion.
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	The site provides an equivalent responsive view to users. At the required dimensions, users will not need to scroll either horizontally or vertically.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	The colors used within the site provide a contrast ratio of at least 3.0:1 for all non-text content.
1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	All of the properties required by this criterion can be set and no content or functionality will be lost.
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 only)	Not Applicable	The site does not include any content that is displayed or hidden based on a user's mouse hover.
2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA)	Supports	All pages within the site can be navigated to in more than one way.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA)	Supports	All headings and labels within the site accurately describe the topic or purpose of content.
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA)	Supports	Each interactive element within the product contains a visual indication of focus. Multiple styles of visual indications of focus are provided including a solid black outline, a dotted black outline, and a solid orange outline.

3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA)	Supports	The language of each passage of content in the site is specified. All interviews and page content are presented in the same language specified at the page level.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA)	Supports	The main navigation for the site is repeated in the same relative order on each page of the site.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA)	Supports	All components within the site are consistently identified with the same labels.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA)	Not Applicable	The site does not detect input errors.
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA)	Supports	No content within the site causes a legal commitment or financial transaction to occur. For user-controllable data, such as the site settings, these can be reversed at any time.
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 only)	Supports	Status messages used within the site, such as when filtering occurs, are available programmatically.

Table 3: Success Criteria, Level AAA

Notes: not Evaluated