Lina Balciunaite

UX Designer Who Can Code | Web Accessibility Specialist, CPACC

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Summary

I am highly motivated and adaptable UX specialist with 10+ years of experience in designing and developing user-friendly and accessible interfaces. My background includes experience with brand guidelines, UI design systems, and graphic design for digital products. I have a proven ability to translate user needs into engaging digital experiences while adhering to WCAG (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines) standards. I recently obtained the CPACC (Certified Professional in Accessibility Core Competencies) certification.

Experience

Critical TechWorks - BMW Group (Porto, Portugal) - Frontend Developer

Aug 2023 – May 2024

- **Developed** and **implemented** reusable **UI components** of an **Angular** frontend component library (**DENSITY Design System**) for internal BMW tools, **resulting in a reduction of development time** for new applications by providing a **scalable**, **accessible** and **standardized** codebase for various web applications.
- Worked within an agile, cross-functional team of 12 members in a CI/CD environment, ensuring faster, reliable
 deployments and seamless integration of new features into production through automated builds, testing, and
 deployments.
- Collaborated closely with UX designers and the product owner to implement web accessibility standards, achieving
 100% WCAG 2.1 AA compliance across the project and improving the user experience for internal users.
- Participated in **code reviews** and **pair programming** sessions improving code quality and **reducing** production bugs through rigorous peer feedback and adherence to **best practices**.

Technical stack: HTML5, CSS3, SCSS, Angular, TypeScript, Playwright, Storybook, Node.js, Figma, Docker, Git, GitHub, JIRA, Confluence.

WireMaze (Porto, Portugal) – UX Engineer (UX / UI design + frontend development)

Sep 2014 – Dec 2022

- Developed (design and frontend) numerous institutional websites with complex information architectures ensuring
 it complies with WCAG. Some of the examples I designed some UI elements and did the whole frontend:
 <u>www.wiremaze.com</u>, <u>www.cm-nazare.pt</u>, <u>www.cm-alijo.pt</u>.
- Spearheaded the migration of the company's SaaS platform from pure CSS to the Foundation framework, a
 component-based architecture that significantly reduced web application development time by enabling the reuse
 of modular UI elements.
- Mentored junior frontend designers, providing regular reviews, technical guidance, contributing to faster onboarding and improved design and code quality.
- Ensured the **SaaS platform's** frontend was regularly **updated** and **maintained** to incorporate emerging frontend features.
- Conducted **cross-browser compatibility**, **responsiveness**, and **accessibility** testing, resolving identified issues to enhance user experience.
- Contributed to debugging customer—specific errors and reporting issues to backend developers on the company's
 SaaS platform.

Technical stack: HTML5, CSS3, SCSS, Foundation, JavaScript, Ruby on Rails, Adobe Illustrator, Git, GitLabs, Email on Acid, automated accessibility testing tools.

Elto (remote work from Porto, Portugal) – IT Project Manager

Dec 2013 - Sep 2014

Worked at the San Francisco-based **startup** that provided a marketplace connecting business owners and non-technical individuals with web developers to enhance and establish their web presence.

- Provided accurate **project budgets** after thoroughly understanding and analyzing **business requirements**.
- Addressed and resolved conflicts that occasionally arose between clients and web developers (who were working on Shopify, WordPress, Magento websites).
- Ensured the timely delivery of projects while maintaining high-quality standards.

<u>Little Blue Dot</u> (freelance work from Porto, Portugal) – *Web and Graphic Designer*

Jan 2012 - Sep 2014

- **Designed** and **developed** web applications using the **WordPress CMS**, including **e-commerce** solutions.
- Integrated user-centered design principles and best practices into web development projects, ensuring seamless and intuitive user interfaces, as demonstrated in my portfolio.
- Created a diverse range of graphic materials, including infographics, magazines, logos, and business cards, showcasing a strong understanding of visual communication principles and brand identity.

<u>Publicum</u> (Vilnius, Lithuania) – PR & Communication Project Manager

Nov 2006 - Jan 2010

Coordinated and executed communication and public relations campaigns, particularly for EU-funded projects.

- Led the creation and implementation of **multi-channel information campaigns** across TV, print, radio, and online media.
- Supervised and coordinated a three-person team in developing and implementing PR campaigns, content strategies, and stakeholder communications.
- **Developed** impactful **communication materials** and crafted tailored communication strategies to achieve project goals.
- Led media relations efforts, fostering strong relationships with press and media outlets.

<u>Vedogiovane Asti</u> (Asti, Italy) – *Volunteer EVS (European Voluntary Service)*

Feb 2006 - Nov 2006

Worked in a social-cultural organization in Italy.

- Managed the organization's web presence, overseeing website updates and maintenance.
- Facilitated outreach and awareness campaigns for the European Voluntary Service at the local Youth Center.

<u>Publicum</u> (Vilnius, Lithuania) – *PR & Communication Project Assistance*

Sep 2005 – Jan 2006

- Supported two project managers to implement the communication campaign of Lithuania's Rural Development Plan 2004–2006, funded by the EU.
- Managed information research, ongoing monitoring, and detailed documentation processes.

National Lithuanian Radio and Television (Vilnius, Lithuania) – Journalist

Jan 2004 – Sep 2005

Reporter at the National Lithuanian Radio's News section.

• Developed and prepared radio features and news reports for broadcast, conducted interviews.

Education

Mindera Code Academy (Porto, Portugal) – Software Development Bootcamp

Jan 2023 – Jun 2023

Relevant coursework: OOP programming, Frontend: JavaScript, React, HTML, CSS, Backend: Java.

Nordic Multimedia Academy (Kolding, Denmark) – AP Degree in Multimedia Design and Communication

Graduated in Jan 2012

Relevant coursework: Design, Communication, Interaction, Business.

Vilnius University (Vilnius, Lithuania) – **BA Degree in Communication and Information / Journalism**

Graduated in Jun 2005

Relevant coursework: Journalism, Communication, Information.

Technical Skills

- UX / UI Design
- Web & Graphic Design
- Figma, Illustrator
- Design Systems
- Advanced HTML5
- Advanced CSS3 (SCSS)
- Accessibility (WCAG, ARIA, EAA, ADA (Section 508))
- Axe DevTools, WAVE
- JavaScript, TypeScript
- Angular, React
- WordPress, Shopify
- Storybook
- Git, GitHub, GitLabs
- · Agile, Scrum, JIRA
- Project Management

Leadership

Mentoring junior frontend developers at the WireMaze.

Managing a communication team at the Publicum.

Certification

Certified Professional in Accessibility Core Competencies (CPACC) – International Association of

Mar 2025

Accessibility Professionals (IAAP)

Deep Dive on Accessibility Testing – with Manuel Matuzovic, Smashing Magazine

Jan 2024

Accessible Front-End Patterns Masterclass – with Carie Fisher, Smashing Magazine

Oct 2021

All other certificates are on my <u>Linkedin</u> profile.

Languages

Lithuanian (mother tongue) / English (C2) / Portuguese (C1) / German (B1) / Italian (B1) / Japanese (A1) / Russian (A1)

Recommendations

Please, look to my Linkedin profile.