

# **Library Accessibility**

Disability Informatics 2019

Stephanie Rosen

[bit.ly/2NOIEVc](https://bit.ly/2NOIEVc)

# **About me, an Accessibility Specialist**

# **Describing Visual Resources Toolkit**

“I find it ironic that a press which publishes **books on disability and culture** has so **little expertise** in making its scholarly publications **easy to read for blind** researchers. But they are not alone.”

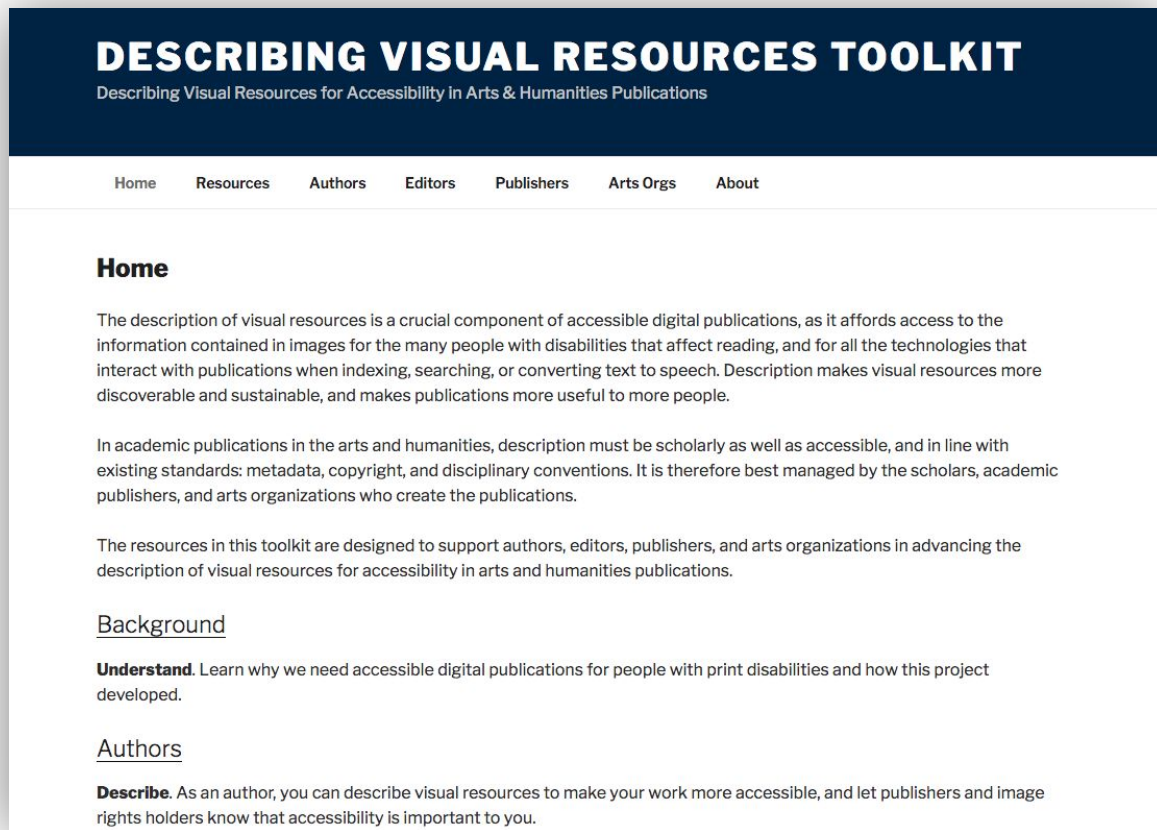
[Steven Kuusisto](#)

“As a scholar working in **disability studies**, I am dedicated to producing work that is **accessible to all readers**, including those with **print-reading disabilities**. [What does your press do] to **ensure** that my work will be **available to this audience?**”

[Society for Disability Studies](#)

# Describing Visual Resources Toolkit

## [Online toolkit](#)



The screenshot shows the website's header with a dark blue background and white text. The main title is "DESCRIBING VISUAL RESOURCES TOOLKIT" in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Below it, in a smaller font, is the subtitle "Describing Visual Resources for Accessibility in Arts & Humanities Publications". A navigation menu is located below the subtitle, with links for "Home", "Resources", "Authors", "Editors", "Publishers", "Arts Orgs", and "About". The main content area has a white background. The "Home" section is highlighted with a bold heading. It contains three paragraphs of text explaining the importance of describing visual resources for accessibility. The "Background" section is also highlighted with a bold heading and contains a paragraph starting with "Understand". The "Authors" section is highlighted with a bold heading and contains a paragraph starting with "Describe".

## DESCRIBING VISUAL RESOURCES TOOLKIT

Describing Visual Resources for Accessibility in Arts & Humanities Publications

[Home](#) [Resources](#) [Authors](#) [Editors](#) [Publishers](#) [Arts Orgs](#) [About](#)

### Home

The description of visual resources is a crucial component of accessible digital publications, as it affords access to the information contained in images for the many people with disabilities that affect reading, and for all the technologies that interact with publications when indexing, searching, or converting text to speech. Description makes visual resources more discoverable and sustainable, and makes publications more useful to more people.

In academic publications in the arts and humanities, description must be scholarly as well as accessible, and in line with existing standards: metadata, copyright, and disciplinary conventions. It is therefore best managed by the scholars, academic publishers, and arts organizations who create the publications.

The resources in this toolkit are designed to support authors, editors, publishers, and arts organizations in advancing the description of visual resources for accessibility in arts and humanities publications.

### Background

**Understand.** Learn why we need accessible digital publications for people with print disabilities and how this project developed.

### Authors

**Describe.** As an author, you can describe visual resources to make your work more accessible, and let publishers and image rights holders know that accessibility is important to you.

**DAT**

**Digital Accessibility Team**

Front End Developer & Accessibility Specialist (IT)

Front End Developer & Accessibility Specialist (IT)

User Experience and Accessibility Specialist (IT)

Front End and User Interface Designer (Publishing)

Accessibility Specialist (Learning & Teaching)





# Accessibility Office Hours

Consultations on a walk-in  
basis

2 hours, 2 Fridays per  
month



## Accessibility Office Hours



Ask us about accessible

- ▶ design
- ▶ HTML
- ▶ scholarship
- ▶ multimedia
- ▶ apps
- ▶ publications

**2:00 – 4:00pm**

**ScholarSpace**

**2<sup>nd</sup> + 4<sup>th</sup> Friday each month**

# Accessibility Evaluations

Light, Full, and Custom Evaluations performed for our colleagues on request

Standardized testing protocol and report format

Educational content for tester and client

Forms	[Problems]
<p><b>Results</b></p> <p>Errors: Two form elements are missing labels. 1.) In Step 1: In the markup, there is a label but it has a class of "sr-only" and doesn't seem to be linked to the ID of the &lt;select&gt;. 2.) For the datepicker on the calendar, there is no label for the &lt;select&gt; dropdown for "months".  </p>	
<p><b>Consequences</b></p> <p>All form elements should have labels "programmatically associated" with them, that is, not just displayed next to elements but linked to them in the code. This means that people using a variety of devices can understand the meaning and purpose of each element, and access the elements using the label.</p>	
<p><b>Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <a href="#">Form labels</a> - MDN Web docs</li></ul>	<p><b>Source</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>WCAG 2.1 3.3.2 Labels or Instructions</b> (Level A)</li><li>- <b>WCAG 2.1 1.3.1 Info and Relationships</b> (Level A)</li><li>- <b>WCAG 2.1 1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics</b> (Level A)</li></ul>

# **E-Resources**

“While publishers, database vendors, and device manufacturers are not subject to ... accessibility law in their role as providers, libraries are ... and should **demand** the necessary design elements to serve the **print disabled** and **all patrons equitably.**”

[ARL Joint Task Force on Services to Patrons with Print Disabilities Report](#)

**72%**

of the evaluated databases were rated as  
**marginally accessible** or **inaccessible**

[Tatomir & Durrance](#)

# Testing E-resource Platforms

Professional accessibility evaluation reports made public on [BTAA website](#)

Vendors invited to respond and improve

## Library E-Resource Accessibility - Testing










Introduction

Testing

Standardized License Language

### E-Resource Testing

The Big Ten Academic Alliance Libraries fund third-party accessibility evaluations for select vendor e-resources based upon recommendations from the member libraries and the platforms that the majority of the consortium owns or is considering for purchase. Evaluations, along with any responses provided by vendors, are below. The program provides vendors with a report and the opportunity to improve the accessibility of their products while giving members of the library community information about the accessibility of specific library e-resources. Vendors may supply responses to the test results by contacting the [Big Ten Academic Alliance](#).

File	Download
Adam Matthew - Empire Online (3/26/2018)	 <a href="#">Download</a>
Adam Matthew - Empire Online (vendor response)	 <a href="#">Download</a>
Alexander Press - Disability in the Modern World (10/15/2017)	 <a href="#">Download</a>
Artstor (6/29/2018)	 <a href="#">Download</a>
Brill e-Books (10/5/2018)	 <a href="#">Download</a>
Cambridge Core (6/13/2017)	 <a href="#">Download</a>
Cambridge Core (Vendor Response)	 <a href="#">Download</a>
Clarivate Analytics' Techstreet (12/10/2018)	 <a href="#">Download</a>
EBSCO-Ebook Platform (4/21/2017)	 <a href="#">Download</a>

- Accessible All-Gender **Restroom Signage**
- Services for **Patrons with Print Disabilities**
- **Instructor Workshop:** Disability and Accessible Teaching
- Staff **Training**
- Accessibility Guide for **Library Spaces**



**Research**

# Questions

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