High–level accessibility review – BTAA
(Alexander Street Platform)

Primary Point of Contact

John Truong
Project Manager

Deque Systems, Inc.
Web: www.deque.com
Email: john.truong@deque.com

January 3, 2022

High–level accessibility review – BTAA
(Alexander Street Platform)

Contents

Alexander Street Platform

Summary

Top 3 problems for the Alexander Street Platform

This assessment covers portions of the Alexander Street Platform. The assessment revealed moderate problems with screen reader compatibility, resulting in screen reader users missing important information needed to understand content and operate features.

1. **Focus Indicator –** Moderate issues exist with focus indicators. A focus indicator is vital to allow low-vision or sighted screen reader users to easily and clearly identify the content that is currently in focus.
2. **Link Purpose –** Primarily found on search results, links that do not clearly indicate their purpose or provide additional context must have additional context provided, so a user can easily identify the unique purpose for similarly-named links.
3. **Info and Relationships –** Found on search results, content that misuses aria-hidden results in the content being completely ignored by assistive technology.

Accessibility findings

Project wide issues

The issues presented in this section were identified in multiple pages and are recorded here to avoid repetition. These are applicable to each screen. Due to particularities, similar issues are still reported on a page per page basis, where applicable.

Automated findings using Axe

Issues found through automated testing come from the Axe plugin, an open source accessibility testing tool that is available for Chrome, Firefox and Edge. Details here: https://www.deque.com/products/axe/.

1. **SC 1.3.1 A** – The top level menubar has errors in its implementation. The original UL and ANCHOR semantics have been overridden with MENUBAR and MENUITEM roles, however there are still LI semantics which have not been appropriately overridden, in order to support the menubar implementation.
2. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The top level menubar uses the WAI-ARIA abstract role of SECTION. This role MUST NOT be used by website authors, according to the specification. The role can be removed, leaving the existing HTML5 element in place.
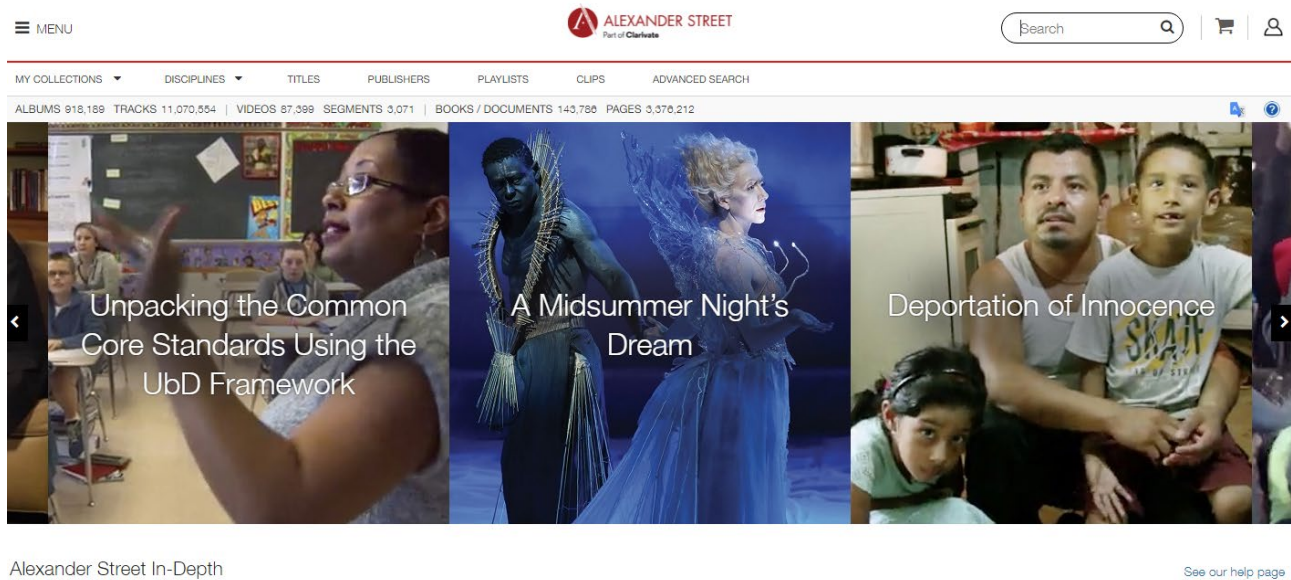3. **SC 4.1.1 A** – The page contains IDs that are duplicated: teconsent.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

1. **SC 1.1.1 A** – The 'Alexander Street, Part of Clarivate' image has an alternate description of 'Alexander Street, A Proquest Company Logo' and is missing "Part of Clarivate" in the alternate.
2. **SC 2.4.7 AA** – The 'Alexander Street, Part of Clarivate' in the header is missing a clearly visible focus indicator.
3. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'Menu' control is missing an accurate indication of the expanded/collapsed state for the menu that is affected.
4. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'My Collections' and 'Disciplines' menus are missing their expanded/collapsed state.
5. **SC 2.4.2 A** – All pages contain the page title 'Alexander Street, a ProQuest Company', which does not adequately identify each unique page.
6. **SC 2.1.1 A** – Pressing the Esc key three times opens a diagnostic modal but this can interfere with normal screen reader function. The Esc key is used to dismiss windows / dialogs / menus, it is also used to switch between browse and forms modes.

1. Landing Page

Source: https://search-alexanderstreet-com.offcampus.lib.washington.edu/
Test case: Initial interface – menus & submenus, search boxes, images, etc.

Automated findings using Axe

1. **SC 1.4.3 AA** – The 'video player' content is low in contrast. A 3.02:1 contrast ratio is observed.
2. **SC 1.4.3 AA** – The 'Audio player' content is low in contrast. A 3.94:1 contrast ratio is observed.
3. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The stats bar and main content area uses the WAI-ARIA abstract role of SECTION. This role MUST NOT be used by website authors, according to the specification. The role can be removed, leaving the existing HTML5 element in place.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

1. **SC 1.1.1 A** – The linked icons in the 'Alexander Street In-Depth' section all contain an alternative description of "logo".
2. **SC 2.4.7 AA** – The carousel items are all missing a clearly visible focus indicator.
3. **SC 2.2.2 A** – The carousel items automatically advance without allowing the user to control the frequency of the updates, allow the user to pause the updates or allow the user to stop the automatic updating altogether.

2. Search Results

Source: https://search-alexanderstreet-com.offcampus.lib.washington.edu/search?searchstring=Ai+Weiwei

Test case: Search for "Ai Weiwei" on initial landing page/interface. Test search results page (menus, buttons, etc.), including:

- "Sort by Title/Relevance/Newest first/Oldest first" and "Date Published" filter

- Filter results to: Content Type -> "Documentary"

Automated findings using Axe

2. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The breadcrumb bar and main content area uses the WAI-ARIA abstract role of SECTION. This role MUST NOT be used by website authors, according to the specification. The role can be removed, leaving the existing HTML5 element in place.
3. **SC 4.1.1 A** – The page contains IDs that are duplicated: toggle-remaining-fulltext-highlights.
4. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The page uses aria-labelledby to reference an element that does not exist: facet-label-director-producer-1
5. **SC 4.1.2 A** – Several ARIA attributes are in use that are not applied to semantic elements that support their use. As a result, the use of the attributes will result in an inconsistent user experience: aria-pressed, aria-label, aria-labelledby

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader
1. **SC 1.4.13 AA** – The 'See details' pop-up content that appears on hover is not dismissible without moving mouse or keyboard focus.
2. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'Show more options for Director/Producer', 'Show more options for Speaker/Narrator' etc. in the 'Refine your search' section are all missing a semantic role such as button or link.
3. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'Show more options for Director/Producer', 'Show more options for Speaker/Narrator' etc. in the 'Refine your search' section are all missing their expanded/collapsed
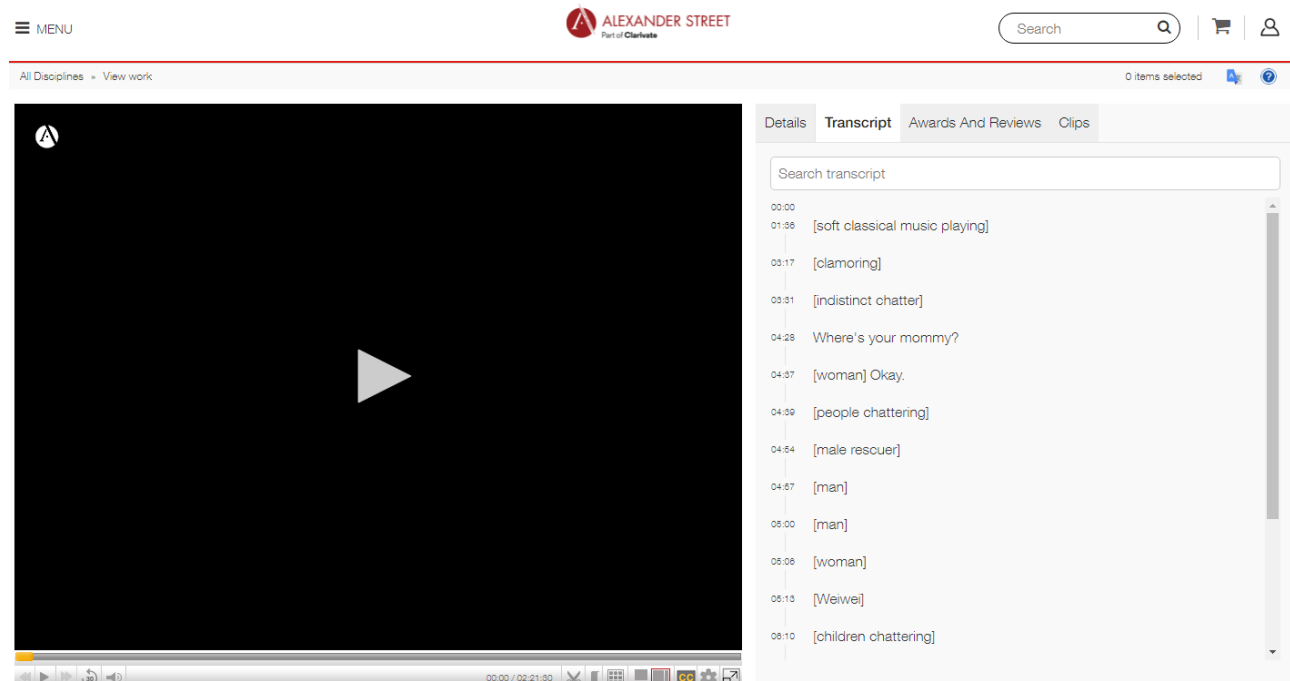
programmatic state.

4. **SC 2.4.7 AA** – The result cards are included in the natural focus order, but do not receive a clearly visible focus indicator.
5. **SC 2.4.4 A** – In each result card, the link purpose for the 'Add track', 'Share via email', 'Share' and 'See details' links
6. **SC 1.4.1 A** – Links that are found within existing page text and only use color to be visually distinguished as links are low in contrast between the link color and surrounding text, with no additional visual indicator to identify the links.
7. **SC 2.5.3 A** – In each result card, the "See details" links all read as "Show details". The programmatic label does not include the full visible label.
8. **SC 1.4.11 AA** – The "X" (clear filter) icon is low in contrast. A 2.96:1 contrast ratio is observed.
9. **SC 1.4.11 AA** – The 'Include sample content' toggle is low in contrast in its default "off" state. A 2.75:1 contrast ratio is observed.
10. **SC 1.4.11 AA** – The 'down' and 'up' arrows that visually indicate expanded/collapsed state in the 'Refine your search' section are low in contrast. A 2.01:1 contrast ratio is observed.

3. Video Landing Page

Source: https://search-alexanderstreet-com.offcampus.lib.washington.edu/view/work/bibliographic_entity%7Cvideo_work%7C4744783?account_id=14784&usage_group_id=95339

Test case: Video landing page, viewer, transcript, etc

Automated findings using Axe

1. **SC 4.1.2 A** – Several ARIA attributes are in use that are not applied to semantic elements that support their use. As a result, the use of the attributes will result in an inconsistent user experience: aria-label.
2. **SC 1.3.1 A** – The aria-hidden='true' attribute and value have been misused on the video player. The affected, interactive content must be removed from the tab order or the use of the attribute re-evaluated. Affected controls include: table of contents, Change layout, subtitles, quality levels, fullscreen mode.
3. **SC 1.1.1 A** – The progressbar is missing an accessible name.
4. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'Related Items' content is missing a programmatic heading level. It is currently identified as a heading with ARIA but is missing a heading level, which is required.
5. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The main content area uses the WAI-ARIA abstract role of SECTION. This role MUST NOT be used by website authors, according to the specification. The role can be removed, leaving the existing HTML5 element in place.
6. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'Make Clip' control uses the aria-controls attribute but the attribute value is invalid.
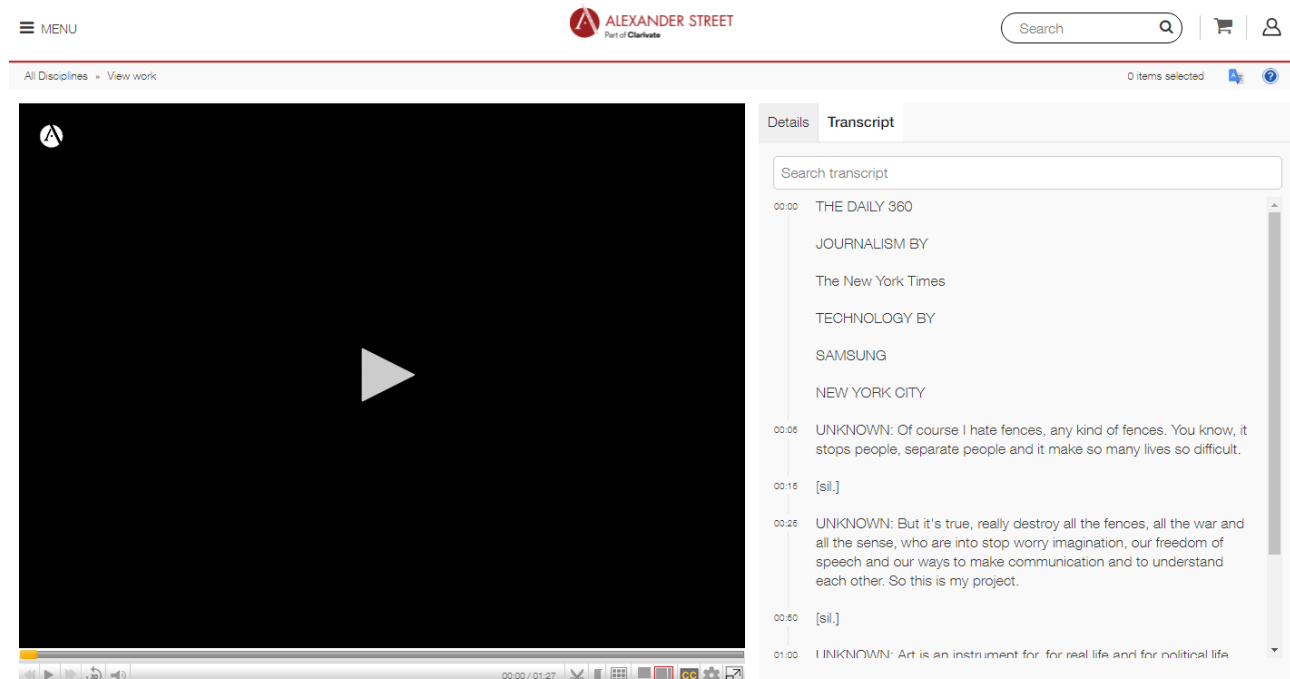7. **SC 2.4.1 A** – The page contains an IFRAME that is missing an accessible name.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader
Not completed due to Insufficient time

4.   Daily 360 Landing Page

Source: https://search-alexanderstreet-com.offcampus.lib.washington.edu/view/work/bibliographic_entity%7Cvideo_work%7C4180996?account_id=14784&usage_group_id=95339

Test case: 360VR landing page, viewer, transcript, etc

Automated findings using Axe

1. **SC 4.1.2 A** – Several ARIA attributes are in use that are not applied to semantic elements that support their use. As a result, the use of the attributes will result in an inconsistent user experience: aria-label.
2. **SC 1.3.1 A** – The aria-hidden='true' attribute and value have been misused on the video player. The affected, interactive content must be removed from the tab order or the use of the attribute re-evaluated. Affected controls include: table of contents, Change layout, subtitles, quality levels, fullscreen mode.
3. **SC 1.1.1 A** – The progressbar is missing an accessible name.
4. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'Related Items' content is missing a programmatic heading level. It is currently identified as a heading with ARIA but is missing a heading level, which is required.
5. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The main content area uses the WAI-ARIA abstract role of SECTION. This role MUST NOT be used by website authors, according to the specification. The role can be removed, leaving the existing HTML5 element in place.
6. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'Make Clip' control uses the aria-controls attribute but the attribute value is invalid.
7. **SC 2.4.1 A** – The page contains an IFRAME that is missing an accessible name.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

Not completed due to Insufficient time

5. Advanced Search

Source: https://search-alexanderstreet-com.offcampus.lib.washington.edu/advanced-search
Test case: Advanced Search All Disciplines

Automated findings using Axe

1. **SC 4.1.2 A** – ARIA attributes are in use that are not applied to semantic elements that support their use. As a result, the use of the attributes will result in an inconsistent user experience: aria-pressed.
2. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The breadcrumb bar and main content area uses the WAI-ARIA abstract role of SECTION. This role MUST NOT be used by website authors, according to the specification. The role can be removed, leaving the existing HTML5 element in place.
3. **SC 4.1.1 A** – The page contains IDs that are duplicated: edit-submit.
4. **SC 1.1.1 A** – Several 'arrow' images on the page are missing an alt attribute with a value.
5. **SC 1.3.1 A** – Several input fields on the page are not programmatically associated with their visible labels.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

Not completed due to Insufficient time