



HANDS & VOICES

“Utah Hands & Voices is dedicated to supporting families with children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing...Our efforts are focused on enabling [those] children to reach their highest potential.”

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OVERVIEW

THE CLIENT

In the early 1990's the *Smithsonian Institution* was preparing "Silent America", an exhibit about the deaf community in which they were highlighting *American Sign Language*. Those in the deaf community using other forms of communication were offended. People took sides, got angry and the Smithsonian got nasty letters from everyone. In the end everyone lost because the Smithsonian dumped the project.

Many parents and professionals dealing with the deaf and hard of hearing have definite ideas about communication. In the past, arguments about methodology have created exclusion, controversy, and even prevented awareness. Frustrated with the arguments and controversy, parents in Colorado began gathering, regardless of their personal ideas of communication; Hands & Voices is the result of their coming together for help and support.

"Hands & Voices www.handsandvoices.org is a non-profit, parent-driven organization dedicated to supporting families of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. [They] are non-biased about communication methodologies and believe that families can make the best choices for their child if they have access to good information and support."

Utah Hands & Voices

The number one goal and vision of *Utah Hands & Voices* is that parents become involved in their child's education and that schools improve the quality of their education.

Tyler Maynard, a member of our group, has a deaf sister and a proactive mother who is involved in many projects for the deaf; *Utah Hands & Voices* is one of those projects.

CLIENT NEED

Utah Hands & Voices would like a successful website. They have given us a list of features they need that should help make their website successful. A **Forum**, so parents can discuss problems and issues, and get to know and help each other. An

Events Calendar, so activities and events for parents, families, and children can be planned. Make the website **Responsive**, so busy parents can communicate on-the-go. And of course **Donations** are always needed and appreciated.



One feature carries all the others—the **website must be used** to function. The current website www.handsandvoicesutah.org was built in 2011 and then apparently abandoned. The last activity on the website was posted for September 28, 2012. The last advertisement has a deadline for October 2nd, 2012. Both are on the website’s homepage. Unfortunately it appears that many local state chapters of the *Hands & Voices* websites have done the same thing. Only thirteen of forty-six local chapters have up-to-date information and activities on their websites.

OUR PURPOSE

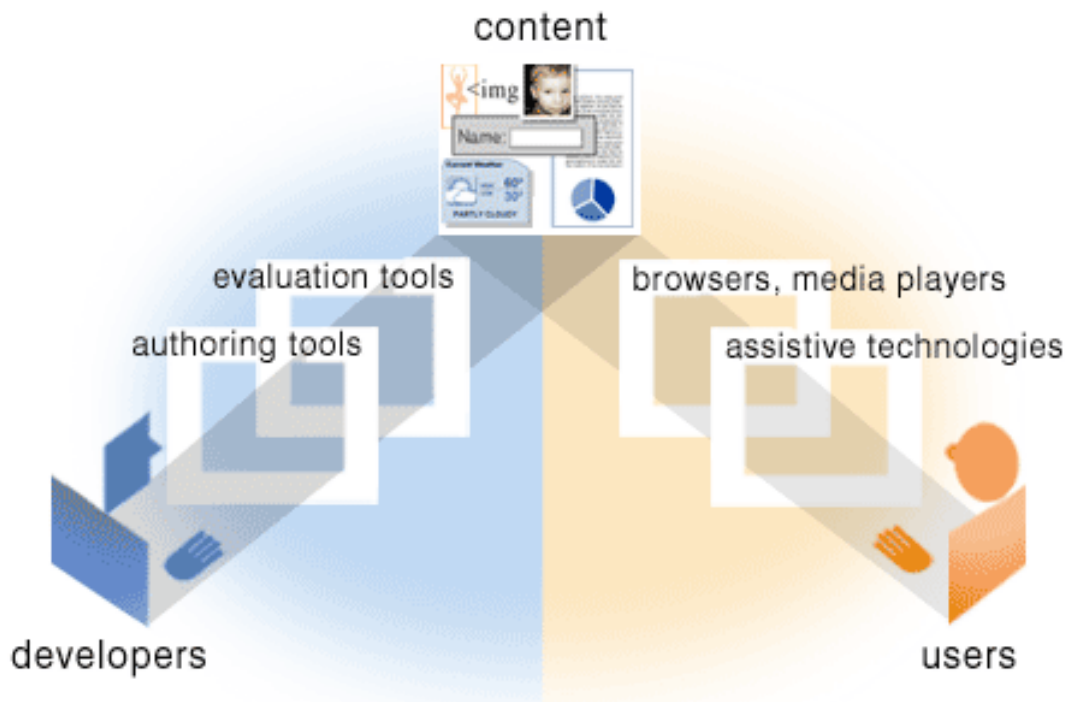
Our group intends to help *Utah Hands & Voices* by building a website. It will look clean and uncluttered with simple navigation. It will include a forum, an events calendar and be responsive for all sizes of devices. Donations will be made quick and uncomplicated with a button that is easy to see and yet unintrusive. And it will be made with accessibility guidelines in mind so everyone will be able to use it.

Observations

Utah Hands & Voices started in 2009 with a *facebook* page www.facebook.com/handsandvoicesutah that is still used and up-to-date.

Their need, or desire, for a successful website may be greater than anything we can provide. There is no amount of cleaning up, fixing, or revamping that will make a website successful if there is no one to take care of it and keep it up to date. Their *facebook* page is adequate and it is used.

EVALUATION



ACCESSIBILITY TESTING

According to Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI), using evaluation tools is an essential component of web accessibility. Following their guidelines ensures that the user's devices will work properly. WCAG Testing Tools achecker.ca/checker/index.php checks web pages to ensure the content can be accessed by everyone. Using the testing tools, our website had 3 minor problems.

1. Check 1: img element missing alt attribute.

Repair: Add an alt attribute to your img element.

2. Check 174: Anchor contains no text.

Repair: Add text to the a element or the title attribute of the a element or, if an image is used within the anchor, add Alt text to the image.

3. Check 38: Header nesting - header following h2 is incorrect.

Repair: Modify the header levels so only an h3 or any header less than h3 follows h2.

PLANNING

TIMELINE



PRODUCTION

TASKS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Task Description</i>	<i>Team Members</i>
02.25.14	P1 Proposal	Tyler Maynard
04.12.14	Research	Alison Butterfield
04.17.14	Build Website	Tyler Maynard
04.20.14	Final Report	Alison Butterfield
04.21.14	Compose Survey	Russann Tomlinson
04.23.14	Accessibility testing	Alison Butterfield
04.21.14	Final Presentation	BrookeLynn Millard

TIME LOG

<i>Team Member</i>	<i>Planning</i>	<i>Production</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>	<i>Total</i>
BrookeLynn Millard	4 hours	6 hours	2 hours	12 HOURS
Russann Tomlinson	4 hours	3 hours	2 hours	9 HOURS
Tyler Maynard	6 hours	12 hours	1 hours	19 HOURS
Alison Butterfield	4 hours	9 hours	2 hours	15 HOURS
TOTAL HOURS	18 HOURS	30 HOURS	7 HOURS	55 HOURS TOTAL

CLIENT SURVEY

Utah Hands & Voices

Client Survey

We would like to know what you think about the product one of our Digital Media project teams created for you. We'd also like your feedback on the quality of their communication with you throughout the development process. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Project:	Utah Hands & Voices new responsive and mobile-friendly website/
Team Members:	Tyler Maynard, Alison Butterfield, Brookelynn Bowers Millard , Russann Tomlinson

Next to each statement below, mark an "X" in the column that best represents your answer.

Final Product					
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	No Opinion	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. The purpose of this new website is easy to identify and looks professional.				X	
2. Compared to the old website, the new website is mobile friendly and easier to navigate.					X
3. The Donations and Events Calendar has been improved to our specifications.				X	
4. The layout is well-organized to create a user-friendly experience.				X	
5. The product works the way I had hoped it would.				X	
<p>6. What do you like most about the final product?</p> <p><i>It is much simpler which is what we were hoping for. I am glad the group chose a simpler color scheme.</i></p> <p><i>I really like the theme you chose and the way you set up the site.</i></p>					
<p>7. What do you like least about the final product? Any suggestions for the website?</p> <p><i>One minor note as an FYI is that in the final site we will need to restrict feedback to possibly a single feedback page that requires captchas and other human verifiers. The first time we deployed the site we got shut down for having so many automated spam comments that the database was getting too large for the Bluehost quota.</i></p>					
<p>8. On a scale of 1 to 5, what would you rate this website in overall functionality and appeal?</p> <p><i>Much improved from what we had</i></p>					
<p>Please return by Friday, 5:00 pm, April 25th, 2014 to: reachrussann@gmail.com or tymayn@gmail.com THANK YOU!</p>					