

# Joni Halabi

Web Developer, Author, and Speaker

## Summary

I am a “middle-end” web developer at Georgetown University who likes to write code, commit often, and make up my own titles. I have spent the last 20 years developing solutions for a wide variety of industries and organizations. I currently specialize in developing CMS themes and WordPress editor customizations. I have also taught continuing education coding classes and spoken at a number of technical conferences.

## Contact

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## Skills

- WordPress
- JavaScript / ESNext
- CSS / SCSS
- Eleventy
- Gulp
- Technical writing
- Gutenberg API
- Twig / Timber
- Web accessibility
- Markdown
- Node / npm
- API documentation
- PHP 8
- HTML
- Jekyll
- SVG
- Git / Github
- Public speaking

## Current Work

2016 - present

### Senior Web Developer

Georgetown University

- Developing a common WordPress framework, used by over 400 departments, schools, and offices across the university.
- Building custom WordPress post editor blocks rendered via a central KSS-based pattern library using the Gutenberg API, PHP, and Twig.
- Authoring technical documentation of custom blocks and their integration with an external pattern library.
- Architected a series of PHP-based migration scripts to convert blocks written with the Advanced Custom Fields plugin to custom Gutenberg blocks.
- Converted university site themes from Drupal into WordPress.
- Led the university’s accessibility development efforts, resulting in our sites achieving and maintaining WCAG 2.2 AA compliance.

2024 - present

## Translation Lead

WordPress Accessibility Day

- Working with an all-volunteer team to develop a maintainable and cost-effective plan to translate both past and current conference presentation videos into a variety of spoken languages.

## Previous Experience

2015

### Lead Web Developer @ Atlantic Media Strategies

- Led and grew the web development team by establishing project workflows.
- Created an internal development resource library, containing base themes and reusable custom libraries and WP plugins.
- Led the development of a redesigned, responsive WordPress website for The Chicago Community Trust, which won the 2015 OMMA award for website excellence.

2009 - 2014

### Senior User Experience Developer @ Optaros

- Worked with creative and back-end teams to develop user-focused client e-commerce sites for a variety of enterprise companies, including Macy's, Stella & Dot, and AAA.

## Degrees and Awards

- **Georgetown University President's Excellence Award**, 2017
- **Master of Fine Arts, Electronic Arts** @ Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- **Bachelor of Science, Electronic Media & Computer Science** @ Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

## Speaking & Teaching Engagements

I love sharing my work in web technology, accessibility, and general development practices with audiences big and small. I have been speaking at conferences, meetups, and classrooms since 2015.

- **2024:** Gutenberg Changelog #97 – *Guest Host*
- **2023:** Gutenberg Changelog #91 – *Guest Host*

- **2023:** WordPress Accessibility Day – *Speaker*
- **2023:** Gutenberg Times Live Q&A – *Panelist*
- **2023:** WPCampus 2023 – *Speaker*
- **2022:** HighEdWeb 2022 – *Speaker*
- **2022:** Gutenberg Developer Hours – *Panelist*
- **2022:** WordPress Social Learning Meetup – *Panelist*
- **2021:** HighEdWeb 2021 – *Speaker*
- **2021:** WPCampus Online 2021 – *Speaker*
- **2020:** WPCampus Online 2020 – *Speaker*
- **2020:** JavaScript for WordPress Conference – *Speaker*
- **2019:** WPCampus Online 2019 – *Speaker*
- **2017:** edUi – *Speaker*
- **2017:** ConvergeSE – *Speaker*
- **2017:** NoVA Code Camp – *Speaker*
- **2015-2016:** General Assembly – *Instructor, Front-end web development*
- **2015:** Northern Virginia Community College – *Guest Instructor*