

IIIF Accessibility & Usability Community Group: Rolling Agenda

2025-12-04

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2025-11-06

- Goal
 - Share use case collection workflow
 - Determine the best non-technical form questions/structure
- To Review: [View 2 · IIIF Tool Incubator](#)
 - From previous discussion – “create a new github board: projects to tackle with use cases so that the dev community can know what tools are needed”
 - “A community board to document unmet IIIF use cases, tooling needs, and hackathon-ready project ideas, helping connect builders, users, and institutions.”
 - “This IIIF Tool Incubator is a shared space that brings together builders, educators, researchers, and institutions for identifying unmet IIIF use cases, proposing new tools, claiming projects, and tracking work as it develops.”
 - Britt has tested hooking GitHub up to this simple form so that non technical people can just use a form to participate: [IIIF Tool Ideas / Gaps | forms.app](#)
 - The submissions will go here [brittnylapierre/iiif-tools-incubator-form-submissions](#) and Brittney will transfer them to our repo <https://github.com/IIIF/accessibility-usability> and add them to the incubator github “IIIF Tool Incubator” project board
 - We can post the form on the IIIF website when ready
 - Current Submission example:
 - [Self-published manifests · IIIF Tool Incubator](#)
 - We could use some question like that to branch users into an appropriate question sequence... depending on why they are coming to the form

- Specific tool idea/gap → current questions
- Vague use case for digital media tooling → low-info set of q's?
 - **Would it make sense to hyperlink those numbers with examples in the wild? [todo]**
 - Features IIIF supports in non technical language:
 - Engaging presentation of media with Deep Zoom
 - Images, Canvases
 - Authoring text associated with media or a region within media
 - Annotations
 - Combining media and authored text
 - Canvases, Manifests
 - Grouping media and text from various sources and institutions
 - Manifests, Collections
 - Linking media to external related information
 - Annotations, Canvas, Manifests, Collections
 - Attaching data formats to media (location data, for example)
 - Annotations
 - Related questions:
 - What are your overall goals with the use of digital media?
 - What tools do you use when accomplishing your goals with digital media?
 - Do you have any instances where you combine digital media (images, video, 3d...) with different kinds of data and associated information, (for example written text, TEI-XML, LaTeX, PDF, etc.) what are the pain points in your workflow?
 - If you could design the perfect workflow for you to reach your goals with digital media, what would it look like?
 - UV
 - To test, as a tool specific answer
 - **What other ideas have been submitted -> link to board [done]**
 - **Shows how your submission is going to be used**
 - **and track your suggestion**

- **Project board is easier to understand**
- **Add a section for feedback on the form itself [done]**
- **Let you open dialogue [done]**
- **Are you implementer or a user with 1 sentence description as the branch [done]**
- Added a project to IIIF GitHub for organizing our major efforts:
 - [Chair planning · IIIF Accessibility and Usability Community Group](#)
 - Let me know your GitHub accounts if you have them and I will add you - if you don't like GitHub Brittny can facilitate our todos for us and share her screen during these calls.
- IIIF Hackathon as part of the IIIF conference
 - Use the board as a jumping off point
- Open up testing of the form beforehand to prepare for it
- Next steps:
 - Chairs need to talk about the process for this - are we going to develop a draft survey for the end users, before the next community meeting that can be reviewed at the community meeting?
 - Review research that we have to help format questions and build a draft survey
 - Chair meeting review before next community call
 - Sending the request to the UV community group to test

2025-10-09

- Are we going to open a new slack channel or rename or merge existing channels?
 - #a11y → accessibility
 - #design – “art” but not always “UX”
 - Have our own! It should be clearly the name of our community group ex - #accessibility_usability
- Review charter edits:
 - [IIIF Accessibility and Usability Community Group Charter](#)
- Brittny has a meeting set up with the National Library of Finland Oct 31st at 7:30am eastern to discuss the accessibility of common viewers such as Clover, Mirador and Universal viewer.
 - If anyone else wants to come let me know!
- Start thinking about proposal for lightning talk for winter meeting
 - Co presentation between education and a/u groups - key pillars, what is use, what is usability - how do they relate to accessibility, outreach...

and how do we help to chart a pathway forward for the broader IIF
the consortium going forward

- Interfaces between education and distinguish scope
- Brittny to host a task oriented kanban for major efforts

Discussion notes:

Scope - goals

- Chris will be a participant - successor marker - people showing up on a regular basis
- Standards and key concepts are mature - time to crank up adoption and usage
- Basic patterns of usage that we can clarify so that decision makers in the content providing institutions and the tools developers can know what they are agreeing to when they say they are IIF compatible
- 'Enabling - can I do this' - 'Defining the problem' - 'Generative research' IIF - Usage: End users and to use as intended - viewing, comparing, marking up, editing, combining
 - Students tend not to do the view/compare
 - Mixtape - instructor builds a collection, manages them in the context of a course, allows students to crop, import into different tools like exhibits, storiiies, scalar... This workflow is easily disrupted when orgs throttle or reduce functionality. Changing data sourced = usability. Re-use: currently considered a nice to have, marginal case in IIF community, whereas use is viewing from the host institution itself
 - Interoperability as a large global pool of materials, how do we define what use is to improve usability and accessibility
 - Do we want this group to address the big definition of use, and this community should better suit its public
 - OR Human experience of tools that do exist
- Longstating/traditional categories of uses outside IIF - scholarship (researchers, content flow of secondary scholarly literature, citations, presumed core use case is view as IIF, then they produce writing. We don't have a robust infrastructure to use snippets of IIF content as part of their scholarly publications. Ex - TEI-xml, academic publishing has not realized that vision of media quotation inside of publications), curriculum design, instruction (what you do is show students things, and then they write papers about them, but support of IIF based content in the papers they produce is very difficult, tools can be antiquated, not keeping up with the standards, and it is hard to find tools in the first place. Data - robust JSON annotation is based on users enhancing content that is help by content providers but not designed in such a way that users can create their own content, manage their own content, and combine information from lots of sources with the same robustness and clarity of organization's JSON data. JSON based data is not user centric but organization centric.
- "User centric information and information systems"
- Scalar - originally designed for scholarly publications. Stanford uni press created a multimedia wing of the press, and most of the publications last Chris looked were in

Scalar. Scalar is only partially IIIF compatible and the developers could be brought on board to make it more compatible.

- Need synchronization between these tools
- But IIIF is linked media which can break - institutions need to understand that people are using their IIIF information in scholarly publishing and they CAN'T make changes to how it is represented or long term access
- We need to consider these use cases and advocate for stability to encourage use
- Museums
 - Meredith finds herself in a position where she asks herself: can i do something with a manifest used as interpretive or educational material. Museums do the lift for the public - if someone were to use a tool, can they use it easily? [Exhibit.so](#) was quick to adopt because it is so easy, the end user doesn't know or worry about IIIF - presentation tools should have compliance, and end user tools can provide information that makes sense... integrate with other things.
 - Museums - people without staff that understand IIIF can engage with IIIF
- IRL: new systems (IIIF) have to fit in with current job roles and responsibilities in GLAM etc.
- Good tools will get people in the door - by use people get the standard
- Outreach document - list of applicable tools for each type of user in the outreach
- Add to goals – There are big gaps in the tools - we need to advocate for uses - create a new github board: projects to tackle with use cases so that the community can know what tools are needed
- Dartmouth - John Bell, Meredith in contact. Chris met with original dev of Scalar, Craig, mentioned John, IIIF compatible annotations output in scalar compatible with an annotation tool in dartmouth.
 - John - media preservation
 - JSON annotation formats - needs to be addressed in the IIIF community ways for users to manage their own annotations outside of institutional collection sites
 - users - Meredith and Chris to talk about this! - Example of a user centric re-orientation of IIIF!

2025-09-18

Notes:

- Review of the charter - is it feasible, etc~
 - Review what we discussed and edit the charter
 - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_58zVmNsPUprdcIU2ehySI0axeYK2sEkP0k_OiGwWUU/edit?usp=drive_link
 - Decide on name - Done!
 - Todo - use the notes in the charter to finish up wording
 - Reach out to Caitlyn to update on progress

- Start thinking about proposal for lightning talk for winter meeting

Discussion Notes - britt to move to our notes doc when we're done:

Facilitating/Conducting testing ourselves? — very useful, but would need a task force dedicated for a short period of time to do this work. There is a gap in the broader IIIF community in understanding user needs, but we will need to guide the TRC in making human centered data driven development decisions. Need more research to see if others are interested in helping us do this work, we need to get to know the people in the end user institutions doing their own research, compiling the research, and making it available to the entire community.

Dissemination, liaison, facilitate... Connect individuals/institutions doing this work and getting that feedback back to the technical developers.

Aspirations - is there a problem with having goals we don't achieve right away? Goals are more concrete and committed. We could have a separate section for Aspirations.

"Explore feasibility of a task force regular usability testing" - less committal but communicates the aspiration

Chris has had to work hard to get people to respond - there is inertia or a kind of non response to data provided.

- Short list of clear ambitions

Momentum building can start with a few small wins - people are more likely to join if it is action orientated, short mid and long term goals.

Doing stuff and making progress is very important for a community group to sustain momentum and interest. Start with identifying people like us who have done stuff at our institutions and share stuff that we've learned from our testing.

- Design for Context
- Mmmonk
- Digirati/CRKN
 - Manifest Editor Work
 - Mirador Work
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- Art researcher presentation from IIIF conference need to see the name of institution
- Ed Silvertown? (makes [Exhibit.so](#), which is a really accessible way into IIIF)

Winter meeting in January - long sessions and lightning talks - we should do a lightning talk with these examples and make an announcement that we are here! Pull in Digirati (Heather UX Designer and Stephen - Front end dev) due november 3 - winter meeting Jan 20 something

User communities: who is out there that we could reach, who engages with IIIF and all that it brings~ Evelein does IIIF Fridays in Belgium [[#12](#) [#11](#) [#10](#) ...] , more regional events are coming, there will be some in DC that Stacey will be helping plan, Brittny's coworkers will be helping with Canadian ones, so we can add in Accessibility/Usability stuff. Chris - education group meetings, he strives to make connections and maintain them over time. IIIF - ability to transcend space and time, and connect people who have very narrow and specific shared

interests. Help develop, foster and continue them over time. Try to identify groups, introduce people to each other, and continue to work with them...

2-3 max per accessibility and usability | lots of room for bundling here into higher level goals (and allows us to be more flexible) - Chris to help more lower level actions:

1.  Share accessibility and usability studies and success stories in existing IIIF tooling
2.  Publish best practices for digitizing content with IIIF to ensure that web accessibility standards can be applied to content rendered within IIIF framework
3.  Aid in the writing of cookbooks related to user friendly, accessible rendering of IIIF content
4.  Collect and organize use cases related to IIIF for tools developers, TSGs, and specification writers
5.  Review existing recipes and gather feedback from the community to help close accessibility and usability gaps in cookbooks and guides
6.  Advocate for the prioritization of usability fixes in IIIF tooling
7.  Act as an approachable communication channel for end users to provide feedback on IIIF tooling
8.  Organize Q&A sessions and community calls with usability subject matter experts
9.  Aid in ensuring accessibility of human spaces, ie. conferences and community calls

2025-08-13

Transcript

- https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-FaYRW2j2EbSY1GbhzfTNT2Edjk9df46/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=110918414790751325337&rtpof=true&sd=true

Chat

- https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OyRBBc7IWWxap_Jjj7tBER390TyPHrBrRkQ8zM4qW4Y/edit?usp=sharing

Notes

- Introductions: Name, What you do, Where you're from/Timezone!
- Reflect on the previous activities of the A11Y and design groups; i.e. what can be improved to get a better grip and effectiveness for our next phase.
 - Overview of the work done by the previous Design community group
 - User research campaign
 - Very intensive study interviewing 20+ participants
 - Personas Guide

- <https://iiif.io/guides/guides/personas/>
 - IIIF in combination with non-IIIF media
 - How important is it and for whom is it important for them to know that it's IIIF?
 - Personas - education use cases are different because they are forced to work with the content and have broad independent needs in collaborative workflows
 - Speculative design - introducing visionary features through understanding user context
 - Evidence of how people use IIIF and align it with what we want for them
 - Engaging curiosity to help them discover possibilities
 - Provide evidence for spec features. Example: content state, do user testing for that, but the timing never worked out.
 - Logo Usage Guide
 - IIIF Interaction Design White Paper
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t9ORxmdeJzSEUJWiK8WIUwtVXj37CboNHKxml-dzEzk/>
- Discussing coherent UX in the ecosystem
 - UCLA has a great experience, but other orgs don't have such a great UX, it doesn't give a positive impression overall of the ecosystem if every product is at a different level of user friendliness and accessibility
 - Extends to Meredith's work - How do we get a museum and library at a single institution to work together and have a uniform face/set of interactions for interacting with materials? Instructional design, academic technology... lots of coordination involved.
 - There is currently no forum to coordinate help with configuring your IIIF user interfaces: looking for design patterns and sharing existing solutions to aid with coherence. Promoting common visions/interactions.
 - Promoting such a forum might be a good way to handle such a distributed ecosystem.
 - Literature review of different guidelines?
 - [End-users' feedback for IIIF | Mmonk](#)
 - Create Page based on findings on website
 - Usability issues for one tool might be transferable to another: example - UV fixes something, maybe Mirador needs to consider
 - Instructional design - Content is curated for students
 - Students and professors discovering content for themselves is a mess - they need a lot of support,

- including methodological supports around sensitive images
 - Tools and systems available through the community can't pass simple accessibility tests so we can't integrate them into learning environments (compliance for students)
 - Chris developed an AI supported live interactive chat using IIIF content that can allow visually impaired student or professor to interact with the content effectively
 - Needs to be tested! Something we could help with
 - Practitioner behaviour and outreach
 - If we have a tool, what is the language we are using to socialize it (soft skills)
 - Equipping people with language, additional documentation, for example how do you teach students about using IIIF, holding their hand if they are lower tech, facilitating through technological overwhelm.
 - Overview of A11Y Efforts
 - [Study: IIIF Viewer UX and Accessibility | CRKN-RCDR User Centered Design](#)
 - [Accessibility Best Practices: IIIF Manifests](#)
 - Many contributors over months, edited by Brittny
 - 2 Workshops last year: [Workshop: Accessible IIIF Digitization | CRKN-RCDR User Centered Design](#)
 - Taught how to make manifests without any code
 - Shared the accessibility best practices
 - Other ideas gathered:
 - Create an accessibility matrix for available viewers
 - Interesting usability articles
 - [Navigating IIIF in Art Research: How Two Institutions Engage with IIIF](#)
 - [End-users' feedback for IIIF | Mmmonk](#)
 - [IIIF: Activating Digital Assets for Accessibility and Creativity](#)
 - Need to reach out to the Agnes Art Center!
 - [liiive | Navigating the IIIF Landscape: A Guide to Finding Images & Manifests](#)
- Periodicity:
 - Monthly!! 10am eastern/7am pacific/
 - Toward the end of the week - Thursdays
- Next Steps
 - Review of the charter - is it feasible, etc~
 - Review what we discussed and edit the charter

- https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_58zVmNsPUprdcIU2ehySI0axeYK2sEkP0k_OiGwWUU/edit?usp=drive_link
 - Decide on name
- Reach out to the Agnes Art Center -
 - Ask if anyone would like to be involved in this group
 - Invite to regular Mirador calls
 - Invite them to share their results in a community call
 - Speak to them about the work we were doing ([Accessibility Best Practices: IIIF Manifests](#), [Study: IIIF Viewer UX and Accessibility | CRKN-RCDR User Centered Design](#)) and get feedback
- Finalize Charter
- Reach out to Caitlin for next steps on making the group official
- Reach out to Caitlin on adding the Accessibility best practices to the site
 - [Guides — IIIF | International Image Interoperability Framework](#)
 - edit the title of "Guides on UX and design elements" and put it under there
-