

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

Bachelors of Arts in Creative Writing

Hiram College

Summa Cum Laude,
English Department Honors, 3.98 GPA

AWARDS

Social Change

Student Leadership Award

Hiram College

Dively Distinguished Student

Leadership Award

Hiram College

Yuksel Ismail

Scholarship in Humanities

Hiram College

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Accessible Voting: Where are we in 2024?

Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs (ATAP) Leadership Symposium, 2024

Civic Engagement and Voting Key Note

Disability Policy Seminar, 2024

Prioritizing Accessibility in Advocacy

Netroots Nation, 2023

Creating Access: How to Invite Everyone and Establish a Culture of Accessibility

Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging Annual Conference, 2022

From 'Distraction' to Traction: Dancing Around Barriers to Caption Live Theater and Promote Culture Change

International Conference on Information Communication Technologies in Education (ICICTE), 2020

Disability is Diversity

Northeast Ohio Housing Officers (NEOHO) Mike Corr RA Conference, 2019

Hostile and Benevolent Forms of Ableism: Fear, Pity, Dehumanization, Jealousy

Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues international conference, 2017

Alexia Kemerling

WORK EXPERIENCE

Director of Accessible Democracy

January 2025-Present

American Association of People with Disabilities | Remote Work from Columbus, Ohio

- Leads the voting rights work, including setting strategy, and developing programs to distribute small grants to state and local leaders, resulting in voter outreach programs expanding into historically excluded communities, and improving turnout
- Advocates for disability voting rights, providing expertise on election accessibility, engaging with national coalitions, and advising on federal policy strategies.
- Oversees strategic planning, partnerships, and operations, including funder relations, program evaluation, and internal team leadership to strengthen voter engagement efforts.

REV UP Voting Campaign Coordinator

2023-January 2025

American Association of People with Disabilities | Washington, D.C.

- Managed and built disability voting coalitions across more than 20 states.; resulting in increased voter turnout and stronger state election policies.
- Developed the communication and messaging strategy and materials (social medias, emails, letters, memos, press releases) to engage the disability community in voting, cultivate cross-disability and cross-movement collaboration, and engage media and policymakers.
- Traveled to and represents the organization at state-level and national events, building relationships and showcasing AAPD's voter engagement initiatives.

Community Engagement Coordinator

2021-2023

Disability Rights Ohio | Columbus, Ohio

- Served in both supportive and leadership roles in statewide coalitions: provided policy updates, led advocacy activities, engaged and listened to a diverse pool of stakeholders
- Organized voter registration in nursing homes, jails and other congregate settings
- Planned and managed accessible meetings, webinars, in-person and hybrid events to build engagement between the disability community and policymakers
- Tracked state legislation, rule changes, and wrote non-partisan talking points to inform and support stakeholders, and educate legislators

Junior Associate Editor

2020-2021

Great Lakes Publishing | Dublin, Ohio

- Served as project lead for multiple magazines simultaneously; building timelines and managing deadlines, resulting in successful publication

Research Assistant

2016-2019

Hiram College | Hiram, Ohio

- Co-authored "Hostile, Benevolent, and Ambivalent Ableism: Contemporary Manifestations," published in A Journal of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI), 2019

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Unstoppable Voters Fellow, Center for Artistic Activism

2024-Present

- Recipient of a year-long fellowship and grant to use creative methods to engage voters. Developed an original comic book and programming to support election workers in ensuring polling place accessibility

Vice Chair, Ohio Olmstead Task Force

2021-2023

- Developed and led strategy to engage disabled leaders in state-level policy advocacy, resulting in more accessible stakeholder meetings and increased wages for direct care workers

Organizer, Speak Up for Accessibility Campaign

2017-2020

- Facilitated conversations between students, faculty, and alumni to build momentum
- Collaborated with student government and administration to establish a fund and process to provide accommodations at co-curricular events