Accessibility Evaluation Report:

Kweli.tv Streaming Platform

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Conducted by: Accessiblü, LLC

For: Library Accessibility Network (LAA)

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Table of Contents

Summary of Accessibility Findings

Accessiblü conducted a **high-level accessibility evaluation** of the KWELI.TV streaming platform to assess its usability for individuals with disabilities. The review was conducted using the JAWS and NVDA screen readers, keyboard-only navigation, and manual inspection for conformance to select WCAG 2.2 AA success criteria.

Key Findings

The KWELI.TV platform presents significant accessibility barriers that may prevent users with disabilities from effectively accessing and navigating the streaming service. Critical issues include keyboard traps in navigation menus, inaccessible video controls, missing alternative text for images, and improper heading structures. While the platform shows some positive elements like the presence of a navigation region and some properly labeled links, these accessibility challenges create substantial barriers for screen reader users and keyboard-only users attempting to browse content, watch videos, or use the live TV features.

Addressing these accessibility concerns would enable users with disabilities to fully utilize KWELI TV's streaming services and access its culturally significant content library.

Top 3 Issues Identified

1. **Keyboard Traps in Navigation Menus**

   o **Description:** The Browse and About accordion menus trap keyboard focus when expanded, preventing users from navigating away without using the Escape key.
   o **Impact:** Keyboard-only users and screen reader users become trapped and cannot continue navigation.
   o **WCAG Success Criteria:** 2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A)

2. **Inaccessible Video Player Controls**

   o **Description:** Video player controls are either missing entirely or cannot be accessed via keyboard. The trailer link causes focus to jump unpredictably, making video controls unreachable.
   o **Impact:** Users with visual and motor disabilities cannot play, pause, or control video content.

     o **WCAG Success Criteria:** 2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A), 4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A)

3. **Missing Alternative Text for Images**

     o **Description:** Throughout the platform, images are announced as "graphic" without meaningful descriptions, including show thumbnails, logos, and promotional images.
     o **Impact:** Screen reader users cannot understand the visual content or context of shows and features.
     o **WCAG Success Criteria:** 1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A)

Disabilities Impacted

Blind and Low-Vision Users

- **Issues:** Missing alt text, improper heading structure, unlabeled buttons, inaccessible video controls, and lack of skip navigation.
- **Impact:** Screen reader users cannot effectively browse content, understand show information, or control video playback, severely limiting platform usability.

Users with Motor Disabilities

- **Issues:** Keyboard traps, inaccessible controls, unpredictable focus management, and missing keyboard access to critical features.
- **Impact:** Keyboard-only users will become trapped in some menus and cannot access video controls or navigate efficiently through the platform.

Neurodiverse Users

- **Issues:** Inconsistent navigation patterns, unpredictable focus behavior, and complex calendar/schedule interfaces without proper structure.
- **Impact:** The inconsistent interface behavior and lack of clear structure make it difficult for users to develop mental models of how to use the platform effectively.

Page-Specific Findings and Impact Analysis

Homepage / Landing Page

Issue	WCAG Success Criteria	Description	Example
Missing Alternative Text	**1.1.1 Non-text Content (A)**	Images throughout the page are announced only as "graphic"	Show thumbnails like "Messiah Graphic" and "Sierra's Gold Graphic" lack descriptions
Keyboard Trap	**2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (A)**	Browse and About menu accordions trap keyboard focus when expanded	When Browse menu is expanded, users cannot navigate out without pressing Escape
Missing Skip Navigation	**2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (A)**	No skip links or mechanisms to bypass repetitive content	Users must tab through entire navigation on every page
Improper Heading Structure	**1.3.1 Info and Relationships (A)**	Page lacks H1 and jumps directly to H3 headings	Two H3 headings found: "Watch streaming for the culture." No H1 or H2 headings.
Duplicate Links	**2.4.4 Link Purpose (A)**	Multiple "Get Started" links with identical text	All "Get Started" links have same label but different destinations

Impact Summary: The homepage creates immediate barriers for assistive technology users. The keyboard traps prevent basic navigation, while missing alt text leaves users unaware of available content. The lack of proper heading structure and skip navigation makes it extremely difficult to orient and navigate efficiently.
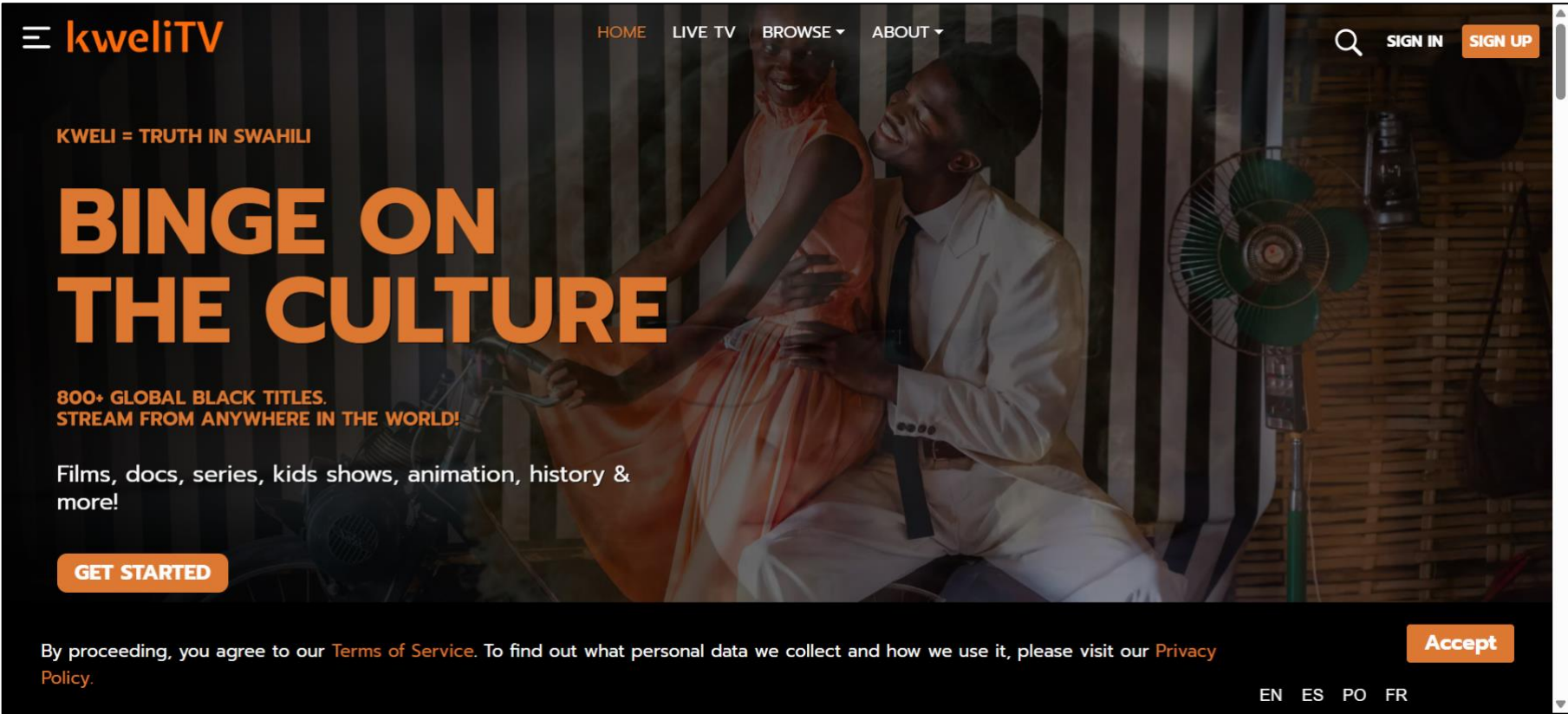
KweliTV Main Landing Page Screenshot

Figure 1. The KWELI.TV homepage features a prominent hero section with cultural messaging and a Get Started call-to-action button but lacks proper heading hierarchy and accessible navigation controls.

Search Results Page

Issue	WCAG Success Criteria	Description	Example
Missing H1 Heading	**1.3.1 Info and Relationships (A)**	Page starts with H2 "Videos" without H1	No primary heading to identify page purpose
Keyboard Trap on Load	**2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (A)**	Initial page load creates keyboard trap requiring Escape key	Users cannot navigate upon arriving at search results
Images Not Identified as Links	**4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (A)**	Clickable show thumbnails announced as graphics, not links	"Cat face graphic graphic" is actually a clickable link, but doesn't notify screen reader users that it is a link
No Search Results Announcement	**4.1.3 Status Messages (AA)**	Search results appear without screen reader announcement	No indication that search has completed or results are displayed

Impact Summary: The search functionality is severely compromised for screen reader users who receive no feedback about search results and cannot identify clickable elements. The keyboard trap on page load prevents immediate navigation.
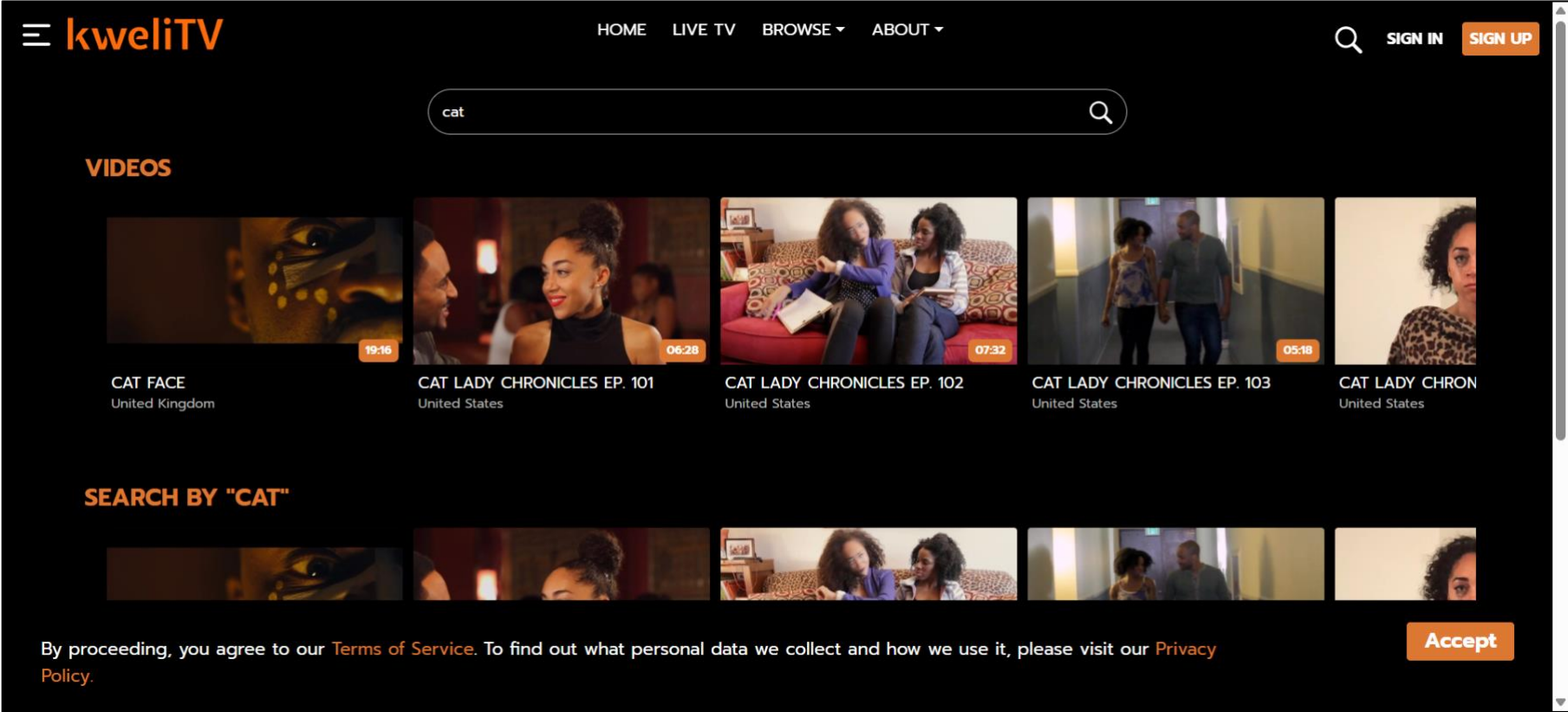
Search Results Page Screenshot

Figure 2. The search results page displays content in a grid layout but fails to properly identify clickable elements as links and provides no screen reader announcement of search completion.

Video Detail Page (Cat Face)

Issue	WCAG Success Criteria	Description	Example
Inaccessible Video Controls	**2.1.1 Keyboard (A)**	Trailer link moves focus to share button, preventing video access	Activating "Trailer" jumps focus to "Share" without playing video
Tabs Not Properly Coded	**4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (A)**	Festival/Awards, Comments, Ratings, Cast sections read as static text	Tab interface elements not identified as interactive
Incorrect Reading Order	**1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (A)**	Content reads out of sequence, jumping from video to creator info	Video title and duration separated from main video information
Unlabeled Buttons	**4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (A)**	Multiple unlabeled buttons in tab order	Three unlabeled buttons discovered when tabbing through page

Impact Summary: Users cannot access or control video content, making the core functionality of watching videos completely inaccessible. The improper tab structure and reading order create confusion about available features and content relationships.

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Video Details Page Screenshot

Figure 3. The Cat Face video detail page displays comprehensive information about the content but has inaccessible video controls and improperly coded interactive elements that prevent users from accessing the trailer.

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Live TV Page

Issue	WCAG Success Criteria	Description	Example
Missing Video Frame Identification	**4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (A)**	Live video element announced as "Kweli Live Graphic"	No indication that element is a video player
Calendar Not Structured as Table	**1.3.1 Info and Relationships (A)**	TV schedule presented as unstructured text instead of data table	Times and shows listed without clear relationships
Date Buttons Without State	**4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (A)**	Calendar date buttons don't indicate selected state	"Friday, August 29th button" has no selected/unselected state
Share Link Misidentified	**4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (A)**	Share functionality announced as link instead of button	"Share same page link" should be button with expanded state

Impact Summary: The Live TV functionality is essentially unusable for screen reader users who cannot identify the video player, understand the schedule structure, or determine what content is currently selected or playing.
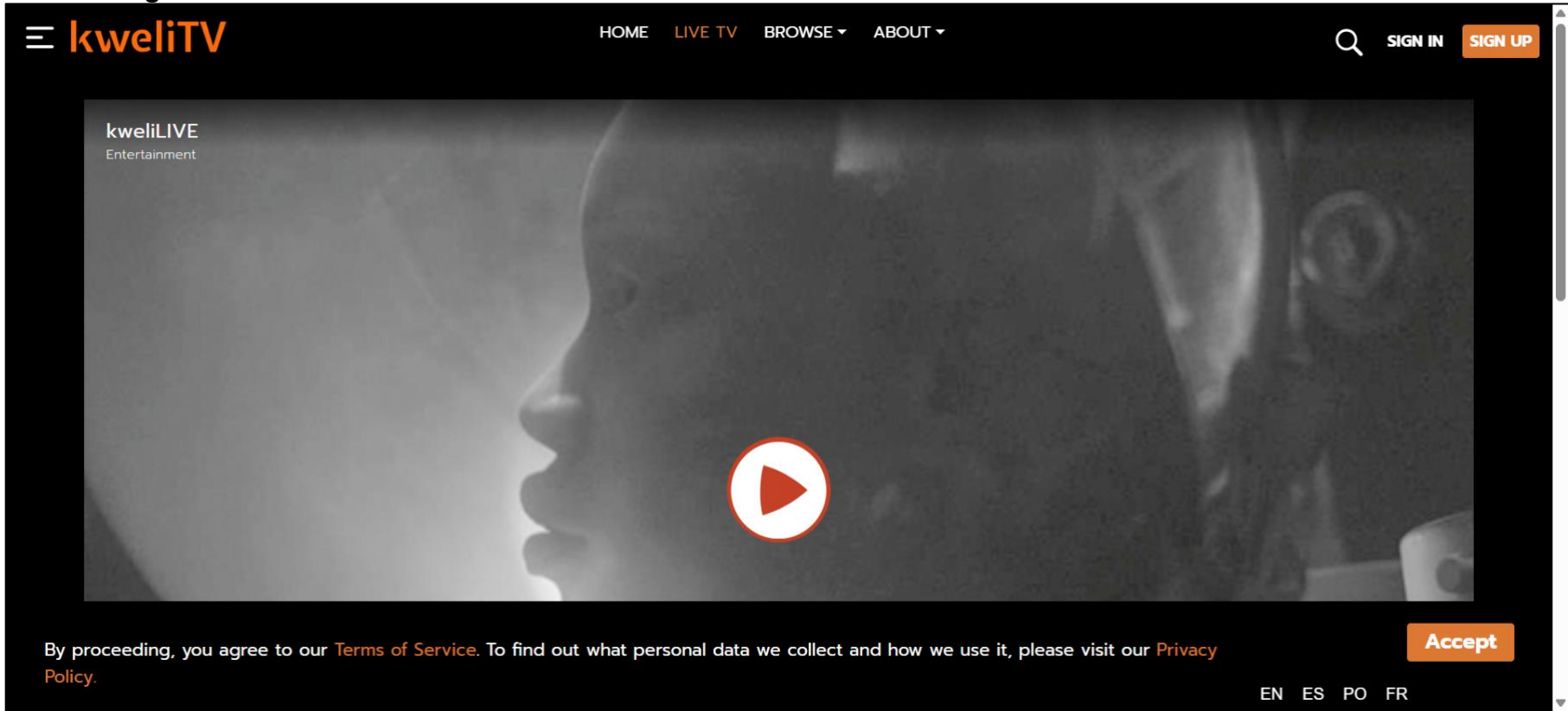
Live TV Page Screenshot

Figure 4. The Live TV interface displays the video player element but fails to properly identify it as a video frame for screen readers, announcing it only as a graphic without accessible playback controls. Language options available are English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French.

Code Snippets

1. Keyboard Trap Fix (2.1.2)

```
<!-- Current problematic implementation -->
<button onclick="toggleMenu()">Browse</button>
<div class="menu-content">
  <!-- Menu items without escape mechanism -->
</div>

<!-- Recommended fix -->
<button
  aria-expanded="false"
  aria-controls="browseMenu"
  onclick="toggleMenu(this)">
  Browse
</button>
<div id="browseMenu" hidden>
  <!-- Menu items -->
  <button onclick="closeMenu()" class="close-menu">Close Menu</button>
</div>
```

2. Alternative Text Implementation (1.1.1)

```
<!-- Current -->
<img src="messiah-show.jpg" class="show-thumb">

<!-- Recommended -->
<img src="messiah-show.jpg"
    alt="Messiah - Drama series thumbnail"
    class="show-thumb">
```

3. Proper Tab Panel Structure (4.1.2)

```
<!-- Recommended implementation -->
<div role="tablist" aria-label="Show Information">
  <button role="tab"
```

```
     aria-selected="true"
     aria-controls="festivals-panel">
  Festivals & Awards
 </button>
 <button role="tab"
     aria-selected="false"
     aria-controls="cast-panel">
  Cast & Crew
 </button>
</div>
<div role="tabpanel"
   id="festivals-panel"
   aria-labelledby="festivals-tab">
 <!-- Festival content -->
</div>
```

4. Skip Navigation Implementation (2.4.1)

```
<!-- Add at page start -->
<a href="#main-content" class="skip-link">
 Skip to main content
</a>
<!-- Target -->
<main id="main-content" role="main">
 <!-- Page content -->
</main>
```

5. Proper Heading Structure (1.3.1)

```
<!-- Recommended -->
<h1>KWELI.TV - Streaming for the Culture</h1>
<h2>Featured Content</h2>
<h3>New Releases</h3>
<h3>Trending Now</h3>
```

Final Thoughts and Recommendations

KWELI.TV's streaming platform currently presents significant accessibility barriers that prevent users with disabilities from accessing its valuable cultural content. While the platform shows some positive elements like partial keyboard navigation and some properly labeled elements, the critical issues identified make core functionalities inaccessible.

The most urgent issues—keyboard traps, inaccessible video controls, and missing alternative text—directly prevent users from performing basic tasks like browsing content and watching videos. These barriers effectively exclude users with disabilities from accessing the platform's unique programming focused on Black culture and experiences.

Recommended Fixes

- **Immediately address keyboard traps** by implementing proper focus management and escape mechanisms in all expandable menus
- **Implement accessible video player controls** with full keyboard support and proper ARIA labels for all playback functions
- **Add meaningful alternative text** to all images, particularly show thumbnails and promotional graphics
- **Restructure navigation** with proper heading hierarchy, skip links, and ARIA landmarks
- **Convert the TV schedule** to a properly structured data table with headers and relationships
- **Test all interactive elements** with screen readers and keyboard-only navigation before deployment
- **Implement proper tab panels** for content sections like Cast & Crew, Reviews, etc.
- **Add status announcements** for dynamic content updates like search results and page changes

Disclaimer

Accessiblü prepared this report as a high-level accessibility evaluation of the KWELI.TV platform. The evaluation utilized industry-standard testing methodologies, including screen reader testing (JAWS 2025 and NVDA), keyboard-only navigation, and manual inspection for select WCAG 2.2 AA success criteria.

This report does not represent a comprehensive WCAG compliance audit and should not be seen as a certification of accessibility compliance. While we have identified significant accessibility concerns and usability barriers, this evaluation was limited in scope and may not encompass all accessibility issues on the platform.

No Legal Liability: Accessiblü offers this report for informational purposes only. It assumes no legal responsibility for accessibility violations or compliance failures resulting from its use. Organizations seeking formal certification should conduct a comprehensive audit and user testing with individuals with disabilities.

Limitations of Testing: This evaluation was conducted at a specific time, and platform updates may have occurred after testing was completed. Additionally, while automated tools and expert reviews were utilized, real-world users with disabilities determine the true measure of accessibility.