Problem Statement

1. What is your product, on a high level? A platform for music artists to upload their music and for users to listen to that music as well as creating and removing an album and playlist. In addition, the user can find any song from any artist to play their music using our streaming service.
2. Whom is it for? It is for clients using a web browser who want to share their music and those who want to listen to music. It is for people who do not want to pay a fee to share/listen to music. In addition, it’s for people who want to message other community user.
3. What problem does it solve? It provides a free option for artists to share their music on a copyright protected platform. Users can discover new local artists; established bands will be deterred from the site due to no compensation, so artists looking to be discovered can thrive in this community. Also, it increases the chance for small artist to compete with the larger artist.
4. What alternatives are available? Soundcloud. You can upload music for free and certainly stream music for free. However, SoundCloud offers paid subscriptions to artists in return for spotlighting their music, schedule their releases, and other perks. Our products will spotlight artists based on popularity, views, ratings, recommendation systems, and if they have an upcoming live show in the user’s city.
5. Why is this project compelling and worth developing? This project is compelling and worth developing because of the large number of artists with access to computers who aren’t well known and want to gain a following. Furthermore, there will be no hidden fee in our streaming service. This will attract artist who don’t like hidden costs to join our music streaming service in large groups. Many artist can save money in their expenses to get any artist music in any streaming service.
6. Describe the top-level objectives, differentiators, target customers, and scope of your product. Our first objective is to create a platform for users to discover new music and keep track of artists in their area. Our second objective is to create a platform for artist to post their music/albums and create attention for their music content. Our service is free and recommends artists based on recommendation systems, local activity, and how relevant it is to the community. Our target customers are music enthusiasts especially those who like to listen to small band’s music from their local area and small bands willing to forgo profit to gain a bigger following. Our platform focuses on just music song, no music videos. Users have accounts, including artists who can post about new music and upcoming shows.
7. What are the competitors and what is novel in your approach? Soundcloud and Bandcamp are our biggest competitors, though they charge their users fees for certain functionalities, our entire service is free. Due to our service being free this will lead to more artist coming to our music streaming service and there will be a large active community compare to Soundcloud and Bandcamp.
8. Make it clear that the system can be built, making good use of the available resources and technology. We have a 4 software engineering students. We will use java to support the back-end and a SQL database to store data. In addition, we will be using HTML to work on the front-end of the program.
9. What is interesting about this project from a technical point of view? We can use data mining techniques to create groups of people with similar interests and recommend songs that similar users like. With user’s location data, we can also recommend bands when they have an upcoming show in that user’s area.