

Cody Gaudet

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CART351

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Documentation: Concert Garden

My final project, "Concert Garden", consists of a timeline on which users can add notes, and playback the resulting music. Users can customize their flowers and choose where it will be - it will last for three hours before "dying". While all live flowers are of diverse colors, notes, and shapes, the dead flowers do not play music and all have the same sprite. Users can hover over other flowers to see who created it and when.

Starting points

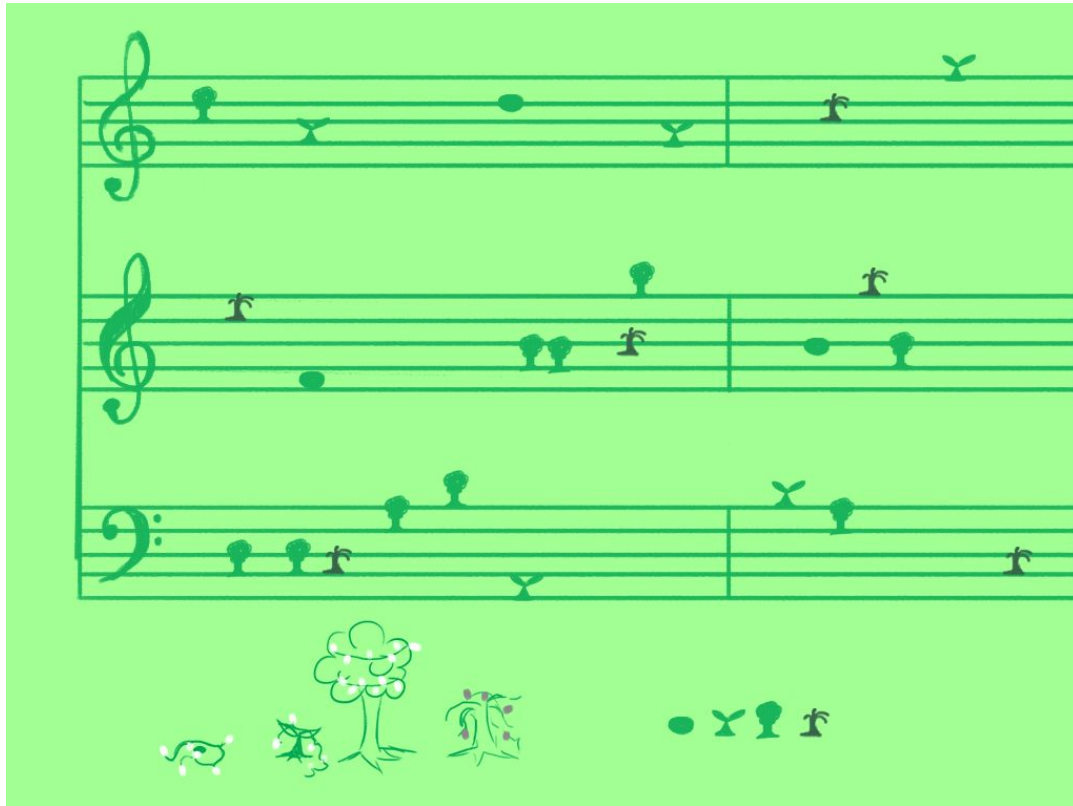
At first, I wanted the notes to be represented as trees. I wanted the aging process to be longer - with the tree starting off as a seed with a quiet note after being planted by the user, then slowly growing into a tree with a loud note. As it died, its note would sound more and more distorted, before being silent again. I also wanted to have customization options for the trees, such as type, color, and accessories such as fairy lights and Christmas baubles. I ultimately went with flowers instead, as they would be more appealing. The aging process has also been condensed to two stages: alive, when originally planted, and dead, once 3 hours have passed.

I wanted users to only add one note at the time, so that their one contribution would be meaningful and so that they would collaborate with other users instead of creating a tune by themselves. This idea was scrapped because I could not figure out how to achieve that.

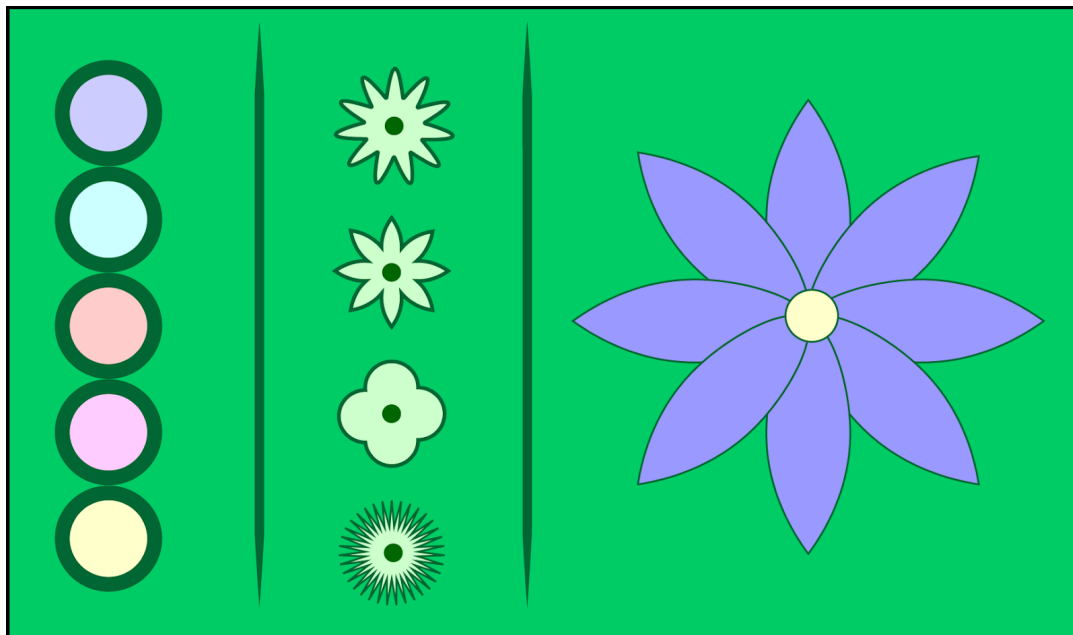
Development

To create different notes, I used Tone.js and created an array of notes as their corresponding Hertz value, since it did not recognize letter notes. I found that it was the easiest library to use to create tones. Each flower has a Tone.js object that plays a note when the playhead is on top of it. The project was mostly done in Javascript, but a couple sections use jQuery. The icons were done in Adobe Illustrator.

Concept Art



Early concept design (above), menu design with flower preview (below)



Screenshots

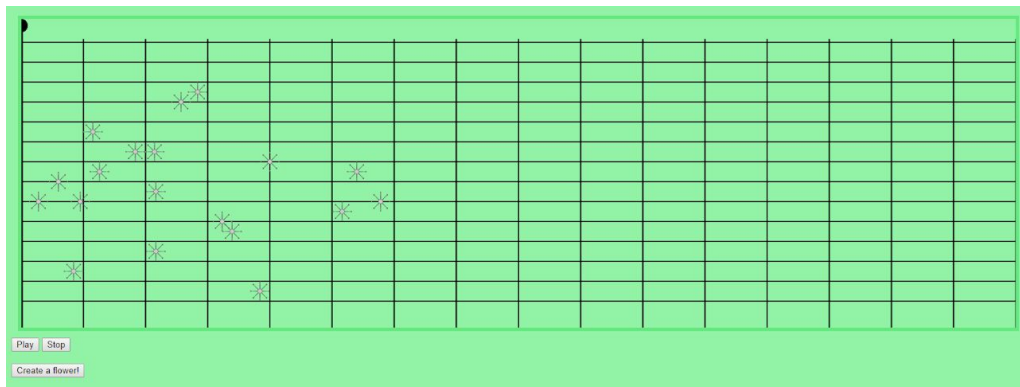


Fig 1: The timeline with several dead flowers.

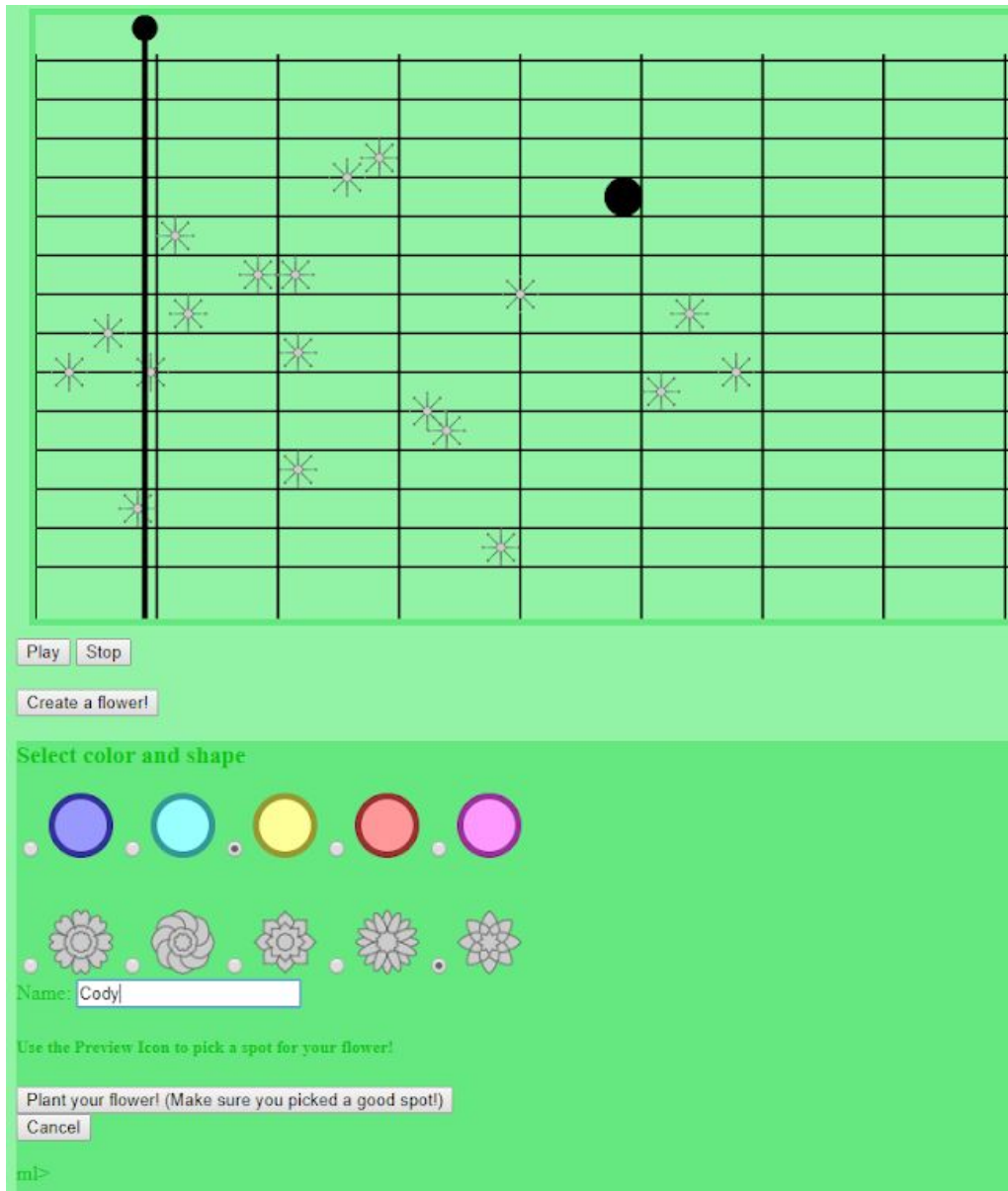


Fig 2: The timeline with the flower creation menu and the placeholder that indicates the position of the new flower.

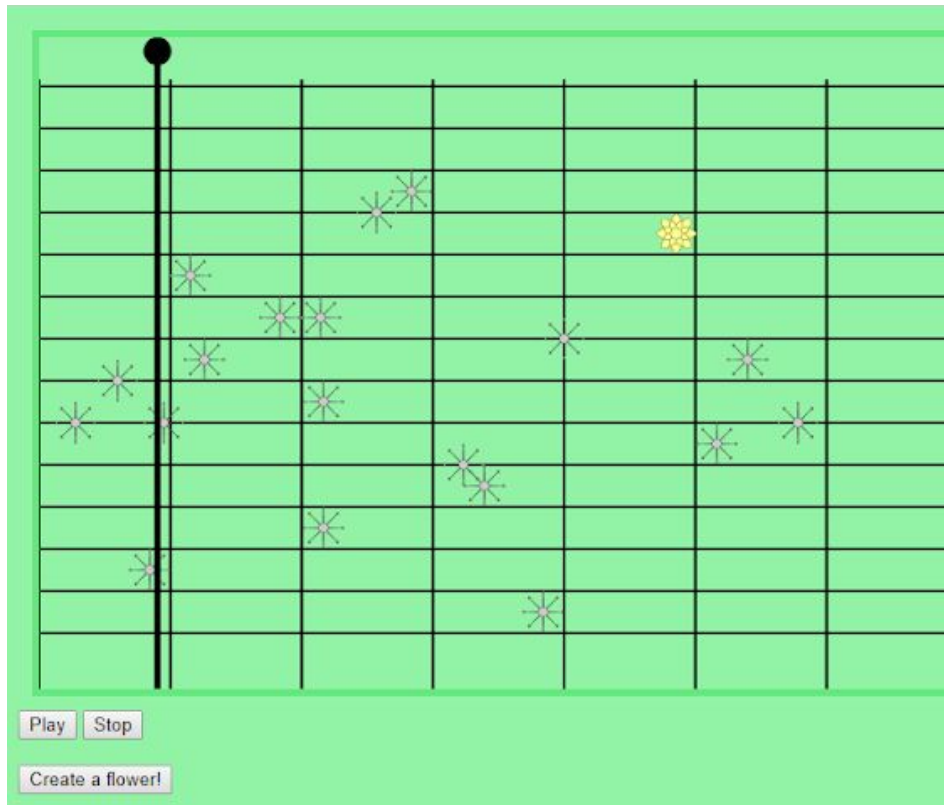


Fig 3: The new flower (5th column, 4th row)



Fig 4: Several flowers planted by different users. The mouse (not shown in the screenshot) is hovering over a flower created by "F" on Wednesday December 12th 2018, at 21:05PM.

Fig 5: Several flowers planted by different users. The mouse (not shown in the screenshot) is hovering over a flower created by “bobble” on Wednesday December 12th 2018, at 21:00PM.



Fig 6: The website with a banner. However, adding it in messed up the mouse events, so I removed it for the time being.

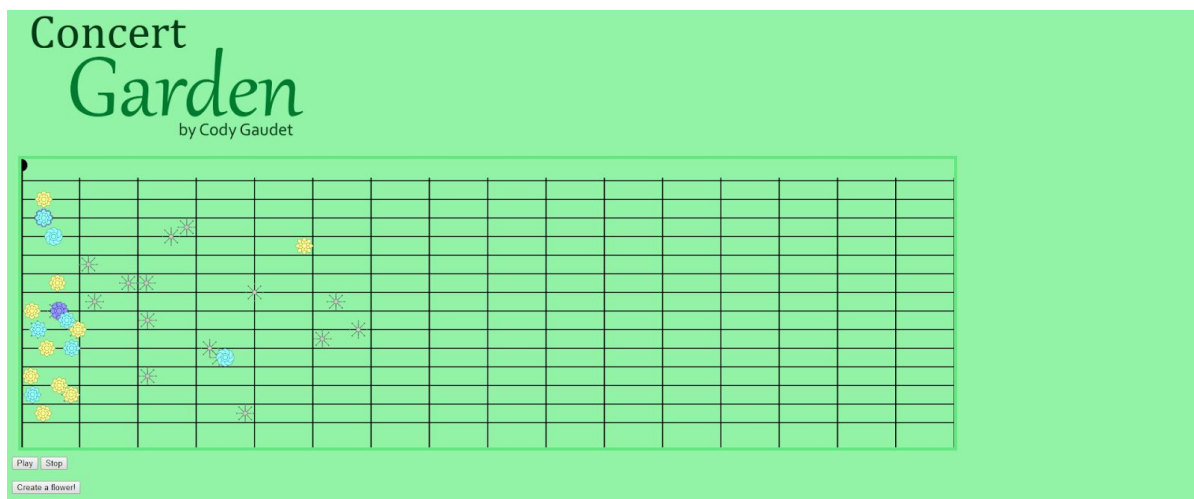


Fig 7: The flower label with proper CSS style (it did not work until several minutes into documentation once it was on the website). The flower was created by Sabine on December 11th 2018 at 6:18PM.



Fig 8: Hovering over a dead flower, created by "Cody" on December 11th, 2018.

