Software Portfolio Website

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For the last portion of our Web Fundamentals course, we have been working on a personal website as our final project. The website could be for anything of our choosing as long as it was school appropriate, and I chose to create a website to showcase my software portfolio and work. The audience for this site would be potential future employers, family, and friends who are interested in my work and what I have been learning in school. You can reach my website at the following link: [Nicholas's Personal Portfolio (darth-volix.github.io)](https://darth-volix.github.io/WDD-130/personalsite/index.html)

The goals for this website are very simple. The primary goal is to use the website to showcase my work, skills, and abilities to anyone who may be interested. I hope that that would be any employers who are investigating me for a position with their company, my family, and my friends. Showing people what you are capable of is always very fulfilling. The goals for myself pertaining to this website are a little different. As more time passes, the goal is to continue to optimize, expand, and further develop the website as I learn new skills and languages. In other words, I intend for this to be a living website that goes from very basic and cobbled together with immature skill to one that was developed at a professional level.

The design for the first iteration of this ongoing website/project was largely inspired by the previous guided project we did with the whitewater rafting website. I reused some of the same formatting building blocks for the navigation, footer, and hero portions of the site, while adding my own spin and flairs. The layout of the text and images was something I came up with in my own head, based on the layouts of science fair project posters I had done in the past. It was both familiar and pleasing to my OCD to do it this way. I originally was going to only add a fixed nav bar, but decided to also add a fixed footer so that they both stay in place no matter where the visitor has scrolled to on the screen. I also was sure to make the design something that I could lay out in a grid without too much added stress and without breaking the rest of the website’s layout.

I have learned that there is a lot more to web design and development than I originally thought there was. There seems to be the misconception among some programmers that web development is for those who can’t handle machine learning or other advanced programming areas and that it isn’t difficult or rewarding. This project has taught me differently, it is very hard at times and very rewarding when you get to see your completed work. I have gained valuable beginners experience with both HTML and CSS, along with some minor exposure to JavaScript. All of these will be used heavily in my future as I intend to become a full-stack engineer. Continuing to develop these skills will be important moving forward in my classwork and my career. I have also learned that I do tend to prefer backend work with languages like C# and Python, but that I am perfectly capable of doing frontend work and enjoying it.