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Digital NYC Write Up

For my digital NYC project I chose to analyze the various types of production studios that can be found within the city. The data, which I found from *NYC Open Data*, shows 17 production studio’s names, locations, and contact information over a map of lower Manhattan.

One of the biggest issues I encountered while trying to organize all this data was that the specific service or services offered by each studio was not originally included in the data set provided by *NYC Open Data*. In order to organize the studios by the service they provided, I had to manually visit each studios website, research their background, and create a new column in excel which I slowly populated. Then came the next big obstacle, creating a way to sort this newfound data.

Originally, I figured that there were two ways I could go about sorting through each particular studios list of services. The first way would involve me hard coding specific lists that contained all the studios related to the service. For example all the studios that offered a music production would be hard coded into a music list. However I quickly realized this would not be advantageous when dealing with larger amounts of data. If I were dealing with 1,700 music studios, the process of manually adding each studio to its respective array would be incredibly tedious to say the least. This brought me to my second option, creating a function that would autonomously sort through each studio for me.

Before I explain the logic of this function let me point out that I would not have been able to implement this code if it weren’t for the help of **Dr. Alex Wellerstein, who ultimately showed me the exact snippet of code I needed. The logic behind this filter is as follows. First, all of the different services are populated into a filter selector by checking for each filter in filter options if the current filter is equal to a filter option, populate the filter select. Next some other important variables are declared such as the filter separator (in this case a single comma), the row to search for in the csv file, and the default filter option. Lastly comes the most important part, the sorting function. Basically, the function selects and reanalyzes the main list holding all of our objects. It then checks if the default value is selected, it returns all the studios. However if something other than the default value is selected it creates a new array of all the different fields in the “Service” column and searches through it. If the search finds that the keyword is found under a certain studio, it adds the dot to the class “data\_highlight” so we can manipulate its visibility with CSS. If the search does not find the keyword it is looking for it will add the dot to the “data\_hidden” class so we can make it slightly transparent or invisible.**