

Voter Accessability Research

As a voter, I want to not think when I am feeling stressed so that I may vote.



image courtesy of nbcnews.com



This week the accessibility team worked on exploring individual ideas to answer the question "What is preventing voter equality in America?"

Research Method



image courtesy of communityimpact.com

Lourdes:

**Accessibility in relation to minority groups,
outcomes of early education, and higher income.**



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- Voting could be more costly to others
- Higher income = Higher education
- Higher education will increase voter turnout.
- The U.S.-born children of immigrants – coming of age are the cause for the percentage of the hispanic electorate growth in the country from 2000 to 2018.
- Inequality of political participation when it depends on money contributions rather than time.
- “Rock the Vote and Teaching Tolerance, a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center, with the support of American Eagle Outfitters, have launched Democracy Class”

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Cas:

Internet Inequality in rural, tribal, and minority
communities.



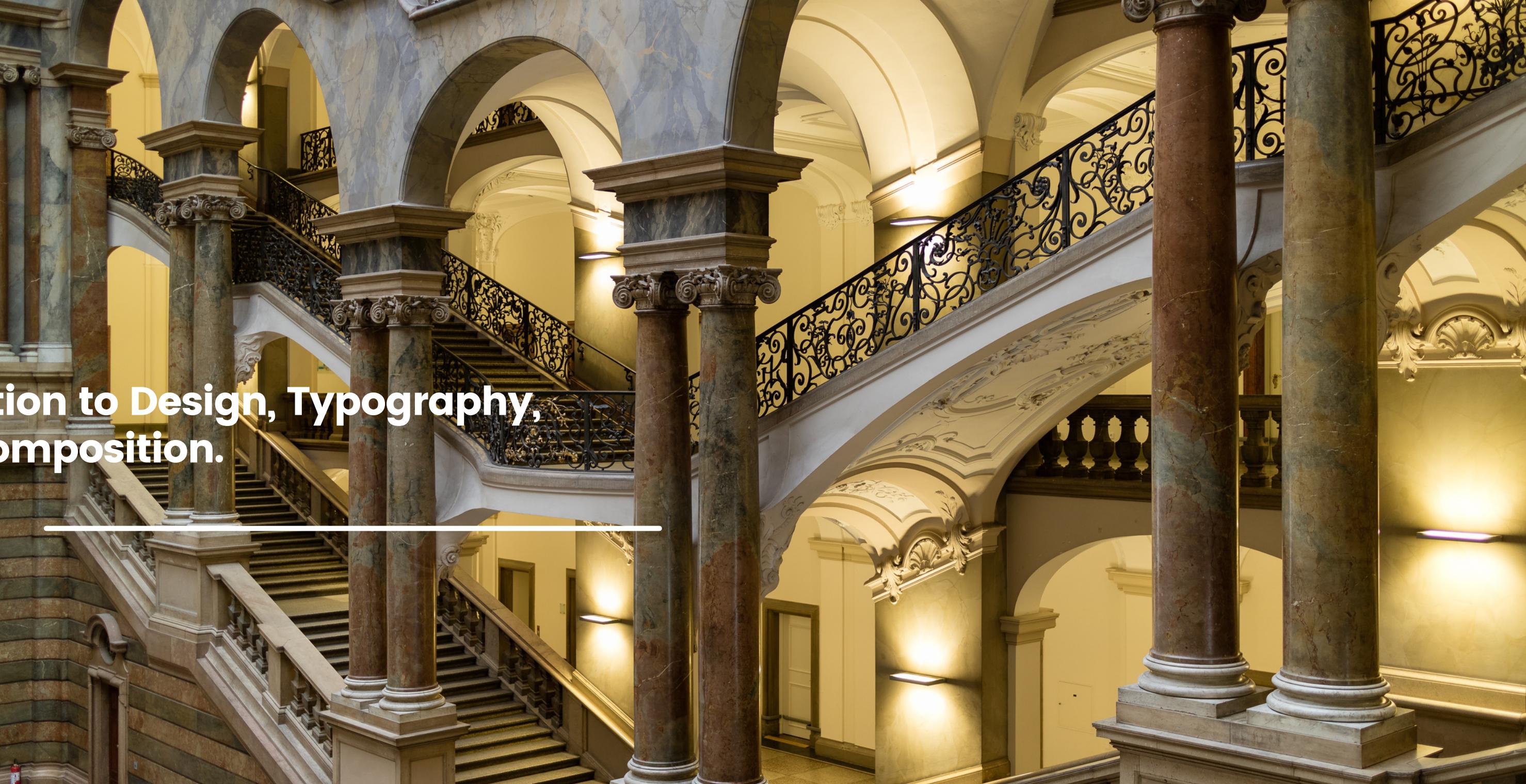


- "30% of rural Americans don't have broadband"
- FCC, 2018
- 3 million kids in 2019 couldn't access homework online.
-Americans Without Broadband, 2018
- Maps of poor internet connection correspond with maps of Black neighborhoods.
-On Your Side "Living in the Stone Age"



Chris:

**Accessibility in Relation to Design, Typography,
Color Theory, and Composition.**





Common Barriers for Disabled Individuals Include:

- Visual (e.g., color blindness)
- Motor/ Mobility (e.g., wheelchair-user)
- Auditory (hearing difficulties)
- Seizures (especially photosensitive epilepsy)
- Learning/ Cognitive (e.g., dyslexia)

According to Pew Research Center during the 2004 election 4% of Americans that failed to register to vote was due to Illness or Disability. This number is quite substantial compared to the other data points listed in the Why Non-Voters Fail to Register provided by P.R.C.

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Using Principles of Design to Solve the Problem:

- **Color:** High Contrast Color Palette helps establish hierarchy for visually impaired users. Color Blindness can prevent users from distinguishing what content is in front of them if a color palette is lacking variety and contrast. Color blind individuals tend to be unable to fully distinguish Red, Green, and Blue light.
- **Typography:** The usage of type should be planned out. Fonts with higher x-heights help visually impaired individuals to distinguish individual letters better. A perfect example for this Typeface is Century Gothic. San-Serifs are contemporary and approachable. Some similar font recommendations include Arial, Verdana, and Tahoma.
- **Composition:** The composition of your interface is important. Individuals with restricted motor movement may have a tougher time navigating through websites, apps, & services. Having larger text elements, buttons & consistent layouts will lower the barrier of entry for these users.





These three principles better the lives of all users. For example closed captioning assists individuals with auditory disabilities while on the other hand I can enjoy a movie while it's muted. Other individuals have cognitive or learning disabilities which makes consuming large amounts of information at one time more strenuous on the mind. Thus, keep things short!



Beck:

Accessibility in relation to the physical voting booth. Current legality with ADA.





Barriers for physical voting:

- Signature Match
- Witness and Notarization
- Voting Machines Lack Privacy
- Machines Not Wheelchair-Accessible
- Machines Lack Functioning Earphones





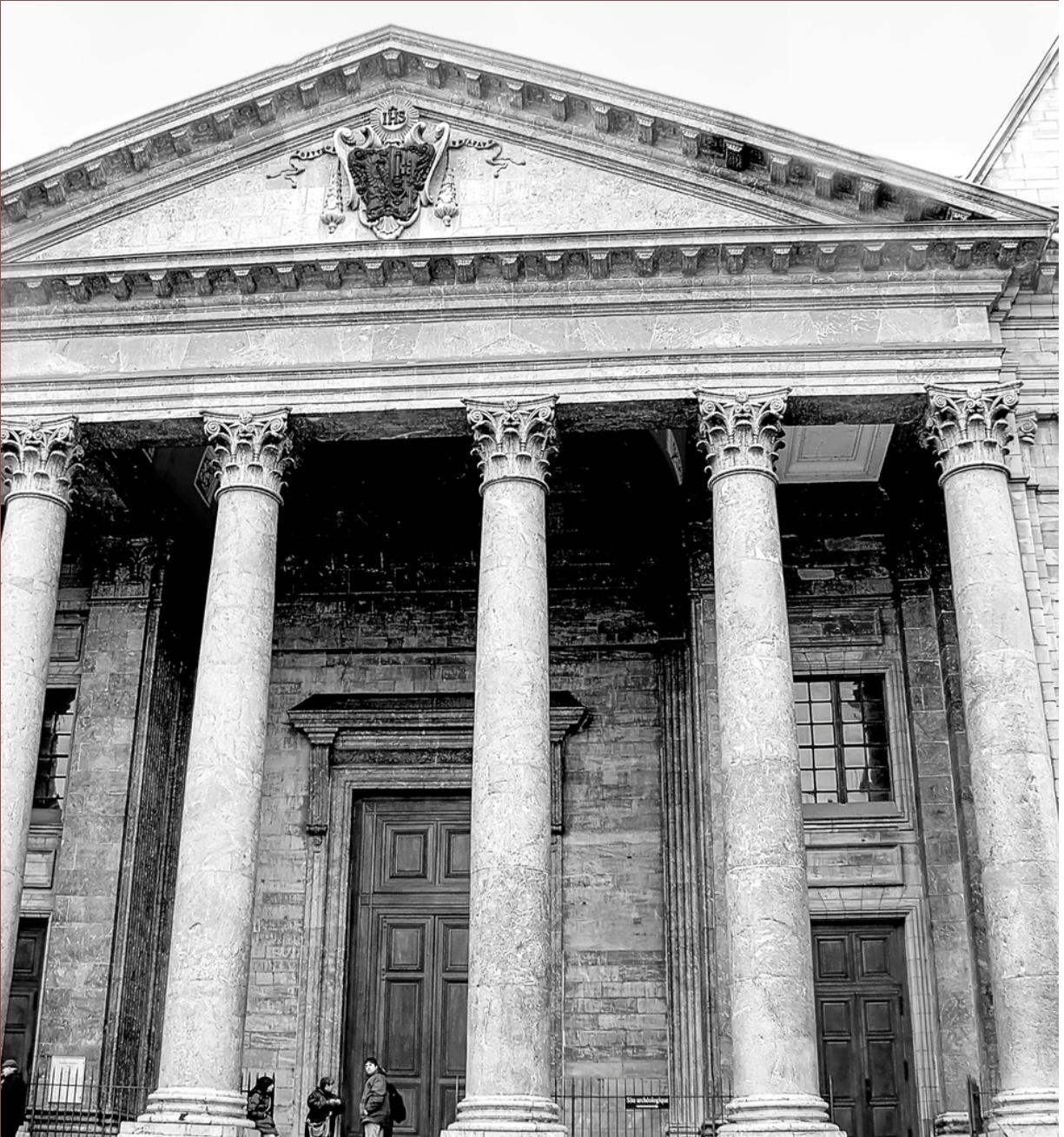
ADA a Solution or another Problem?



Matt:

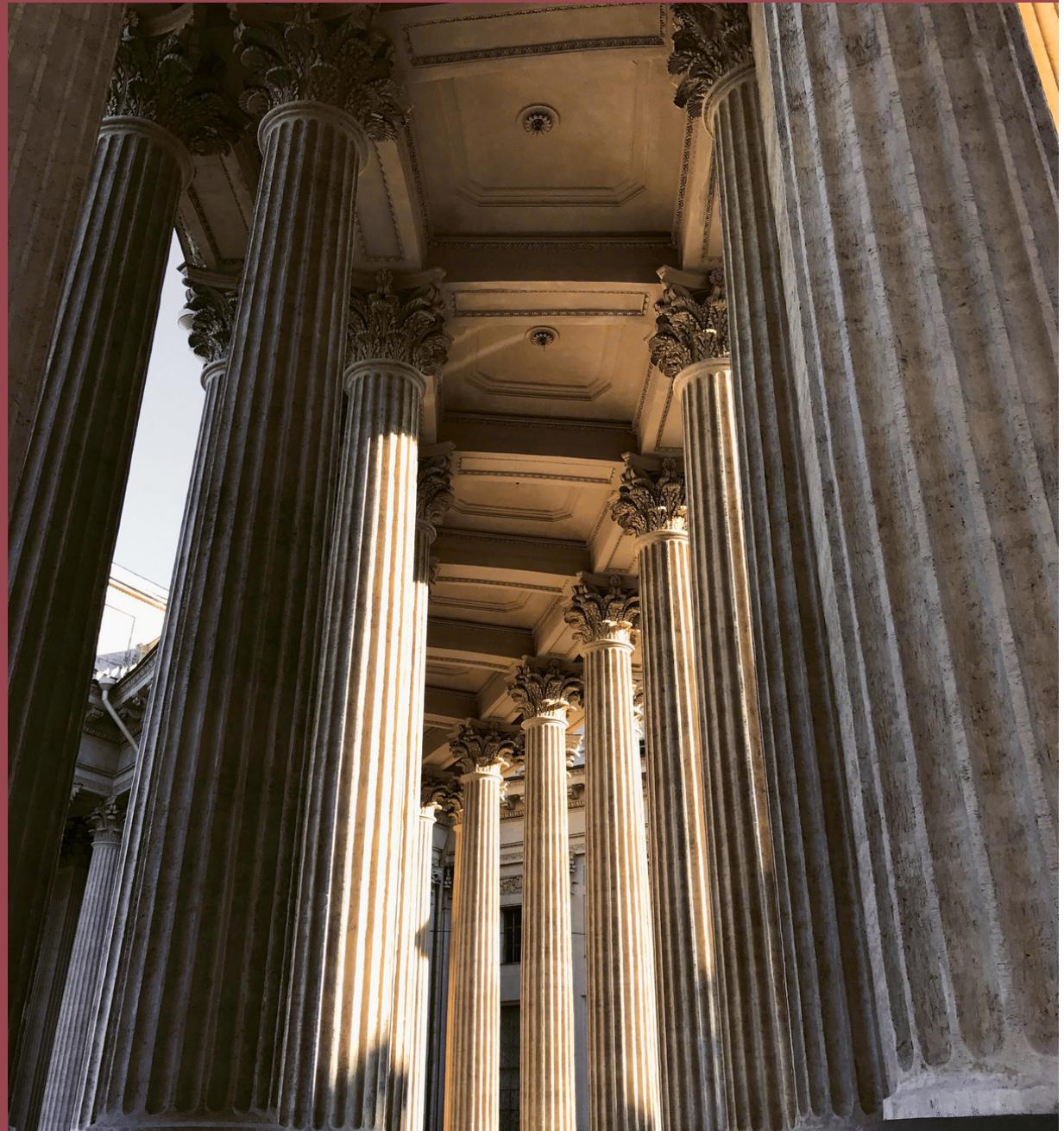
Accessibility for younger voters and ways to educate them about the voting process so they are not so scared to jump into the polls.





- Problem: : Many election departments struggle to find enough poll workers. Not enough young people are showing up to the poll places to place their vote.





- Solution: Involve Highschool students with the polling and teach them how voting works and how they can get more involved with our voting process. Younger poll workers may be more familiar with new technologies and can help other poll workers. By starting early, these students might make being a poll worker a lifelong habit. If this happens it will ensure that they can also tell their friends and help them with voting as well.

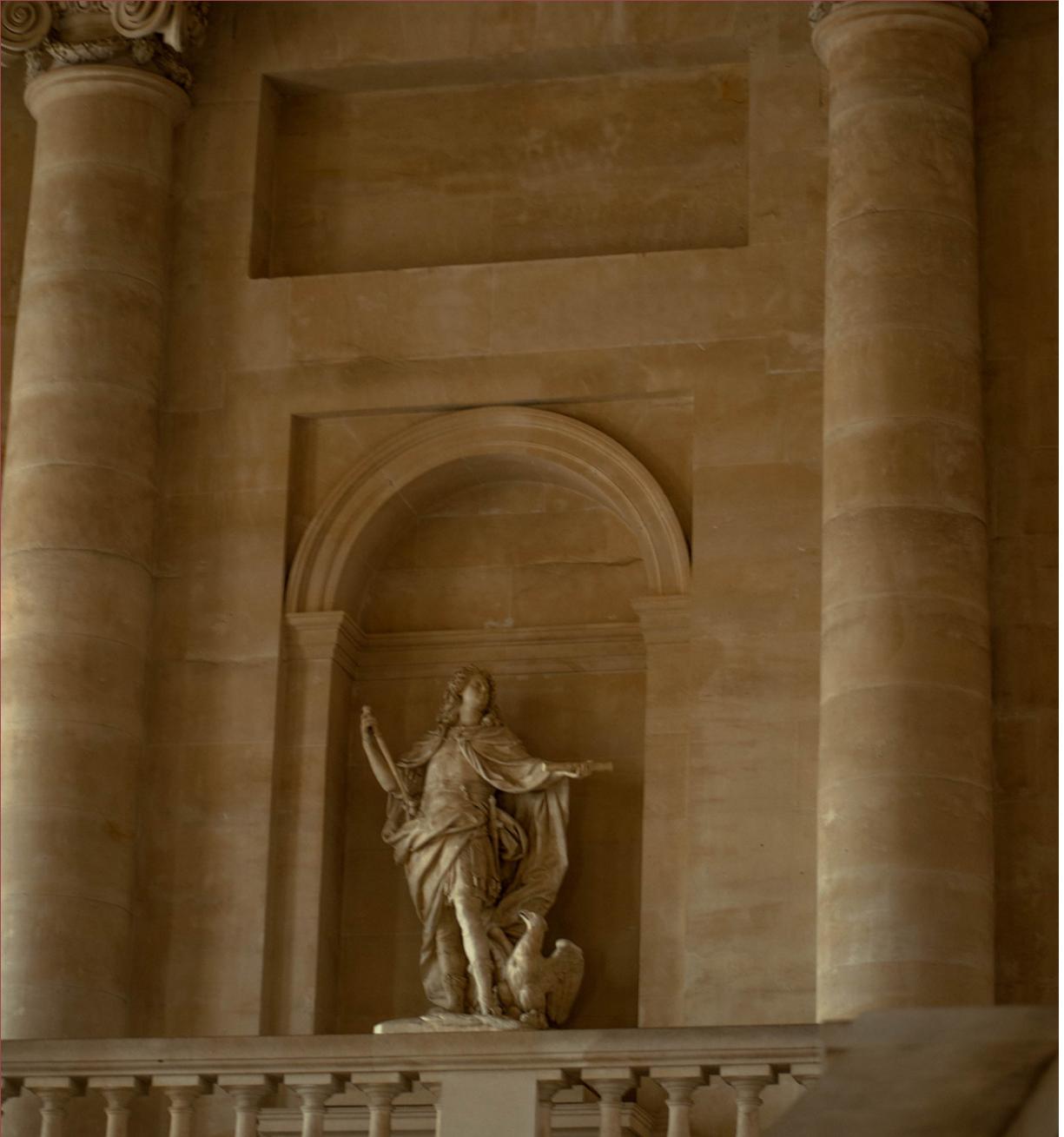
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Rigo:

Accessibility in Electronics





- Problem: The problem is that it takes time to set up information through paper. All the information of each citizen is on our phone and when the line is slow that can affect people's time. Anyone with a disability should have access to information, especially for people who don't remember all the information on hand.



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- Solution: Fast pace and not time consuming for any individual. Everyone has their information in and ready before typing the information, you have to watch a video about the voting system and what's your right, depending on the person's disability.

