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Art and Media Database Project Proposal:

Background: (R3.1 Description of your proposed database)

This project is motivated by the necessity to organize and categorize art and media entries in a consistent manner. Media exists in a multitude of formats and types which are not always easy to organize with each other. For example, a single person has the potential to write multiple books, newspapers, and movies and at the same time a single book can have multiple authors and editors. Many popular producers of arts can be credited for being involved in the creation of multiple different genres of art as well. For example, a single artist can be involved with sculpting, painting, and video production. Essentially, this database attempts to resolve the fact that there is a lack of centralization in regard to the way art is credited to individuals and groups.

This brings us to the primary goal of this database, which is to create a database which can organize artists, publishers, studios, and art pieces in a format which allows someone to easily see who did what. If someone looks up a piece of art (namely, a movie or book) they will be able to see a breakdown of who contributed what to the project, if someone looks up an artist's name, they will see a breakdown of everything they have produced, and etcetera. This project will allow a user to connect the products of artists, groups of interest, and pieces of art in such a way it is easy to navigate the art industry. The data I will be using for this project includes the names of artists/people, groups, and art pieces along with relevant information. In general, this information can easily be sourced online from publishers' websites.

Application Requirements:

The following index of requirements describe what is needed for the application:

R1.1) Provide an indexing database which catalogs various artists/people, groups of interest (i.e. publishers, studios), and art pieces. The database should be useable to search names of people, groups, and art pieces in order to yield relevant information about the searched name.

R1.2) The database should have some sort of generality within its data sets, in order to simplify the content of the tables. The database is broken into three categories (artists/people, groups of interest, and art) to represent the three main entity types in the art industry. For example authors, editors, and producers can all be flagged as people, yet only author and editors would be described as 'artists' in the table.

R1.3) Allow for data in the database to be corrected and updated. It is expected that some artists may be misattributed or forgotten for various pieces of art, that new pieces of art will be produced, that artists pass away, or that groups of interest may disband.

R1.4) Along with the identities of people, groups, and art pieces, the database should also contain serial identification content for art pieces (like a books ISBN), birth and death dates, group formation/disbandment dates, and descriptions entries for all entries.

R1.5) The database allows a user to locate all relevant information to a given query in the database. For example, searching an artist's name gives all groups and art pieces relevant to the artists.

R1.6) The database should allow for searches by data within its columns. An example would be searching the term 'artist', which would return information on all *people* who have the description of *artist* within their row.

R1.7) As the application is targeted at the music industry, it should assume the user has little to no exposure to abstract computer science concepts. Likewise, a user with little technical experience should be able to access the database via a user interface and make/change entries in a convenient format.

R1.8) The application should be accessible via a online web-based mode, and an offline desktop mode. (Note: I am not sure if internet integration is outside the scope of this course, however if it is not, the application should support an online user-interface)

Due Diligence: (Copyright Issues)

Since the proposed database will contain personal information regarding birth dates, death dates, information on copyright material, and individual employment history, legal and copyright restrictions is described below. It is currently my assumption that information on art-media, groups, and people is not considered a legal violation as discussed below:

CPY1.1) It is my belief that while it is illegal to detail private information about an individual, or describe information an individual does not want disclosed, certain pieces of general information can be used publicly. Examples of this include birth dates and death dates being posted on Wikipedia, and artists being credited for work on public archives.

CPY1.2) It is my belief that while detailing the copyrighted material in regard to a piece of art is a violation, taking about the art piece is not. For example, it should not be a legal violation to describe an online website or a paining as it pertains to a portfolio.

CPY1.3) It is my belief that while describing sensitive information about groups and organization is a violation, it is not a violation to talk about and document groups and their members.

CPY1.4) It is my belief that connecting individuals to larger groups (like publishers and studios) and to art pieces does not constitute a breech of privacy for any parties involved.

Sample Documents:

- Below are some examples of data types which can be used for the project (note not all will be used. Depending on the scope of the project and the amount of time allocated to it, I will be using more or less of what is listed below):
    - Websites
    - Publishing (i.e., Books)

  - Broadcasting Series (i.e., television series or radio broadcasts)
  - Cinema (i.e., Movies)
  - Video Games
  - Print Media (magazines, newspapers, etc.)
  - Photography
  - Advertisements
  - Digital media
  - Visual Arts (as not included above, like sculpting)
  - Performing Arts (as not included above, like Opera)
  - Etc.
- For the sake of simplicity, I will not upload literal examples of art/media in this report, but I will instead describe below how I will be formatting the data for the report:
  - Below is a non-exhaustive list of example data sets:

People Data Table Example:

Name	Role	Group(s)	Products	Birthdate	Death date	Status
J. K. Rowling (Joanne Rowling)	Artist (novelist), Producer (films)	Publishers: Bloomsbury Publishing, Scholastic Press, Pottermore, Sphere Books Movie Producers: Warner Bros. Pictures, Heyday Films, 1492 Pictures	Harry Potter series, Cormoran Strike series	31 July 1965	NULL	Active
Ingmar Bergman	Film director	AB Svensk Filmindustri (producer/distributer)	The Seventh Seal	14 July 1918	30 July 2007	Deceased

Groups of Interest Data Table Example:

Name	Role	People	Products	Date Founded	Date Closed	Status
Bloomsbury Publishing	Publisher	J. K. Rowling (Joanne Rowling)	Harry Potter series	30 January 1986	NULL	Active
AB Svensk Filmindustri	Studio	Ingmar Bergman	The Seventh Seal	27 December 1919	NULL	Active

Art-piece Data Table Example:

Name	Type	Maker(s)	Related Groups	Completed/Released	Status	Descriptor
Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone	Novel	J. K. Rowling (Joanne Rowling)	Bloomsbury Publishing, Scholastic Press, Raincoast	26 June 1997 (UK); 1 September 1998 (US)	Book Published and Released	Harry Potter series
The Seventh Seal	Cinema Movie	Directed by: Ingmar Bergman Produced by: Allan Ekelund Screenplay by: Ingmar Bergman Starring: Gunnar Björnstrand; Bengt Ekerot; Nils Poppe; Max von Sydow; Bibi Andersson; Inga Landgré; Åke Fridell Music by: Erik Nordgren Cinematography by: Gunnar Fischer Edited by: Lennart Wallén Distributed by: AB Svensk Filmindustri	AB Svensk Filmindustri (producer/ distributer)	16 February 1957	Movie Released	NULL

Note: the tables above are meant to reflect the overall style and format for the datasets, as well as highlight the nature of the many-to-many data model the database will use. The list above, including the column contents, is by no means exhaustive. Changes to the column's contents, along with the addition of future columns will likely be included in the final project.