WEB 2890 Portfolio Website Feedback Evaluation Criteria

Name of Person Providing Critique: AVERY SEMADENI,   ALEX PATTERSON,   KOLTEN NAY, _____

Position/Company: STUDENT,   SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER,   SOFTWARE ENGINEER, _____

	Not applicable	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Overall Quality of Portfolio Website					
Looks very well put together, professional inappearance				X X	X
Shows creativity in design			X	X X	
Body of work shows required skills for employment			X X	X	
Navigation/Functionality					
Navigation clear and consistent				X X	X
All links and buttons work properly		X	X		X
Media plays without problems	X				X X
Images are optimized for the web			X	X	X
Website opens quickly and media displays quickly					X X X
Appearance					
Background colors/texture				X X X	
Color scheme			X	X X	
Concept/theme/unified look				X X	X
Layout - position of page elements, alignment, whitespace			X	X X	
Typography – fonts, text size, other formatting				X X	X
Images are high quality					X X X
Projects are presented in an attractive manner				X X	X
Content/Design of Pages					
Home page provides good first impression andintroduction to portfolio website			X	X	X
About me page				X X	X
Portfolio gallery (thumbnails & captions)			X	X	X
Portfolio reflections/description pages				X X	X
Contact page				X X	X
Reflections (description of portfolio pieces)					
Content of reflections appropriate			X	X	X
Project images are high quality				X	X X
Spelling and grammar are correct				X	X X

What was your overall first impression of the website?

AVERY: *"My overall first impression was that it isn't a bad website, but there are things to be improved upon. I also felt squished, like there needs to be more margins between elements and padding inside elements. Mostly the vertical spacing."*

ALEX: *"Color scheme and layout are both great, home page is very simple and easy to understand."*

KOLTEN: *"It's clean and well organized."*

Did you have any technical difficulties as you navigated through the pages and displayed the projects?

AVERY: *"Yes, I noticed that although the words in the footer act like links, they are not links and don't go anywhere. I would put a link to those pages that goes to the page it says. <a>
*

I also had difficulty finding the gallery of projects once I had explored the page a bit. I assumed it would be found by clicking on the Projects link in the navigation, but that only brings a dropdown. Eventually I found it on the home page. If possible, maybe clicking on the Projects button will take you to the gallery (you could reference an id on the home page (ex. Projects or make a separate page for it), and hovering over it will still pop up the sub-projects that you can click on."

ALEX: *"I did notice that some images are squashed in some areas. This can be fixed by applying the object-fit css property."*

KOLTEN: *"Within the footer, the links underneath the navigation and projects sections (aside from case study) seem to be dead and don't direct the user anywhere."*

What do you feel are the most effective design elements of this web portfolio?

AVERY: *"I feel the most effective design elements are the portfolio gallery thumbnails, I think they look nice and display your work effectively. I also think you did a good job with consistency throughout the pages."*

ALEX: *"Lots of images is great!"*

KOLTEN: *"I think the color scheme works well and isn't distracting. I do like the staggered way in which the projects were layed out on the home page (2, 1, 2, 1)"*

What would you suggest be changed with the design or content of this web portfolio?

AVERY: *"Besides what has already been said, here are some things I would suggest:*

The header looks nice, the problem is the words are hard to read against the picture, especially as the screen size changes. I would suggest adding a transparent white (or light colored) overlay since the text is darker. It's okay if we can't see the details of the background image, it is there just to add texture and contrast.

I noticed that the header with the Read About Me button is not only on the home page, but also the About, Contact, and Case Study pages. I first noticed it on the About page, since the button said Read about me and I was already on the page it wanted to take me to. Since the header is more of an introduction, it felt like I was still on the same page with it on the other pages as well. I'd suggest just having it on the home page.

With the blue color you chose, I found it hard to read the black words on the blue background (like in your navigation) as there wasn't enough contrast. The white text color would be better for any spots there is a blue background with text. (to help with your hover effects, you could do something besides change the text color from white to black or vice versa, such as make the background of a button darker blue and/or add underlines). I also noticed on the About, Contact, and Case Study pages had some contrast issues as well, as the blue text color was hard to read against the medium gray background. If it is helpful to you, here is a tool for checking contrast: https://webaim.org/resources/contrastchecker/ (AAA is harder to get, AA is good enough to start)

With your project thumbnails, it was confusing where to click to get to the project. At first I thought I could click on the picture, but couldn't, and then the blue bar, but I had to be right on top of the text. I think at least making the blue bar clickable would help, since it is styled like your buttons.

The mobile size could use some adjusting, especially the home page. The project thumbnails are too big and cause the layout to overflow and be bigger than it should (I try to design websites for a minimum of 320px, since that is about as small as phones get). They also need some vertical space, which could be accomplished with Bootstrap's gutter classes.

The last major thing I noticed was the case study was formatted differently from the rest of the projects, and felt redundant (at least to me) since the Lucky Pop page was already a project page. I also wasn't sure what else the case study added to the project. Having some images of key design elements (buttons, cards, colors, typography, etc.) that you designed and explaining why you chose to design it that way could help strengthen your case. One thing people are is lazy, they don't read much text, pictures interest them and help them understand your point faster and easier than reading, unless it is a complex topic of course. So having more visually interesting/pleasing things helps them want to keep reading (I struggle with this as well)"

ALEX: "Don't be afraid to make page title images fill more horizontal space (edge to edge feels more modern), some text/image combos have poor contrast (this is important for accessibility), utilize more white space (especially vertically, let that text breathe!)"

KOLTEN: "It may be redundant to list 'THIS Site' as one of the projects within the project section. People looking at the site will know you worked on this site. When in a mobile screen size, all the projects on the home screen are right on top of eachother- some padding might be helpful there.

Including a picture of yourself somewhere on the home page (maybe in the hero section) would be a little more personal and eye catching."