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CSE134B - Homework 1

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This document provides an overview of a potential web-application that is going to be designed and implemented in the scope of the course CSE134B (Winter 2017) taught by instructor Thomas Powell.

Executive Summary

The aim of the website we are creating is to display all the United States presidents with a simple User Interface and intuitive layout that can be easy for kids as well as adults to understand and learn from. Currently when looking up presidents sequentially, the websites present dated websites that offer limited information about president's accomplishments and personal information that are often times difficult to navigate through. With the recent presidential campaign and election, it is especially notable how important it is for everyone of all ages to become and remain educated about American politics and presidential structure.

Motivation:

- Current displays and lookups of presidents on websites are outdated and cluttered.
- Websites either have too much information on Presidents, or too little. No balance between substantial information, which is easy to view and highlights presidents' important events in life.
- Help bring U.S political awareness to younger generations by making website have a cleaner more modern interface.

Features:

- Browse through president's important legislations, and events under presidency.
- Short information box about years in office, party affiliation, deceased or not, and picture of president.
- If current president, tie in with president Twitter/Facebook account.
- Show timeline of current events
- Will help elementary/middle school students study presidents and keep track of what they have viewed previously.
- Profile picture layout, which will modernize the User Interface.

Users

1. Students

The primary focus of this website is to target students who are learning about American History/Politics. Throughout Elementary/Middle/High School, students are taught about American Presidents and the history surrounding them. Having a clean interface would allow the students to learn more efficiently and without having to navigate throughout different sites. Usually relevant information is often too cluttered or long for students, without being succinct and to the point. The layout of our website would highlight the important events, and aid in students learning by presenting information in a format which resonates with students today. As a student, a user can login and track presidents and mark them as read and not read. We also plan to keep our website updated so users can track current presidents' activity on social media.

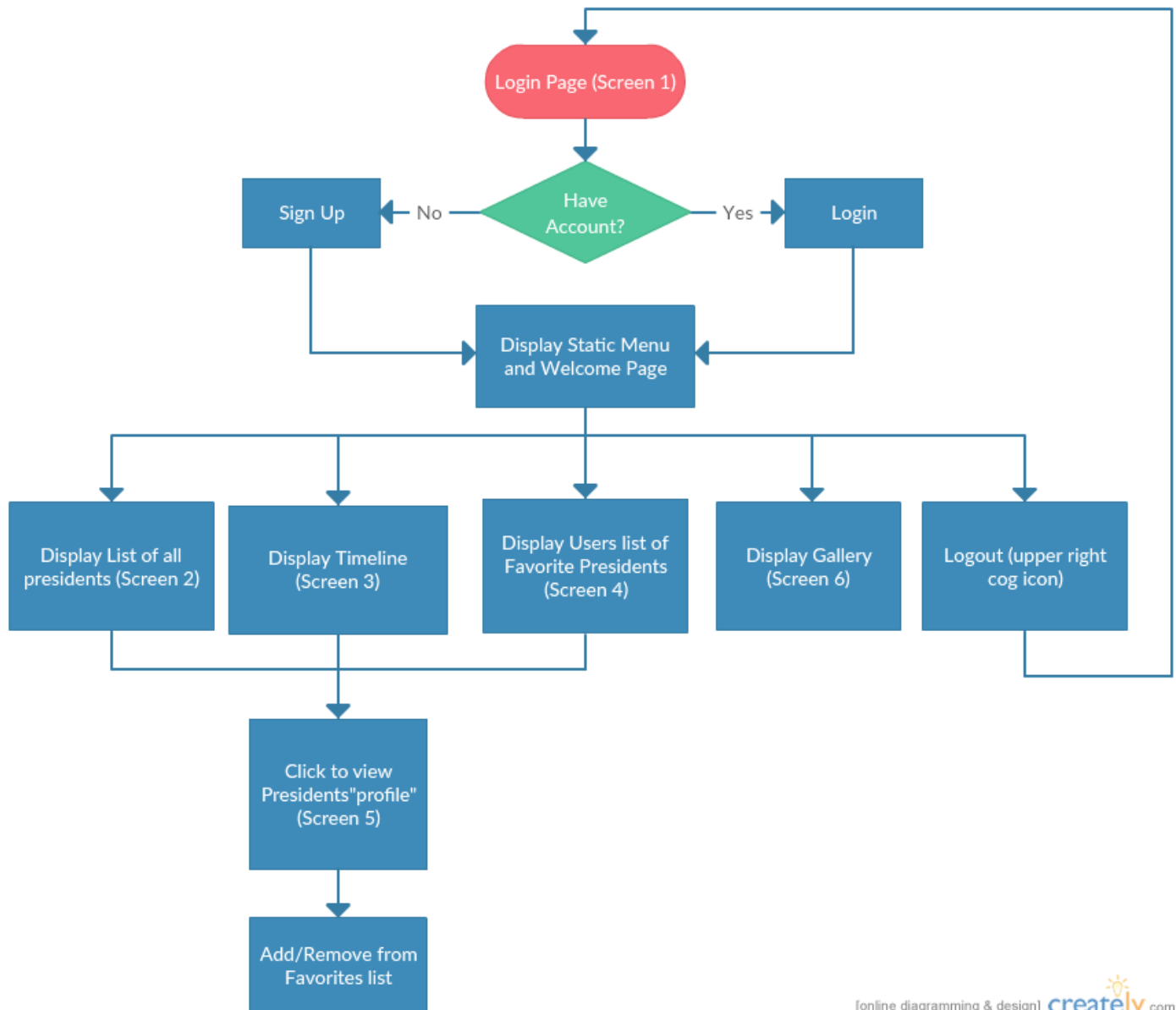
2. Casual Users

Secondary users would be users who have general interest in a president and are looking up information about a president. Especially, in recent months with U.S politics affecting our lives, many users go the internet to get U.S political information regarding current and past presidents. Current Obtaining this information should be easy and rewarding so that users remain well-informed on what presidencies have been most and least successful and for what reasons.

3. Educators

Another set of secondary users would be users who are in charge of educational curriculums such as teachers or parents of homeschooled children. Current educators face challenges when trying to present material to students in a condensed form. Additionally, textbooks are often expensive which cater content to students of a certain grade. Our site would aim to ease the task of educators, who have to find and summarize material to be taught. Our application would also serve as an exceptional supplementary U.S. History/Government resource. Educators could additionally use our site to create study guides for educators, teaching a U.S Politics class.

Logical Flow Diagram

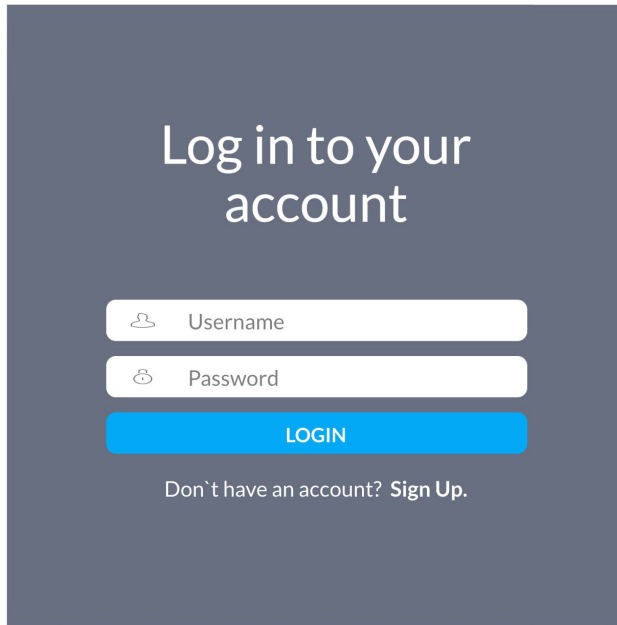


[online diagramming & design] creately.com

The immediate children of *Display Static Menu / Welcome Page* (i.e. Display List of all presidents, Display Timeline, etc) are constantly present on the screen via a menu bar and a cog wheel menu (logout). This is further clarified in our wireframe which can be found on the next page.

Sample Screens and Wireframes

1. Login screen



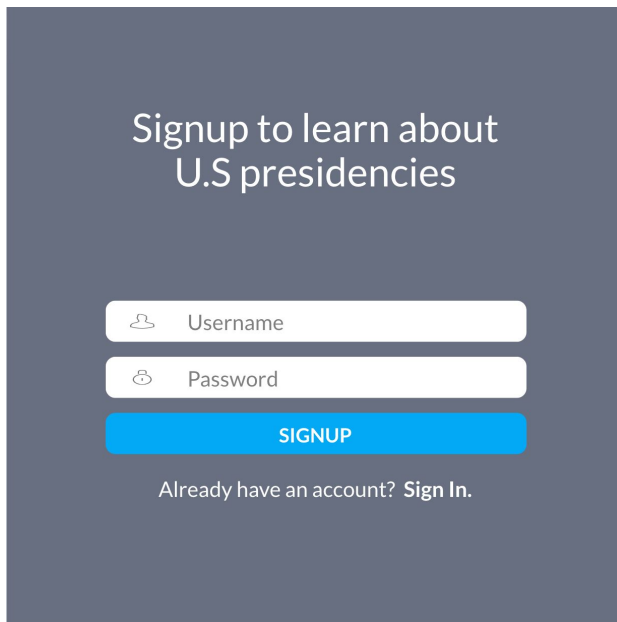
Log in to your account

LOGIN

Don't have an account? [Sign Up.](#)

This wireframe shows a login screen with a dark blue background. At the top, the text "Log in to your account" is centered in white. Below this, there are two white input fields: the first is labeled "Username" with a user icon, and the second is labeled "Password" with a lock icon. A blue button with the text "LOGIN" is positioned below the input fields. At the bottom, there is a link that says "Don't have an account? Sign Up."

2. Signup screen



Signup to learn about U.S presidencies

SIGNUP


Already have an account? [Sign In.](#)


This wireframe shows a signup screen with a dark blue background. At the top, the text "Signup to learn about U.S presidencies" is centered in white. Below this, there are two white input fields: the first is labeled "Username" with a user icon, and the second is labeled "Password" with a lock icon. A blue button with the text "SIGNUP" is positioned below the input fields. At the bottom, there is a link that says "Already have an account? Sign In."

3. Login after signup screen

Thanks for signing up!

Login with your new credentials.

 Username

 Password


LOGIN


Forgot your password? [Click here.](#)

4. Welcome screen

United States Presidents

- Presidents
- Timeline
- Gallery
- My favorites

 Like Share

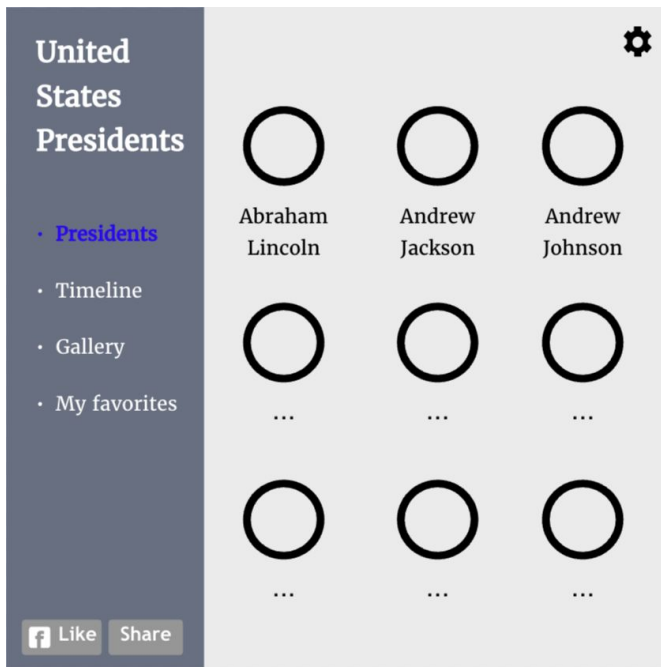


Hello and welcome to United States Presidents for kids.

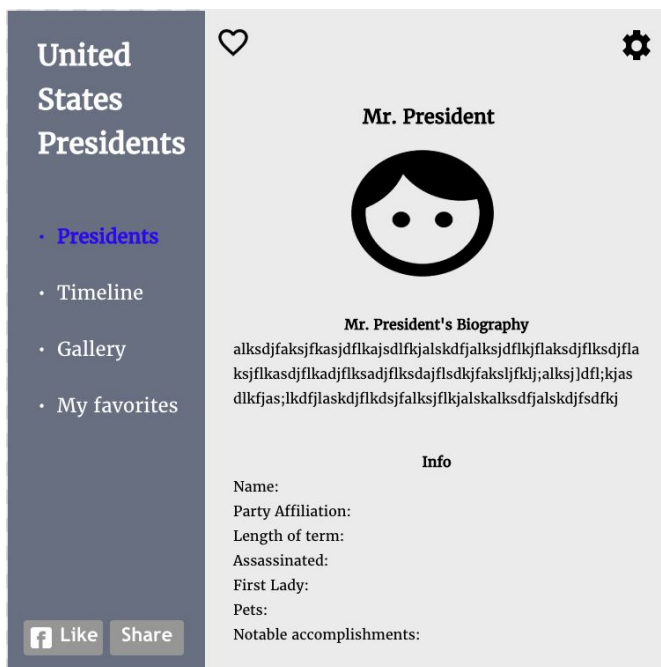
Explore our page for information about each of America's 45 presidents.

Be sure to mark your favorites!

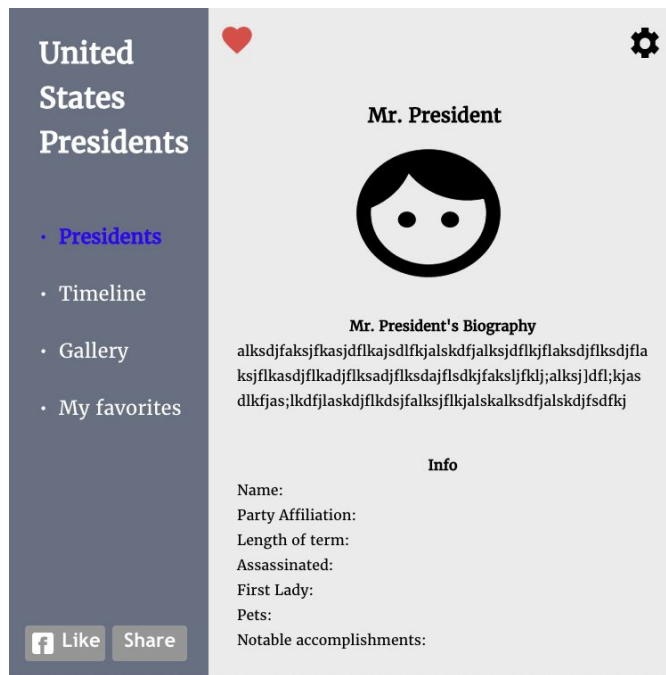
5. President's screen



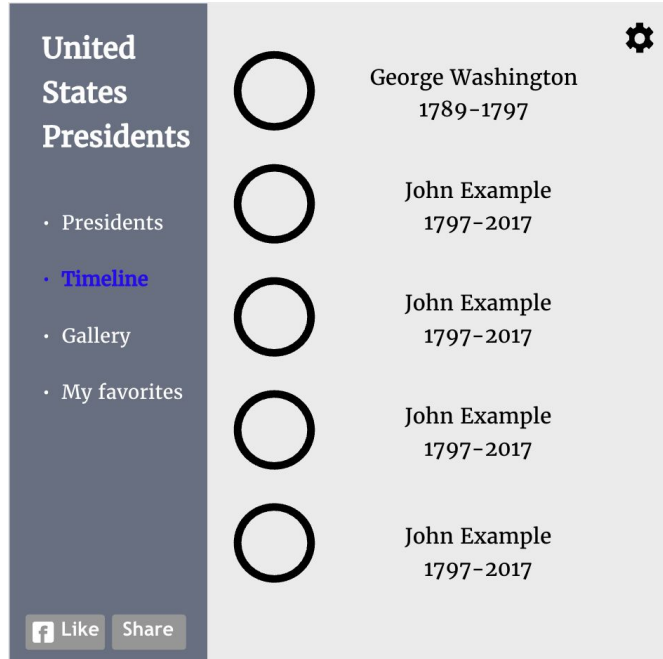
6. President's profile screen



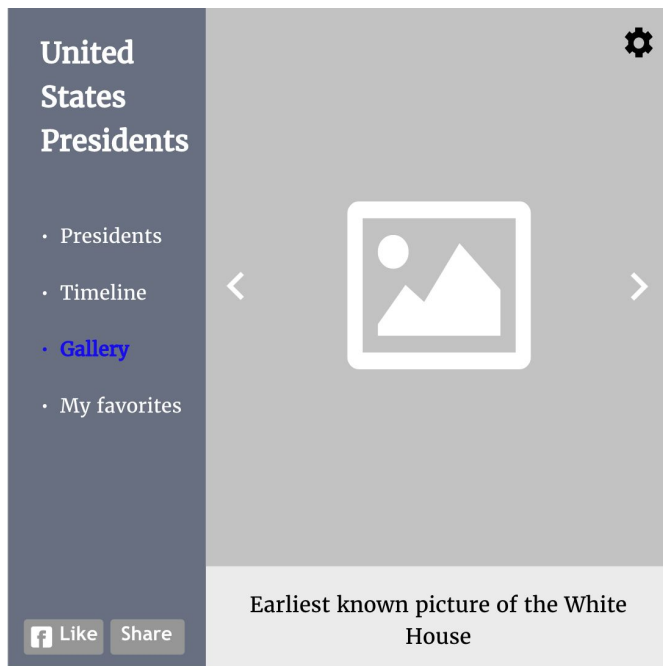
7. President's "favorited" profile screen



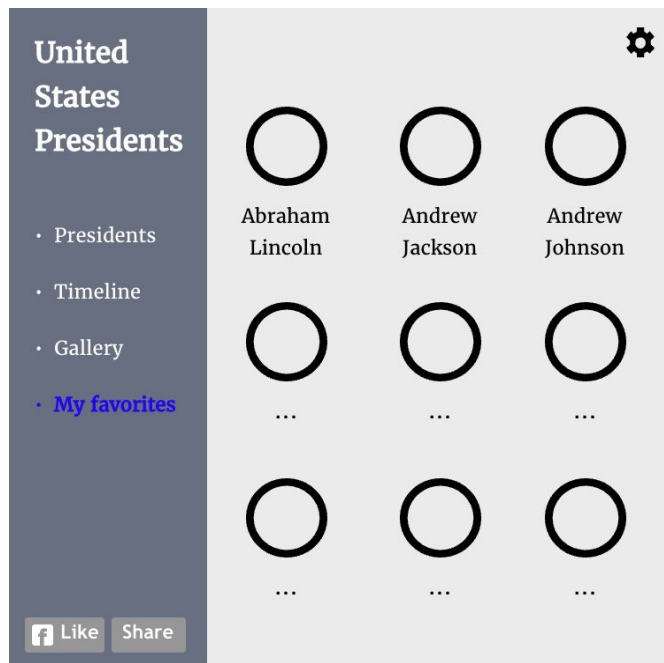
8. Timeline screen



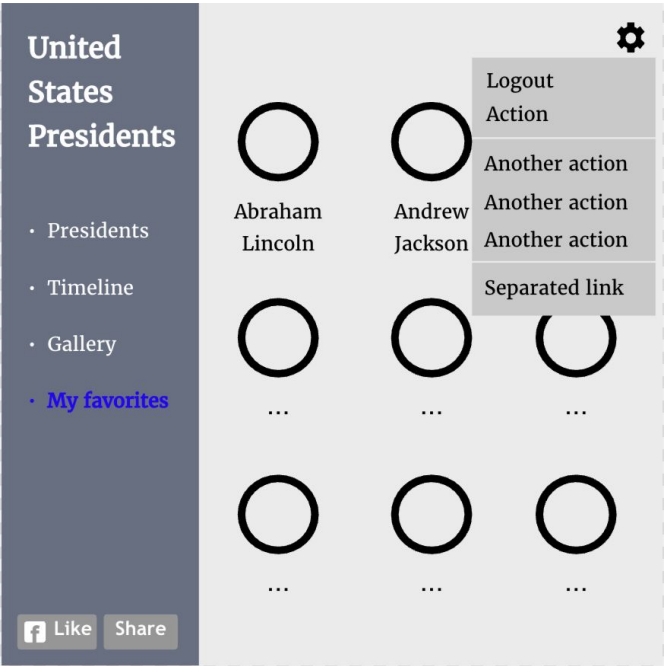
9. Gallery Screen



10. Favorites screen



11. Logging out screen



Strengths/Weaknesses/Risks/Execution

1. Strengths

- a. Single, centralized source for United States presidencies information
- b. Legible, clutter-free interface
- c. Child-friendly layout and navigation
- d. Up-to-date information
- e. Can save favorite presidents to track and enforce learning progress
- f. Real time updates via social media for current president
- g. Simple interface will be mobile friendly
- h. Modern appearance, will appeal to younger audience

2. Weaknesses

- a. Users Lack of integration with an existing account, users must create a login in order to save favorite presidents
- b. Only a U.S. presidency platform, will not implement a geography or government components
- c. Existence of other U.S. presidencies educational websites (e.g. discovery kids, national geographic...)

3. Risks

- a. Students can say they read information, but actually skip through it; no way to verify what was learned
- b. Information might be used as a source, will need to be 100% accurate
- c. Keeping current presidency up to date
- d. Political matters, even when presented without bias can spark controversy

4. Execution

- a. Will be using Firebase for backend infrastructure
- b. Web application will be mobile compatible
- c. Web application will be outlined through wireframe using Uxpin
- d. Once wireframed, the Web Application will be marked up
- e. Following a layout of the structure, we will collectively add content and adjust structure as necessary
- f. We will add a facebook "Like" and "Share" functionality to increase our audience
- g. Based on what user feedback we get, we may link a live Twitter feed for current president updates
- h. As content is added and structure is finalized, we will consistently test web application for usability
- i. Before rolling out final version, we will have the web application tested by real users