

My idea is to do a media server interface. A lot of people I've talked to have used or are using media serving platforms such as Plex or Windows Media Center, but what those both fail to accomplish is to provide an interface that allows both the use of and management of a user's media library in a single application. I propose that we create a media server interface that can perform the following:

- Add/remove media (music/movies/recorded tv)
- Manage media metadata
- Sort and filter media
- For music, be able to open up an album and see it's songs
- For movies, be able to view things like back of the box, imdb details, chapters.
- Create custom lists
- View media in list, tile, and detailed forms
- Play movies/music/recorded shows in application
- Configure media sharing (this is a server after all)
- Allow for a flexible UI that can be somewhat customized (grid size, colors)

Add/remove media:

This will be a core component of the system, and will be quite complicated. Users will need to be able to search through their entire library of media, and see which ones are part of the server and which are not. Adding media should be as simple as pointing the program to the file location of the media that wants to be used.

Manage metadata:

This can be done through a simple editor. When selecting a piece of media, there should be an edit option allowing the user to edit fields.

Sort and filter media:

Have a toolbar that allows the creation of filters, a search bar, and a drop down to choose a sorting method.

View media lists:

For music, being able to click on an album and see the songs within it. For movies, being able to see things like back of the box, IMDB info, technical information, and chapters.

The user should also be able to view movie and music collection in either tile grid or list form.

Play movies:

When playing a movie, the user should have controls on the screen to be able to pause, stop, enable closed captioning, and any other controls that would be beneficial to a movie experience.

Play music:

This should be similar to movies in terms of control, but also allow things like add to queue, favorite, shuffle, and skip.

Configure media sharing:

This is a server after all, so we will need multiple settings pages for the user to easily configure how their media is to be shared.

More settings:

There will be more settings that will be needed, including a help section showing how to use the software, a theme and color changer, and other related settings.