

Donovan Moini, Ian Lizarda, Serena Zafiris, Alexia Filler, Ben Kern
CMSI 401
Dr. Robert Johnson

Amplify Project Proposal

Description

Amplify is a community music streaming service that allows users to create or join rooms that host public music playlists using Spotify and YouTube services, such as platforms like plug.dj and Outloud. Users can join rooms and add songs of their choice from Spotify or YouTube to the queue, which will be cycled through via round-robin style between all users' queued songs. The end users would include anyone who listens to music, and even more so people who enjoy creating group playlists for events including road trips, parties, and more. Since the application is developed in React Native, it will be cross-platform and work on both iOS and Android.

Justification

This project is appropriate for this class because it utilizes languages and concepts we have encountered over the years, and introduces industry-leading technologies and tools for many of the developers. The project will be developed using React JS and Node, tools which will require us to use our knowledge gained from Interaction Design as it will require much UX work. Additionally, our plan to use a backend formulated from an Apollo server using GraphQL for querying a database for playlist rooms and AWS for handling any server hosting and user authentication ensures that we will use new tools. This will require us to conduct individual research both to understand these tools and to apply them to our application. This combination of familiarity and unfamiliarity places the difficulty of Amplify in the middle, as not too easy, yet not too difficult. One semester is a reasonable time to complete this project, especially since we have already demonstrated a working beta. The goal now is to improve the current version into something UI friendly and including all the features we mentioned previously. The team possesses the tools to complete this project. With Ian's frontend experience from Atlassian and Playroll and Serena's frontend experience from Zapproved, we have a solid frontend team. With the backend experience acquired by Donovan from Playroll and Western Digital, Alexia from Amazon, and Ben with administrative backend servers, we also have a strong backend team. These two groups make us believe we have the tools and the experience necessary to complete Amplify.

In conclusion, this team is entirely capable of accomplishing the goals of this project given everyone's experience, skill sets, and interest in the subject matter. This project is structured

such that the software development pipeline should be relatively straightforward, and working with Eddie Azing, who has experience in the software development and deployment processes, will give us all an experience that will be valuable to us in our future careers. However, this project is more than simply an exercise in software development that caters to the interests of our team. Many members of our class also reacted positively to this project concept, and several contacted us immediately after our presentation about working on the project. As we continue throughout the development process of Amplify, we hope to maintain the interest of our classmates, peers, and professors.