CODING NOMADS

16) Representing Content   Lesson

Lab: Make a Composition Index Page 🔖

6 min to complete · By Brandon Gigous

So by this point, creating your compositions works. Now you're ready to show them in all their glory on the index page. In this lesson, it's your chance to prove your templating capabilities once more. A friendly reminder about our **Discord**, a resource to get your questions answered! And if you have one, a place to contact your mentor, too.

Learn by Doing

Showing Compositions

Since you have a `compositions` object passed through to the `index.html` template, you can put it to use to show compositions from any and all users. Display these compositions under your `CompositionForm` . To represent the compositions, you can use an unordered list tag, `<ul>` , for listing all compositions. Inside that you can use the list item tag, `<li>` , *per composition*. Then, show each bit of information about the composition as a `<div>` .

Here's what you'll want to show for each composition:

- **Artist's avatar** - Each composition has *someone* who made it. Display that user's avatar, and linkify it to go to the user's profile page. When showing an `<img>` , you can use the `"img-rounded"` and `"profile_thumbnail"` classes.
- **Date of submission** - Use `moment(composition.timestamp).fromNow()` similar to how you've seen it before to show the time relative to now that the composition

was submitted.

- **Artist's username** - Like the avatar, show the user's username with a link to the user's profile page

- **Release type** - Display the release type as "Single", "EP", or "Album" according to the composition's release type integer value. Remember you can "inject" the `ReleaseType` class into your templates just like you did `Permissions` !

- **Title** - The composition's title.

- **Description** - Show the description provided for the composition.

Here's a suggested way to go about it in your template:

```
<ul class="compositions"> {# All compositions #}
    <li class="composition"> {# Single composition #}
        <div class="composition-thumbnail"> {# Avatar #} </div>
        <div class="composition-content"> {# Composition content #}
            <div class="composition-date">{# date #}</div>
            <div class="composition-artist">{# title #}</div>
            {# ... #}
        </div>
    </li>
</ul>
```

Styling

It's okay if you're not a CSS styling expert. For this course, we don't expect you to make something that looks perfect and professional. As long as you can get the information in the page and make it readable, that is good enough! (Yours truly admits to once having ugly pages...)

With this in mind, here are some optional CSS classes you can include in your `app/static/styles.css` file:

```
ul.compositions {
    list-style-type: none;
    padding: 0px;
```

```css
        margin: 16px 0px 0px 0px;
        border-top: 1px solid #e0e0e0;
    }
    ul.compositions {
        margin: 0px;
        border-top: none;
    }
    ul.compositions li.composition {
        padding: 8px;
        border-bottom: 1px solid #e0e0e0;
    }
    ul.compositions li.composition:hover {
        background-color: #f0f0f0;
    }
    div.composition-date {
        float: right;
    }
    div.composition-artist {
        font-weight: normal;
    }
    div.composition-release-type {
        font-style: italic;
    }
    div.composition-title {
        font-weight: bold;
    }
    /* for showing user avatar */
    div.composition-thumbnail {
        position: absolute;
    }
    /* the composition-content div surrounds the textual
       composition content (title, release type, etc) */
    div.composition-content {
        margin-left: 72px;
        min-height: 72px;
    }
```
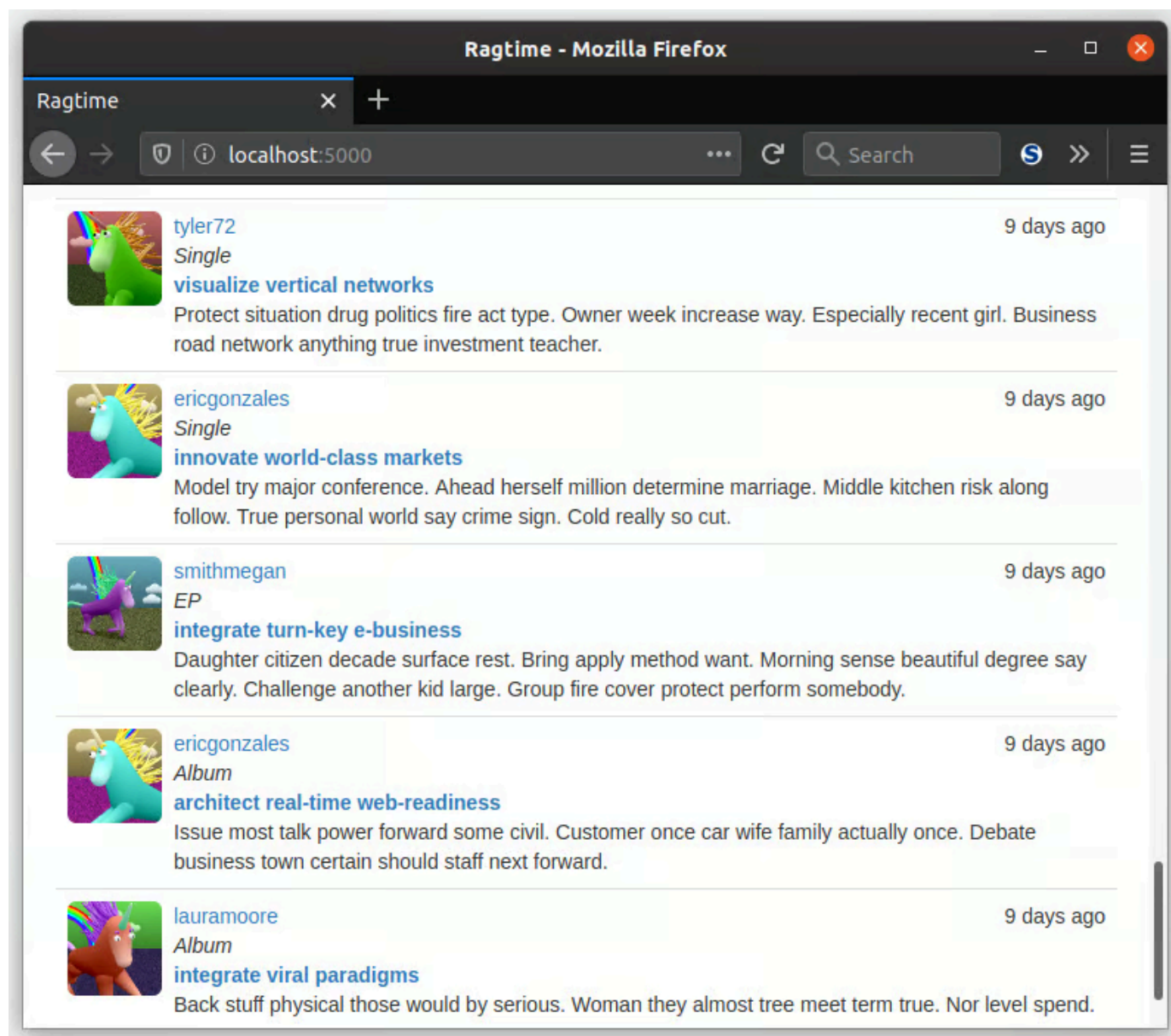
The Composition Form

Keep in mind that if the user doesn't have permission to publish compositions, then there is no point in showing them the form. So, *only* if the user can publish compositions

should you let them see the `CompositionForm` .

The Result

Once your index page is done, it should appear similar to this:

Don't worry if yours doesn't look as pretty, or if you don't have as many words in your compositions. The point of the course is for you to learn how to develop a web app in Flask, which you are doing. :)

Summary: How to Use a Website Content Template

- Since you have a `compositions` object passed through to the `index.html` template, you can put it to use to show compositions from any and all users.

- If the user doesn't have permission to publish compositions, then there is no point in showing them the form. So, *only* if the user can publish compositions should you let them see the `CompositionForm`.

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