Flores de Mariachi

API Integration

By Jessica Ly

Chosen API (What It Does)

The API chosen was the Google Maps API. It allows the website to display a Google Map which has the default map features such as zoom, while also giving the website owner flexibility in map customization. With the current customization implemented, the map now zooms into the visitor's location when granted geolocation permission. However, if an error occurs or the user denies geolocation data, the map will zoom into the main office's location. The custom map also displays happy face icons in areas that correspond to companies that have booked our services in the past. Once the user's page is loaded, the happy face icons will have a bounce animation before settling. If any of the happy face icons are clicked on by the user, these icons will bounce until the user clicks on them once more. For API references, please see the *Links and References* section.
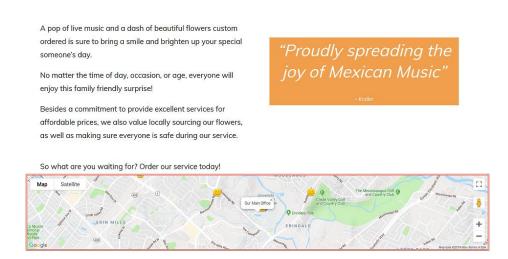
API Usage (Its Value)

By having a visual representation of our satisfied customers on a customized Google Map API, a personal connection and sense of reputability is formed. Visitors can see which areas our services are frequently booked for based on how clustered the icons are. If the visitor's location is within a clustering, it will make our service seem more local and accessible, as it shows that many people in their area are past customers. Additionally, it would allow the visitor to ask past customers about their experience with us. Being able to see what companies have booked our services also indicates that those companies trust our service. If many well-known companies are satisfied enough to allow us to add a marker to them, it builds our company's perceived reputability, and gains trust from new visitors. The happy face icons and their animations add a feeling of friendliness, trust, and enthusiasm. They provide a visual sense of these characteristics due to cultural value and popular usage attached to happy face icons and emojis.
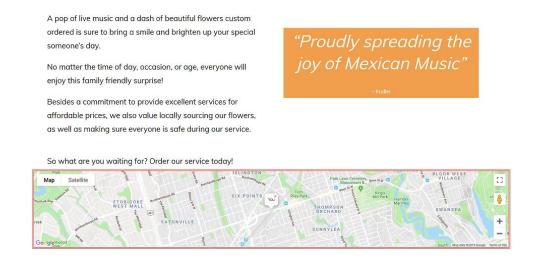
Mock-up of Integration with WordPress Page

     Below we have provided a mock-up of the integration. The colour styling of Google Maps was kept as default, since the orange store labels, shades of gray, and overall light theme is well blended into the website's colour scheme and visual identity. However, we did add a pink border to match the page title colour.

     Here is the bottom of the page if the user denies the geolocation request made by the browser:

     Here is what the page would look like if the user accepts the geolocation request:

Links and References

- References
  - https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/javascript/tutorial
  - https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/javascript/styling
  - https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/javascript/geolocation
  - https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/javascript/examples/icon-complex#try-it-yourself
  - https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/javascript/examples/marker-animations
  - https://cdn2.iconfinder.com/data/icons/drf/PNG/smiley.png

- Webpage for potential API integration
  - URL: http://ccit305.firebird.sheridanc.on.ca/?page_id=39
  - Login Information
    - Firebird back-end access:
      - username: ccit305
      - password: q98T40CiQsIA
    - WordPress back-end access:
      - username: admin
      - password: o8mVudO#@tG2t($cD7