District 12 Personal Event Organizer

Developers:

Daniel Newman (dln2111)

Fei-Tzin Lee (fl2301)

Jon Paul (jp3144)

Jee Hyun Wang (jw3046)

Martin Ong (mo2454)

* *Overall process*:

Initially, we all came together to decide on the goal of our application. After we settled with using Event Listings API from New York Times, we then drew a rough sketch on what functionalities our application should have. We wrote down all the ideas that were brought up, and after that we got rid of some ideas that seemed not relevant, especially to the two personas we developed, and we In the end, we ended up with:

<functions>

-calendar.

When the user likes to attend the event, he can click on “add to my calendar” and it is displayed on his calendar.

-articles related to the event being viewed

keyword with the title of the event?

Search on the reviewer

Search on the location

-events happening near me

We then briefly talked about how each page should contain and look like. Also, we decided on the basic template of each page. Jon Paul created a prototype of the page. Jee Hyun Wang modified the HTML files and included appropriate .css file for the page.

After having a high level view on each page, we delegated the task according to each page. Jee Hyun Wang took charge of index.html and .css, Jon Paul and Martin Ong decided to work on event listings pages with getting related articles, and Daniel Newman and Fei-Tzin Lee got in charge using store.js to display events to the calendar.

We worked separately mostly, interacting with each other through github and Google document. When we met up, we discussed the progression and modified details according to what we found to make more sense.

Jee Hyun Wang wrote up the development documentation, Jon Paul and Fei-Tzin wrote our user manual, and Martin worked on the video.

* *Target users:*

I. A college student.

She is a college student in New York and she is very interested in music. She is currently taking a course on classical music. Every now and then, when she doesn’t have much homework, she goes to concerts. Mostly, she goes to Rock/pop concerts or Jazz. She wants to see what kind of musical concerts there were previously near her area to see the changes of trends and also wants see if there are some articles related to those concerts. She also needs to attend a classical music concert for her class. She wants to see the option she has. She hopes she can go to some other concerts for pop music. She hopes the events can fit in well with her schedule.

II. A banker

He is in the mid 40s and he currently is living with his wife and two children who are 6 and 8 years old. Because he can’t spend much time with his kids during the weekdays, he tries his best to hang out with his children during the weekends. He wishes to see what events there is that he can take his children to. He also wants to get ideas for the activities for his children. He thinks that seeing the events for children that happened in the past might give him good ideas. Also, he wants to take his wife to a musical next month for his anniversary. He wishes to see possible options that he has and wants to see some reviews on them. He also wants to organize all events he wants to attend in a calendar so that he can more easily cross check with his meetings for his work.

* *Design decisions:*

For all pages, the top bar contains the name of this application, a search box, a drop down menu for events, and a button for the calendar page. The design for the top bar, which is fixed, is to implement the minimalist design yet to contain all the functions that the user should conveniently have his access to. The logo takes the user back to the landing page, making it easy for the user to start the search from the start. Events dropdown contains categories of events. The user can click on each category if he wishes to see events for it. If the user wants to search events according to his own search parameter, he has the option to search them through the search box.

For then landing page, index.html, we have a carousel of the image for aesthetic of our app. The alert box will pop up if the location of the device cannot be found. This is for the error prevention. If the location is not found, the location for New York Times office building is selected as a default. The index page also displays portfolios of categories of events. Each portfolio contains short descriptions on what the category contains, so that the user do not have to “recall” what the name of the category means. This goes by the10 Heuristics. For “Events Near Me” section, the user can see three events that happened, are happening, or will happen at once. The user can simply click on the arrows on each side to scroll sideways to see more events. If there are no more previous or next events, the alert box with appropriate message pops up to notify the user. The events are in the format that is the same with the events that are listed on event-listing page. This goes by the heuristic that highlights the importance of consistency.

The event-listing page shows 9 events each for one page and the user can use click on the pagination at the bottom of the page to see more events. This is convenient because the user can choose which page of the event he wants to view. The user can know which category of events or which search string he typed because it is displayed on the page. So the user knows where he is. Each event contains two buttons “add to calendar” and “see related articles”. We designed it this way to make sure the page is not overflowing with information. When each button is hovered, the color of the button changes so that he knows where his mouse is pointing to, decreasing the error, which goes by the heuristic. When the event is added to the calendar, the button changes color to indicate the addition.

Related article page has the title indicating the event that the article search is implemented on. Then the listing contains the article title, date, and a snippet, and a button that takes the user to the actual article on newyorktimes.com.

* *Software engineering*:

We heavily referenced our previous codes using New York Times API. We also used bootstrap for HTML formatting. We used store.js and w3widgets.com for the calendar. We also used Photoshop for prototyping.