Assignment 8 Reflection

Part 1

        My website serves as a personal portfolio that I will be able to use professionally in recruiting for design positions and showcasing my skills and past projects. It also serves as a platform to host documentation for class projects and professional experiences. My goal was to have it act more as a holistic introduction to who I am by including my hobbies and about as well. Thus, overall the information that I convey on my website includes my design-related projects, links and images demonstrating my hobbies, and a description of who I am and what I am interested in.

        I made it interesting and engaging by including a number of links and interactive images/videos to drive home the point of showing rather than telling. The target audience is mainly other designers and recruiters who will be interested to learn more about who I am and what I have done professionally.

Part 2

Nav Bar
- i. Clickable buttons that direct user to specific page
- ii. Click on desired button on top right of the page

Footer
- i. Text with clickable link redirecting user to external pages
- ii. Click on link in the footer

Work Page
- I. Text
    - i. Text with clickable links redirecting user to external pages
    - ii. Click on Work Page, click on the link in the text
- II. Project Cards
    - i. Cards with clickable buttons (for ClosetCore & CoArt) redirecting user to specific project page
    - ii. Click on Work Page, click on "View" button for ClosetCore & CoArt
- III. Project Page
    - i. Scroll through Project Page

Play Page
- I. Videos
    - i. Carousel with 3 videos
    - ii. Click on Play Page, click on left and right buttons to scroll through videos, click on video to play/pause
- II. Digital Art
    - i. Text with clickable link redirecting user to external pages
    - ii. Click on Play Page, click on the link in the text

About Page

I. Photos
    i. Carousel with 3 images
    ii. Click on About Page, click on left and right buttons to scroll through images
II. Social Media
    i. 3 social media icons that redirect user to external pages
    ii. Click on About Page, click on desired icon

Part 3
i. I used Bootstrap.
ii. I chose it because in my previous experiences in homework 5-6, I struggled a lot with formatting my pages consistently and even more so with making it responsive. Therefore, the flexibility of the grid system and components made Bootstrap really helpful. The pre-styled components also appealed to me because I felt like it would save me a lot of time.
iii. I used it to add interesting components such as carousels and cards. I also used it to create consistent looks across all of my pages by adding a navigation bar and footer.
iv. The ability to use the same component across different pages adds a look of consistency to my website. Additionally, the responsive grid added responsiveness to my website.

Part 4
I didn't plan this originally on my HW7 mockups, but I ultimately decided to add thumbnails to my videos on my carousel on my play page because they showcased the video meaning better than the first screen of the video.

    I also decided to override a few of the pre-styled aspects from Bootstrap to create a navigation bar with more personality. I added a few pops of pink, which is my favorite color, to add more visual appeal and personality to my website.

    Finally, I added a footer because I noticed that many self-designed and developed portfolio websites tend to have them.

Part 5
    One challenge I experienced was trying to get sizes of photos and videos to be responsive while still being a reasonable size proportionate to the page. Another challenge was getting text to align vertically to match the photos on my project pages. Finally, when trying to add color to my website, I struggled to get the CSS to work and show on the website, only to discover later that I needed to add !important to get it to alter the pre-styled Bootstrap.