1. Title

myDatabase

2. Organizers and presenters' names and affiliations

Katrina Torres
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Design Major

3. URL of the demo website or video

ketorre17.github.io/index.html

Please see this website to see updates on information and development of "myDatabase" (under **Project**).

4. Abstract (ready for diffusion). 200 words maximum.

Racial discrimination in the public education system is still a problem today. Public schools located in poor neighborhoods (usually inhabited by minorities) have less money to spend on resources, and more likely to have less skilled teachers and faculty. The lack of resources means students from these areas have lower scores, but are still blamed for doing poorly even though it isn't their faults. There are already a lot of tools and programs out there to help these students, however audience they are targeted to don't always know about them, or if they do learn about them, given the hustle and bustle of their own lives, they usually lose the information on the event, which either causes them to forget about them or if they remember them, unable to access them because they have misplaced or it takes too much time to find information to access the resource. Like the schedule of a youth program and its location, phone numbers of resources at their school, etc. Or even something simple like a number to contact for a safe ride home.

5. General description of the Project

A database of information that some additional tools that makes school a bit more manageable. The easier it is to access education and resources, and being informed of those resources, the more likely the student will utilize them. Based on study on resources that would best help (from articles and personal experience). The interface have different predesigned categorized forms to fill with information. Such forms included are for class information (professor's name, email address, location/hours of office hours, call numbers of useful books. etc), educational youth programs (times during the week, location), and important phone numbers such as suicide hotlines, and school administrative departments. Included with an information organization system, are tools to help with daily life, such as taking and filing away pictures of posters of events or job opportunities. There is also a category for medical information, and other important documents that would be useful to have easy access too. All of this information is saved into a personal database for the user, and a key function is that the information can be selected to be saved as a pdfs and emailed to be printed out or saved incase something happens. It is planned that it isn't necessary for the user to make an account, an can just use the forms and email the information as pdfs to an email that they type in every time they use the app. Another option which allows the information added to be stored, is for the user to create an account which only requires a username, password, and email address to be provided and not additional information. This along with the fact it is free, and less intrusive with what information it wants, the target audience is more relaxed with using it. (no strings attached, no things to worry about).

6. From glenda: I'm not sure what they will be asking in this field, but I imagine they will want to see how you connect your content to the ISEA call, so that is what I would like you to write here.

myDatabase's concept is an attempt to find a way for a person to make peace with the bombardment of information we experience in the world. The conceived interface is meant to be used as a tool to catalog and organize the information most useful to the user, in a form that will easy for them to access in their busy, fast paced lives. In a way it is combining little bits of pieces of peace, data, and design.

7. Biographies of the Author(s).

I am Katrina Torres, a current design student interested in interactive media and ways to organize information/data into forms that eases the process of understanding the material for the user. This includes making an effort to make such material as available as possible. Over the years, I have learned that I comprehend material better when it is communicated visually or through audio. I read a lot, but really slowly. I also find it easier to communicate ideas visually through diagrams. This why I am currently studying visual language through design to be able to better communicate my thoughts and ideas to others. I also enjoy the concept communication through auditory and visual storytelling.