A Temple Renewed

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https://youngjessica.github.io/wdd130/wdd130/cotemple/index.html

Introduction

As our final assignment in WDD-130, we were asked to create a website, from scratch, for a topic of our choice. This website was to include all the web design basics we learned throughout the semester. The topic needed to enable our site to hold enough valuable information to host a homepage, and two sub-pages. We needed to have validated HTML and CSS code for each page, and have created a solid, clear, and functional web design for out topic.

I chose to create a website for the newly re-dedicated Columbus, Ohio Temple. Within this website, I included basic information on the renovations and re-dedication of the temple, along with the basic truths of what temples are, what they represent, and their importance in our faith, all information geared toward my intended audience.

Audience

The intended audience for this website was non-members, specifically those living near or around the area of the temple, who are curious of the construction, open-house, and re-dedication traffic and events that have occurred near them. Simply, the idea was to target those who wanted to know more about this beautiful building and what its purpose is.

The simplistic layout, ease of access to information, images and design were all intentionally created to cater to the target audience. For those who may be unfamiliar with our church, or who are simply interested, I believe the website I created will be a great resource for them. It includes not only the basic principles and ideas behind the purpose of a temple, but it also shows glimpses inside of this precious building, hopefully providing a further sense of intrigue. In the perfect situation, this website provides missionary opportunities as it includes contact information for the temple's office as well as the mission office.

Objective

The purpose of my website was to provide information about the newly renovated and soon re-dedicated Columbus, Ohio LDS Temple. This site was mean to be simple yet engaging as it provided basic information about temples of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints along with explanations on why this temple was recently renovated, its open-house, and information on its re-dedication ceremony in June of 2023.

The hope with this project was to first, build my own personal confidence in building a basic website from scratch, gaining a better foundation of my understanding of HTML and CSS, as well as provide a simple informative website to house information for non-members regarding our recent rededicated temple. An added bonus would be the missionary aspect, where visitors to my site would utilize the contact information I offered and reach out to learn more about the church.

Design Process

After confirming my site plan and having it approved, I began to imagine how I'd like to layout my site and exactly what I wanted it to look like. I first, began with a wireframe. Wireframes are so helpful, and I learned a lot about how to create one and utilize it this semester. I used wireframe.cc to create my site's layout utilizing the grid tool, and placing each image and piece of information exactly where I wanted it to be. This step was crucial in my design process, one that I used as a "cheat sheet" throughout the remainder of the semester.

My next step was coming up with a style guide, including the colors and typography I planned to use. I chose a calming teal/ blue and gold color palette with white and black to accompany the typography. I then used google fonts and chose a decorative type, Dancing Script, for my headlines and a simple san-serif, Oswald, for my main body text.

Next, I created a logo that would embody the feel of my message and objective, as well as utilize all my stylistic choices. I used Adobe Illustrator to create an outline of the Columbus temple with gold, and the added the title of "Columbus, Ohio Temple" in the teal/blue color.

After adding the HTML for my site, I began to add in the CSS styling. There were some changes made that differ from my original wireframe. Those stylistic changes include the width and size of the hero image and the image sliders on both subpages. I also chose to add the website title and subtitle separate from the hero image on the home page, and include both titles first, then the hero image. These changes, I felt, displayed better visual hierarchy.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I feel like I've accomplished my initial goals and objectives in creation of this project. I feel like I gained a better foundational understanding of HTML and CSS coding and have become more confident going into my next coding courses. Learning the basics of HTML and CSS, were essential skills for me this semester. I think the most helpful skills I learned were the grid-system within CSS and the use of wireframes and how to create them on my own. These are powerful tools I know will help me in my future academic and post-academic career.

I believe that my website has successfully fulfilled the project parameters and accomplished the goals I set. I am proud of the work that I accomplished, but mostly, I am grateful for the further understanding I gained this semester in this course, specifically through this project, that has given me a greater confidence in my web design and development skills.