# **Individual Project Idea**

the project purpose,

My individual project idea is working on a portfolio where I can display artwork and other projects. I think this will be especially important for me personally since I really want to become an artist and it's very vital for me to have my own portfolio. Not only that but I would love to have a platform where I can show others some work I have created.

resources or other work that inspired this project, and

Honestly, I can't think of any works that have inspired me since I've been avoiding creating a portfolio for many years now. However, now that I have the opportunity to work on it and have the resources to help me. I am having a much more positive view on it.

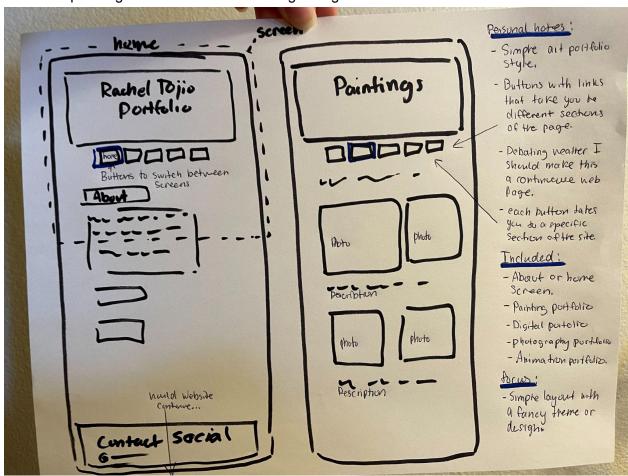
 thoughts about what you'll need to learn or what resources you'll need to gather for project completion.

I'm not sure what resources I will need to learn. Most likely CSS and HTML coding like the work we have been doing in class and basic web design. Since I have no experience working with web design or interface design unless you count my Interactive media designs class experience.

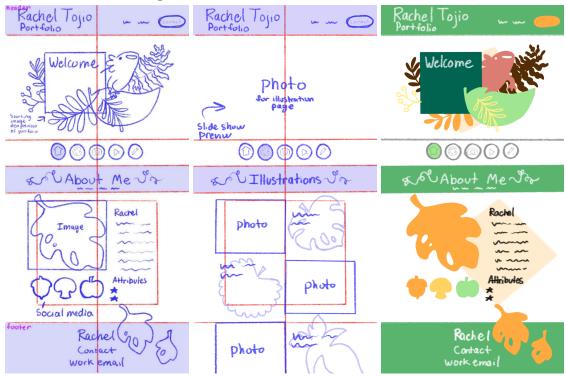
# **Individual project Layout**

#### The Idea:

Especially since I'm new at working with HTMLs and CSS I want to start out with creating a fairly simple design which focuses more on the color and aesthetic of the background. From my personal experience I always see simplistic portfolio designs with huge empty spaces of lost potential. I want to have a website that has all the functions additionally being user friendly, however still incorporating a lot of fun and interesting background elements.



# **Updates to Design:**



# Changes:

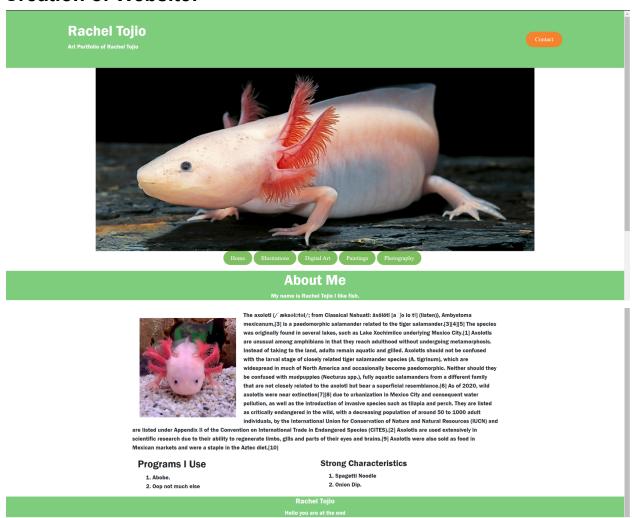
There were a few changes done to the website mostly to do with the layout. There is now a top nav. The picture section now has a slide show area where the images on the photo will switch between images depending on what page you are on.

It would be nice if you have any advice on the color scheme. I was thinking of something with green and orange colors but I'm not sure about how the first attempt turned out.

### What I need to Learn:

- Slideshow images: making it so my slideshow switches between images.
- Adding personal Images and icons. Saving them to my files.
- Adding spacing between images and text. So everything isn't so cramped together.
- Buttons when pressed will change a color. Or the page's icon has a specific color.
- Moving images as the screen moves.
- Background images I can add text or other images over.

## **Creation of Website:**



## All images and text are placeholders.

## Included:

Currently All I have is a home page with a cover image, nav bar, and places where I will insert the text. There will be 4 other pages very similar to this page which will include any works.

### What's going on:

Currently I've been having an incredibly hard time with my website's creation. With the largest part holding me back being my nav bar. I'm not sure why it's not linking to my other pages, it only keeps notifying me that the page doesn't exist when it does.

#### Responding to Feedback:

Thanks for the Feedback!

Tu: I like the concept of having the leaves in the background. It would definitely fill out the emptiness on your website.

Response:

Thanks! I really like plants and wanted to have a botanical theme for my website. I really hope I am able to incorporate more of that design into my website, especially since I've been having trouble with formatting everything!

Tu: I really like the slide shows, I like how when the user clicks on the nav bar it changes the color theme for the whole page.

Response:

Interesting you point that out! I was actually planning on changing that so they all match the same color. However, I might consider doing something like that since it might make it easier to see what page you are on. At the same time I'm working on making the different pages layouts more distinctive so unfortunately the color may not stay.

Tu: lol same I started out using random images as a placeholder. One suggestion I would give is for the background, I know you want to add falling leaves. Are you looking to add in a video for the background?

Response:

No, I was actually planning on doing that in a much different way. I know there is a way to make images move as you scroll the screen. However, looking into it I most definitely don't have the time to tackle that project at the moment so this is definitely a project for another time. I am intrigued by this video idea! I noticed a few students had moving videos on their websites however I won't be using that at the moment.

Heather: I honestly think what you have going on so far is good. I was wondering if this is the final font you want for your project? It's not a completely huge deal but just from an aesthetic standpoint I think it would be nice to explore fonts.

Response:

Thanks! The font is definitely a work in progress. I really don't like the boring times new roman that it is right now. Though while reading your response it definitely got me thinking about the aesthetic of my font layout! I actually got a good idea for making it a lot more interesting to read the description of my artwork. By adding a hover feather so when the mouse hovers over the text it shows the work description over the image.



I mean it kind of worked how it's supposed to accept the animation isn't working. Hopefully this will make my portfolio more appealing!

# **Final Reflection of work:**

This project was intended to be a fun portfolio type of website where I can store projects that I've worked on.

Creating a portfolio website has been something I've always wanted to do so getting the chance to be able to create one with the class was a great experience. When I started, I felt very intimidated by the idea of learning how to code but working through it during class really helped me get the resources and support to face many of the challenges and learn at my own pace.

Getting started was one of the most difficult parts of creating a website since there are endless possibilities of approaches I could take. I remember from my intro to interactive design it's important to start by creating a wireframe and prototypes so you can plan the layout of your design before starting to code it. This is when I created the 2 wireframes and 1 very simplified prototype so I could visualize how my website would look like. I tried to reference popular professionally created portfolio websites to get inspiration, and this helped even though it was difficult to find portfolios in the style I was looking for. Even though the current alliteration of the website looks incredibly different from how I originally planned it, I'm glad I was able to create a plan of the website since it really helped when I started coding.

Getting started on how to code the general layout of the website was very confusing and took a surprisingly long amount of time. The biggest issue that I ran into was spacing and alignment. It was so confusing how there were so many ways to align images, texts, and apparently even whole entire rows and div's. I also ran into so many problems where text and images were in the strangest places, and I couldn't figure out how they got there. There were even a few moments where images and text would disappear from the website entirely and I couldn't find them. In the end I learned a lot from using the inspect feature on explore to looking at examples of other people's websites and looking at mine to see why some sections look the way they do. I really wish I started using this feature more since it was so helpful.

Creating the custom designs was fun. I used an art program I was already familiar with so it would be easier for me to get the pencil sketch look I was trying to achieve. However, in the future I might want to use photoshop or illustrator since those are more standard when creating designs for these types of projects. I also feel like I was limited on what I could create using the program I had.

Slideshow code:

Creating the slideshow was very strange and out of my comfort zone but I'm glad it worked. I followed a tutorial to create the slideshow, and this made it very easy to put together. To simply describe the process I started off by adding all of the pictures and formatting them in CSS, so they are all next to each other in one big row. Then I created a screen where any overflow would be hidden only showing one image at a time. Lastly, I created radio buttons so I can transition to different slides and using JavaScript I created a for loop which will transition to each slide automatically based on what number it's on.

While creating the home page there were many changes I made to the original design. I think these changes turned out good in the end and I'm happy with how it's looking so far. The first change is I got rid of the description below the slideshow. I realized quickly there really weren't enough things I wanted to say about myself, and what I had to say wouldn't take up a whole page. So instead, I created an overlay on the slideshow where I can clearly display in the front who I am and what type of artist I am. I really like how the home page turned out and looking back at how it looked before I really like the current layout.

I got a lot of great feedback on my home page, and I think my changes fixed some of the problems other students informed me about. Like how because of the large slideshow, it could be difficult for people to realize there is more text at the bottom of the page and how the about page should only be a simple description.

When working on the portfolio section of the website I started off working on the illustrations and photography pages since those are very similar to each other in design. I ran into a lot of trouble getting the pictures to alternate from left to right but using the float function fixed this since I could set it to left and right.

I'm proud of the fact that now I'm able to use HTML, CSS, and some JavaScript. I think it's a great skill to learn and I'm going to do more with what I learned during the summer. When it comes to CSS, I'm a lot more used to using many of the commands and I'm able to code simple changes without researching what they do since I know by memory. I've basically figured out how to use div's and classes to style and do interesting changes to the website. I'm glad I was able to take this class. Even though it was very difficult and frustrating at times, I learned a lot and really hope I get to experiment more with HTMLs in the future.





Before and after comparison of changes:

Unfortunately, there were a lot of features I wanted to include but I couldn't add to my website. The most frustrating example was the text which wouldn't slide up when hovering over my images. It was very strange my child command wasn't working; however, I did find a way to use JavaScript to get the same result so this could be my next project over the summer. I couldn't include as much JavaScript as I intended as well. I discovered a very cool effect using JavaScript which allows you to have moving objects on your screen. I wanted to have moved leaves which fell as you scrolled down the gallery. When doing further research I found this is a very complex feature and I would need a lot more time to learn it. My Animations or video page is also incomplete because my original plan for the layout was way too distracting and overwhelming and unfortunately, I didn't have any other good ideas for the layout. Getting more feedback and doing more research are my next steps for this project over the summer. Hopefully, when I have a more complete website it will be something I can be really proud of.