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Evanta UI/UX Portfolio
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It has been very exciting to see our team evolve and grow during my 3 years at Evanta. And as we become more integrated into CEB, and work on even more varied projects, I think there is value in highlighting the specializations within our team.

During the last 2 years, and accelerating in 2016, I believe I have taken on additional responsibilities beyond what was initially outlined in my job description, including:

- Commitment to overseeing style consistency among our projects, even as style direction has changed and evolved.
- Develop brand and style guides to help guide us through rapid development process.
- Act as the go-to person for assistance on styling elements, communicating information to users, and issues related to user workflow.
- Innovate new and improved user interfaces and implement them across multiple projects.
- Identify and solve user experience conflicts, through better messaging or simpler workflows.

Based on the depth and breadth of my skills, I propose that the title *Senior UI Developer* would be appropriate for my role. It will formalize where I'm best suited to do work on our products. Having a developer focused on the user's interface and experience will help us continue delivering great products to all our customers.

I'd like to highlight some of the accomplishments that I think warrant this change, including where I have taken my own initiative in identifying and solving a variety of UI/UX problems across our projects.

Event Beyond Admin

As the design and scale of the project evolves and changes, it can become difficult to maintain a consistent look & feel. I've been able to maintain consistency by:

- Creating clean, reusable CSS/SASS components that are easy to implement and maintain.
- Create and maintain a style guide, highlighting the code needed to implement common elements. This has made it easier to implement new pages and with less confusion.
- Ensure code quality during code reviews, making periodic sweeps to remove in-line styles and ensure that correct classes are being used.
- Be aware of the work being done by all members of the team, and assist as needed in the creation of standard elements. Look for evolving new elements that would benefit from a distinct style treatment that fits with the design of the site.
- Keep the entire team apprised of the current best practices
- Always looking to simplify and streamline the HTML/CSS needed to implement common elements.

Event Selection

I've incorporated feedback from heavy users of the tool to make it the best experience possible. Incorporating both front-end and back-end code improvements, the Event Selection tool has been well-received for its usability.

Event Beyond Marketing Website

With no marketing direction or assets beyond a logo, I designed and implemented the Event Beyond marketing website and created an accompanying Brand Book.
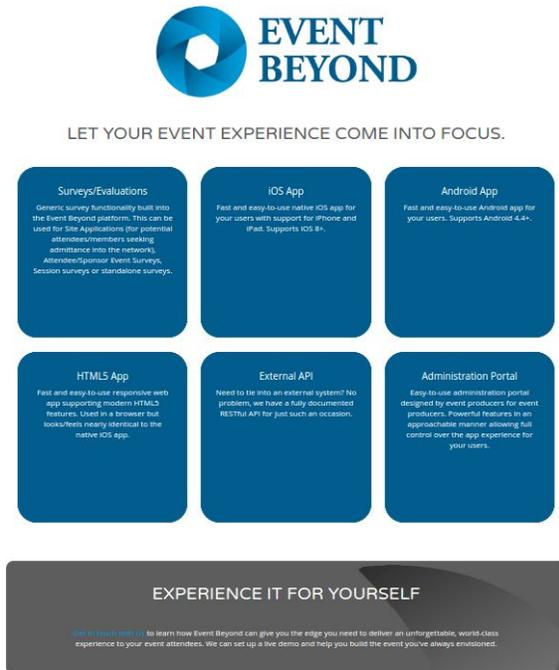
LMS Front-End

Although Daylight delivered us code initially, additional work was needed to clean and integrate the code delivered to us. For example, I adjusted the code to work with our commonly-used methods, and removed over 3000 lines of unneeded css, increasing our ability to maintain it over time.

Also during the application of the organization themes, I improved the way we parse and deliver the customizations. These will be applied to our previous projects, increasing performance.

LMS Admin

We were given basic designs for the LMS admin, but I saw many areas for improvement beyond what was outlined for the team to build. Focusing on the experience of the end user, I aimed to identify and solve a variety of issues.

Problem: Across the app, there were workflows that required a user to take many small steps to accomplish, such as uploading attachments or building a course.

Solution: Allow in-page editing for smaller actions; no separate form required.

Implementation:

In a variety of places across the app, users can edit fields in place without the need to navigate back and forth, greatly simplifying the workflow needed to tasks. Appropriate confirmation messages are delivered in place, keeping the user informed of their progress.
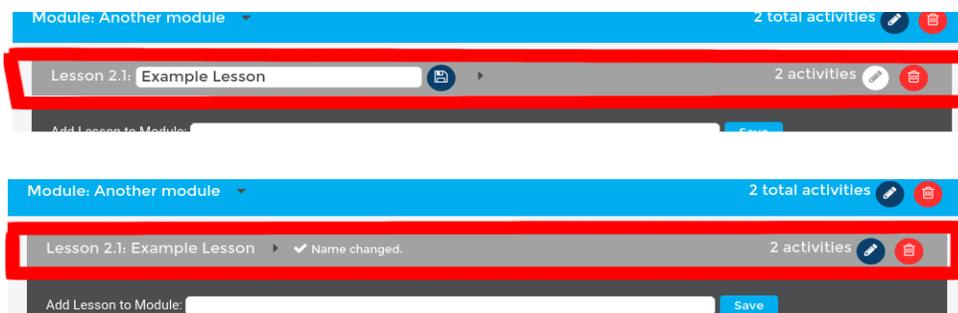
Problem: Javascript alert messages were being used in many places, but they were not customizable and lacked visual nuance. They gave a jarring experience even if we only needed to provide a notification or ask for a user input.

Solution: Create a customized solution that would allow for control over the look & feel of a pop-up.

Implementation:

We can now deliver customized icons, colors, and additional functionality as needed. The user can click-and-drag the box to see what is behind it. Cancel/Confirm buttons are more intuitive, as they match the rest of the site.

Problem: We were using FlashMessage pop-ups that appeared from the bottom of the screen to convey information and warnings to users. But these lacked context on the page and would automatically close.

Solution: Create a customizable solution, giving users feedback in the appropriate place on the page. Allow for fine control over the color and treatment of these messages, with a variety of options to suit our needs.

Implementation:

We can now give users much more precise feedback about their actions, controlling for color, placement, animation, and use of different icons to help convey any needed messaging. The result is that the user can clearly see exactly what might need attention, and where, resulting in less user frustration.

Problem: Some of our forms are quite long, and a user might get to the very bottom before they are informed something is wrong. Smoothing out this process would minimize confusion and frustration.

Solution: Treat a form more like a conversation, allowing the user to make corrections as their attention goes from top to bottom naturally.

Implementation:

As one example, if a user inputs an invalid email address in an email field, when they leave that element they are immediately informed of the error. This allows them to correct it while their attention is still there, rather than an abrupt message at the very end of the form.

Problem: No mobile designs were provided for this project.

Solution: Knowing that mobile was not a major priority for this project, we needed to balance the resources of the team with basic usability.

Implementation:

A basic usability sweep was conducted, making navigation, tables, buttons, and other common elements usable on a smaller/mobile device while not diverting excessive time towards the aesthetic edge-cases.