



## **Diverse Makers**



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Dr. Jared Duval

Assistant Professor - SICCS NAU

Director of Playful Health Technology Lab

### **Experience in the Field**

 Uses research through design to develop therapy games and playful applications that help improve and maintain health

### **Research Focus**

 Specializes in serious games for health that emphasize human-computer interaction with assistive technology





"Over 40 million Americans have a disability, however, research shows that disabled people are severely underrepresented in STEM fields. So much so that only 3% of people in the STEM workforce have a disability."

- STEM learning opportunities are not equally accessible to those with disabilities
- Makerspaces offer hands-on STEM learning outside school









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### **Limited Access to Makerspaces**

Many makerspaces are not physically accessible to individuals with disabilities

### **Lack of Learning Resources**

 Current STEM materials and maker project guides do not cater to diverse learning needs

### **Social Isolation in STEM**

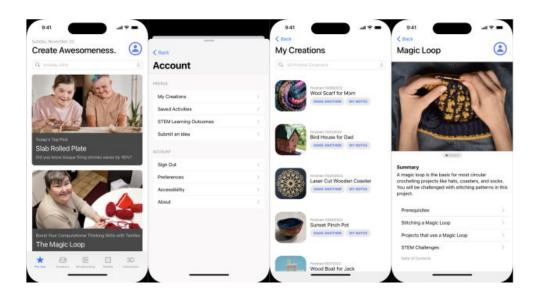
Those with disabilities face social barriers leading to a lack of community

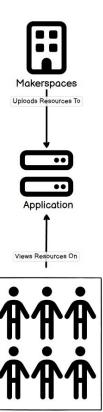






- Our mobile application will act as a central hub for sharing STEM resources
  - This will provide tools to those with disabilities













### **Hosting for STEM content and resources**

Google Firebase Database

### Accessible user interface for multiple disabilities

- Nielsen's Heuristics Principles
- Material Design Framework













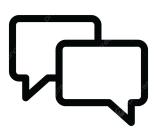


### **Connection to local makerspaces**

- Chat with other users
- User location data

### User profile creation and management

- Share details about themselves
- Viewable by makerspaces











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### Usability

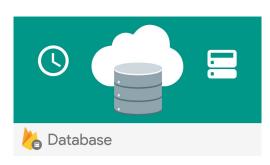
- Intuitive UI for makerspaces
- Usable in a home environment

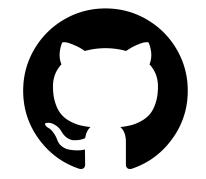
### **Optimization**

Quick database operations

### Maintainability

- Readable code
- Thorough documentation
- Version control











### **Risk 1: Unintuitive system for Makerspaces**

- Description: Poor design of application could lead to low usage and contribution
- Likelihood: High
- Mitigation: Communication with client and stakeholders



### **Risk 2: Disability Negligence**

- Description: Unintended negligence of certain disabilities when accommodating for others
- Likelihood: High
- Mitigation: Follow proper design principles such as WCAG









PROCESS	SPRING SEMESTER								FALL SEMESTER				
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Мау		Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Requirements Engineering Document													
Design Review 1													
Tech Demo with Mentor													
Development Phase (coding, design, implement)													
Testing Phase (UAT, Integration testing)													
Deployment of application													









### **Project Importance**

Breaking barriers in STEM



### **Solution Overview**

Mobile application enforces usability and accessibility



### **Future Steps**

Plan next development phase



Build upon

outlined framework



Network with makerspaces







# Thank you!

**Any Questions?** 

