Pallist: Find Nearby Friends

Grace Du Mez

Michael Kiley

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Pallist: Find Nearby Friends
Grace Du Mez, Michael Kiley, & Dr. Mike Jipping

Introduction
Ready for Life gives people who have been diagnosed with cognitive, learning, or social disabilities educational experiences after high school. RFL helps these students gain independence as well as job skills. Going to events like a basketball game or a chapel service can cause stress and anxiety for these students. Pallist was created to help persons with disabilities find people they know in social situations and ease the process of going to busy places.

Development Tools
For developing and running our app, we used Swift in conjunction with Xcode. Source Tree and Pivotal Tracker are tools that we used for version control, tracking our progress, and organizing our work. We used Node.js and mongoDB to create a server that allows for communication between users as well as data storage. Postman enabled us to test this server.

Home Page
The home page of Pallist populates a list of pals nearby to the user. If the user is in a recognized building, the building name is placed at the top. When a pal picture is labeled “nearby”, this means that the pal is not in the same building as the user but they are within a 50 meter radius of them. If no building is recognized, this page simply shows the pals who exist within the 50 meter radius. Users can select specific friends on this page and view only those pals on the maps page.

Map Page
The map view of Pallist places the user as well as their added pals who are within their radius on google maps. Pals are represented on the map by their profile picture. If the user is inside a recognized building, the building will be outlined. Otherwise, a red circle representing a 50 meter radius will show around the user’s position. If the user selects pals on the home page and swipes to the map page, only those pals will show on the map. If the user clicks on one individual user in this view, a label will appear showing the pal’s name.

Pals Page
The pals page shows the user a list of their added pals. Every time they add or delete a pal, the results will show here. The edit button in the top left corner allows users to delete friends and the plus button in the top right corner takes users to a view where they can add new pals. Pals can be added both locally and remotely. This page also allows users to access their settings by pressing the wheel in the bottom right corner where they can change their account information, log out, and go invisible.

Adding Pals
Pallist allows user to add pals in two ways:
1. Add by QR Code:
   Users can add pals to Pallist locally by scanning the QR code located on the add pals page. This will immediately add both users to each other’s Pallist.
2. Add by email:
   Users can add pals to Pallist remotely by typing in their pal’s email. This will send that pal a notification resulting in a pal request which they can either accept or deny.

Future Work
Add functionality so that users can add new buildings.
Add indoor positioning to make users’ location more accurate in the app.

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