Strengthening the Latino Community: Building an interactive Android App for JUNTOS Organization

Xinan (Jacy) Li, Peiying Wen
Computer Science Department, Bryn Mawr College

About Juntos App

The Juntos app is tailored to and built for the community members of Juntos, a non-profit organization that fights for the rights of the Latino-immigrant community in city of Philadelphia and surrounding areas. The main purpose of the app is to publicize and highlight the events held by the organization for its members. Another notable functionality of the app is to document abuses when the user encounters unfair treatments due to their Latino identity. The app also provides real-time information on immigrant rights and the organization.

App Features

- View all events organized by Juntos
- Report abuses via text, camera, and audio
- Share your favorite events with friends
- Add events to local calendar
- Set reminders of new abuses and events
- Flexible payment options for donation
- View personalized immigrant rights
- Contact organization leaders directly
- Location aware
- Supports English and Spanish
- It’s free!

User Experience

Summary of findings

Positive Feed Backs
- All participants think they would like to use the app frequently
- Most participants find the UI design is intuitive and they always know where to click
- Most participants think the app can better serve the community

Areas of Improvement:
- App crashes
- App cannot be installed into older versions
- Multiple occurrences for user information input
- Better color scheme
- Clear setting menus

UX Survey Questions:

1. Do you think that you would like to use this app frequently?
2. Do you find the app unnecessarily complex?
3. Do you think you need previous instructions in order to know how to use the app?
4. What do you find is the most important functionality of this app?
5. Which part of the app do you find you’ll be most frequently using?
6. Which part of the app do you find you’ll be least frequently using?
7. Do you always feel like you knew what to do and where to click?
8. Did you ever click on something and get an unexpected result? If so, what is it?
9. Did you find that you could do the following things with the app?

Technical Challenges

Activity | Challenges
--- | ---
Report By Camera | - Access Memory on SD Card
Report By Audio | - Send Via Email with attachment
Explore Calendar | - Get Current precise location with GPS
Preference Activity | - Interaction with Camera Intent and Audio Usage

Areas of Improvement:
- Support for older version of Android
- Bilingual
- Sophisticated handling of Activity Life Cycle
- Widget Design
- Database
- Authorization

Future Work

- Make the app running efficiently
- Enable events searching and filtering
- Enable Sharing on other network platforms
- Enable the organization to send alerts/notifications about reported abuse instances or emergencies to all app users
- Provide social network features: support user accounts and create user databases