Programming Contest Platform

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Key Personnel

- Project Champion: Dr. Wing Ning Li, CSCE Professor and Researcher
- Secondary Advisor: George Holmes, CSCE Systems Administrator and Lab Technician

Problem

- Other code evaluation services:
 - Are incredibly outdated
 - Lack features making it easy to host programming competitions
 - Don't allow group creation or customized feedback
 - Clunky and has trouble with university email accounts

Objective

- Create a modern programming contest app to put outdated ones to rest
 - Will focus on intuitive user experience, consulting UI/UX experts
 - Will focus on securing user data with Auth0 being used to handle access
- Docker containers will compile and run submissions and tell users degree of success

Background

- Key concepts
 - Docker
 - PostGreSQL
 - Java Spring Boot
 - Typescript
 - React
- Related work
 - o PC²
 - o Online Judge
 - Leetcode
 - o Binarysearch.io

Requirements

- Creation of an online web page that allows users to:
 - Create new competitions
 - Name the competition
 - Manage a list of teams
 - Set up scoring methods and other individually specific parameters
 - Join existing competitions
 - Access participating competitions via list of competitions on website
 - Join via unique link, distributable via QR code

Requirements (Continued)

- Provide an infrastructure that can efficiently evaluate code uploaded by users
 - Code needs to have input checked while also being secure
 - Docker will be used to implement this section of our architecture
 - Evaluation should focus on sandboxing user code
 - Code results will be returned to the API to be stored and shown to users

Use Cases

- Programming Competitions
 - o University of Arkansas High School Programming Challenge
- Programming Challenges class
- Anyone wanting to create a private programming contest

Design Goals

Frontend

- Use react to create a modern frontend
- Design should be clean and responsive
- It should be easy to join a competition and start programming

Backend

- Use Java Spring Boot for built-in ease of type conversion
- Access database quickly and cleanly
- Use PostGreSQL in database to appeal to third normal form

Code evaluator

- Use Docker to easily and quickly scale
- Sandbox code to keep our infrastructure secure
- Guarantee integrity of results