delphi social clubs

the first online/offline community building website designed for the diverse needs of young adults on the autistic spectrum or autism adjacent in the Pacific Northwest

1. research
Through focus groups and secondary research we found that our users:
- Value connectivity and staying up to date with friends
- Enjoy contributing and consuming content online
- Prefer simple, clean, and linear layouts with clearly prioritized content

2. ideation
Through ideation and design exercises we identified that:
- Certain features were most likely to be useful and enjoyable for our users
- Using sidebars frees up space for cleanly displaying subcategorized content
- Simplicity, consistent navigation, and coherent iconography are important

3. testing
Based on seven usability tests, we found that our users:
- Prefer easy to use and accessible search functions
- Want a clear distinction between “Forums” and “Interest Groups”
- Appreciate both content thread styles of the website

4. refinement
Based on our overall process, we applied the following refinements to our mockups:
- Communities are distinguished on landing pages to encourage exploration
- The menu was reorganized to incorporate our refined information architecture
- The calendar sidebar icon was replaced with an add new content icon

In “Events,” users can:
- View upcoming events, including those that they plan to attend
- RSVP to events they’re interested in
- See which Delphi members have RSVP’d to events
- Send events to others via chat

In “Groups,” users can:
- Join a discussion focused on an interest defined by the Delphi community
- Enjoy interactive sharing of text, pictures, videos, GIFs, and events
- Start new friendships and build community based on common interests

In “Forums,” users can:
- Directly contribute content by posting text, pictures, videos, GIFs, and events
- Indirectly consume content by reading through searchable archives
- Seek advice from the Delphi community