Hi Bonsai
A new perspective on an old tradition

The Pacific Bonsai Museum displays 60 bonsai year round. When visitors step into the museum, they see the bonsai at one point in time and often miss the larger context bonsai exist within. Written information is not always enough, and employees are not always available to speak with. Augmented Reality (AR) allows visitors to learn more about bonsai, while staying within the context of the museum.

**Research**
- Field Observations, Survey, Interviews
  
  Visitors find the museum peaceful but they desire a more meaningful connection to their own lives.

**Design**
- Sketches, Storyboards, Wireframes, Hi-Fi Prototypes

  It is important for users to remain present in the museum, which influenced the design of AR touchpoints and My Collection.

**Development**
- Unity, Vuforia, C#

  An image target makes multiple touchpoints appear. A C# script makes information appear when a touchpoint is tapped.

**Evaluation**
- Interviews, User Testing

  The lack of onboarding confused users. We also improved accessibility with contrasting colors, and larger buttons and text.

My collection, where visitors can view saved information after their visit to the museum.

A map, where visitors can view where the bonsai is originally from.

Each bonsai has overall information, including a timeline that shows past photos of the bonsai.

Each touchpoint has more information about a specific aspect of the bonsai. Visitors can save this information for later.

Touchpoints displayed in AR over each bonsai highlight specific information when tapped. Visitors can choose to learn more or continue to the next bonsai.

funding provided by
Unity, Vuforia, C#