Web Portal
For
Teachers & Students

Mike was famous for his out-of-the-box career choices, something that earned him the tag of a rebel among his friends. So, it was not a surprise when, inspite to scoring the highest in subjects like economics and algebra, he choose to drop out, and pursue music as a career. His parents were as much disappointed as they were concerned about his future.

Mike quickly realized that making a living out of his passion would not be an easy job . He could bag a few gigs and call-shows to begin with using his contacts, but that was surely not enough to sustain a lifestyle. To add up to his net income, he started offering music lessons, mainly vocal and classical guitar classes to teenagers. That too, did not assure a steady inflow of cash. Firstly, because the number of students turned out to be only a few. And secondly, because teenagers were fickle minded, they would pick up the guitar one day and get bored with it right after a week and drop out. Mike started wondering how far could he sustain in this manner.

One day, his best friend from school, Paula dropped in for a surprise visit. At that time, Mike was giving guitar lessons to his students, a group of three boys.

They were just about to leave when Paula rung the bell. "Hey, what's up"? Paula's enthusiasm was met with a feeble smile on Mike's face. "Hey. Wow! Come in!"

"What's wrong with you?" Paula was anxious, seeing that the signs of struggle were everywhere in his rented place, now more conspicuous than ever. "Nothing, it's just been a little tough these day. That's it" Mike tried but couldn't hide the tone of despair. "Care to explain?" Paula tried to be of help.

"Actually, I'm getting tired of this now. My students, all three of them, are going to withdraw by the month-end. In every two months, I'm giving lessons to a completely new set of people. They 're just coming in and going by, frustrating me at its worst", Mike never sounded this helpless, as far as Paula could remember. "Listen", Paula said "I have good news. There's a cousin of mine, she wants to take vocal classes, and she has heard about you. But, the only catch is that her place is at Hancock, nearly two hour's journey from here. Would you be able to take this up?"

"I'm afraid I can't. That will be too much of travelling. I can refer my friends who live near Hancock, they can help her out".
"Wow, you have musician friends there as well?" Paula didn't expect that. "Ah, my network is quite large you see. I have my folks everywhere, just like me", Mike sighed, "struggling and trying to make both ends meet. And for us artists, tuition is one of the few sources of regular income that we have".

"Wait a second! Why not take this entire thing up to another level?", Paula was always the ingenuous one in their group. "What do you mean?"

"Simple. You have your fellow mates, a network of artists in South California who provide tuitions and do it seriously. I know a lot of people who offer subject-specific classes. Even I would love to give French lessons to young learners. So, what we all need, is serious students.

On the other hand, there are folks like my cousin, and I believe a lot of others who need dedicated teachers"
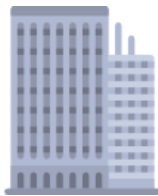
"Yeah, so what'll we do? Organise a meet-and-greet?"

"Yes, but in a way that makes it fruitful for all", Paula didn't care for the tinge of sarcasm in his voice, "Not face-to-face, but in cyberspace"

"Woah, that escalated quickly! Now who will take up the tech bits? That's not my cup of tea, and you're no better"

"Listen, I'm serious. I'll set up an appointment with a tech solution provider that my brother recently worked with for a venture of his own. They can help us out to get things off the ground"

"Hey, are you serious?"

"Very much I am! Wait for my call, once they confirm, I'll tell you when and where to drop by"

Paula left that day, keeping her promise. After a week, they were at the office of that tech company. They discussed the proposition with the

representative, who created the blueprint of an online portal where students could reach out to the best teachers/mentors in areas of academics, language and of course, music.

Both the parties could set their priorities straight, with respect to the location, the level of expertise, and the price point. They could also come to mutual terms, regarding the time and place of the classes, in the portal itself.

"Also, if you ask me, there's another excellent addition that has a lot of potential," Emily from the Tech company was keen to help.

"You could also offer online tutoring, for cases where taking physical classes is not possible. That way, you're spreading your business geographical

boundaries."

In that case, Mike said "We'll also have to think of something through which we can transfer large audio/video files because the instructor has to send samples, notations etc. The student should also be able to bounce off similar stuff with the teacher."

"Not an issue, we'll be in talks with our development team to streamline the portal with fast file uploading system", Emily assured

him, "This will be one of its kind. What have you thought of naming the portal?"

"Yikes! We haven't thought of any", Paula admitted.

"Let's call it an online marketplace for tutors, as for the type. You can name it anything you want, after all, it's your idea", Emily smiled.

The idea was executed with flying colours, and today, Mike has stopped spending sleepless nights over paying his next month's bills. The portal, has enabled him to have a steady source of income courtesy his pool of geographically dispersed and enthusiastic students who share his passion towards music. Besides, it has also helped him garner a reputation for himself in his field of work.

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BURN IGNORANCE

About Mindfire Solutions

Mindfire Solutions started in October of 1999, with the purpose of providing expert software services globally, and has steadily grown to its 1000-seat facilities at 2 engineering centers.

In its heart and soul, Mindfire is a software service provider, with unrelenting focus on small-team offshore software development using Agile methods for distributed teams, all amid a unique Mindfire culture.

We are clear in our vision of building a software engineering powerhouse, and we do not spend time and energy in activities which are not our core competence.

Our vision is "to be a globally respected, professional and innovative software services and technology company".

Our mission statement reinforces our vision: "Imagine. Think. Plan. Act. Deliver. Improve.".

During past 18 years, we have successfully delivered 2000+ engagements with 500+ clients.

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