

# Request for Proposal

## FiberMuses Corp. Database Administrator

**FiberMuses Corp** is a not-for-profit organization consisting of three charter members. It was incorporated in October 2009. FiberMuses owns the registered domain, Nimblestix.com, and the website hosted on that domain. **Nimblestix.com** is dedicated to the development of fiber and textile arts (including knitting, crocheting, and others) for artisans, hobbyists, and those in the industry. It is a resource to learn about new techniques, to share ideas, to make new friends, to track one's own work and to view the creative work of others in a family-friendly atmosphere.

There are several online fiber communities currently in existence that appeal to a specific niche within the fiber community. Nimblestix.com incorporates all of these communities in one place, bringing all fiber artists together. Additionally, Nimblestix.com more fully develops the basic concepts put into place at these other fiber communities, such as controlling personal information, a more comprehensive selection of databases (e.g., fiber, needle, spinning tools, etc.), and access to technical information and advice. Nimblestix.com is focused on being a family-friendly community, with safeguards for our junior members and ease of use for less technologically advanced members. The social aspect of the site is modeled to most closely resemble Facebook-style rather than being forum-driven as is currently the case with other online fiber communities. Users will be able to post their project details from Nimblestix to their Facebook accounts, external blogs, and other mediums yet to be determined.

Nimblestix.com will be used by those in the fiber industry as a place to advertise wares and services, gauge market trends, offer technical advice, inform fiber artists of industry events, etc.

Home page view:



# Nimblestix

Hey There, [user]!  
logout

ProfilePeopleYarnPatternsFiberGuildsEventsMarketplaceContact Us



5 Messages  
Profile  
Projects  
Studio  
Queue  
Friends  
Favorites  
Blog  
Calendar

Project Progress

Maplewing Shawl

Abalone Sweater

What are you working on?  
Submit

### Bulletin Board

View 4 new notes:

hermoninny posted a new project:  
[Laura's Cardigan](#)  
[Time Stamp]• Comment • 3 Loves

tkas faved [Cascade 220 superwash](#)  
[Time Stamp]• Comment • 8 Loves

### What's New

**Blog Features Working Now!**  
**December 8, 2009**  
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Ut tincidunt ligula ut magna tempor ultrices feugiat eros faucibus. Quisque euismod nibh ac nunc rhoncus semper. Curabitur dapibus lacinia hendrerit. Phasellus pellentesque lacinia odio, eu tempor arcu tempor et.

**Nimblestix Videocast**  
**December 1, 2009**  
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Ut tincidunt ligula ut magna tempor ultrices feugiat eros faucibus. Quisque euismod nibh ac nunc rhoncus semper.

Advertisement

Pattern Prowler view:

[Profile](#) [People](#) [Yarn](#) [Patterns](#) [Fiber](#) [Guilds](#) [Events](#) [Marketplace](#) [Contact Us](#)



[Profile](#)  
[Projects](#)  
[Studio](#)  
[Queue](#)  
[Friends](#)  
[Favorites](#)  
[Blog](#)  
[Calendar](#)

**Project Progress**  
Maplewing Shawl  
  
Abalone Sweater

**Search Patterns**  
  
[advanced search](#)

**Pattern Prowler**

**Newly Added:**



**Artichaut Shawl**  
Knitspot



**Henley With a Twist**  
Knitspot



**Capital N**  
Laura's Left Hook



**Super Hero Hat**  
Laura Neatby

**Most Loved!**



**Glass Beach Vest**  
Loved 200 times



**Baby Surprise**  
Loved 230 times



**February Sweater**  
Loved 128 times



**Kai-Mei Socks**  
Loved 42 times

**Most Popular:**



**Children's Felted Clogs**  
In 200 queues  
150 projects



**Mr. Greenjeans Cardigan**  
In 143 queues  
231 projects



**Baby Surprise Jacket**  
In 600 queues  
453 projects

**Featured Crafter:**



**Knitting goddess Lola**  
Read about her Russian lace creations  
[see more...](#)

Advertisement

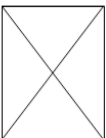
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Pattern Search view:



Hey there, [user]!  
 3 Messages

People
 Yarn
 Fiber
 Pattern prowler
 Blogs
 Articles/Features
 Reviews
 Events
 Marketplace-advertise
 Profile



Profile  
 Projects  
 Studio  
 Queue  
 Friends  
 Favorites  
 Blog  
 Calendar

Project Progress

Maplewing

Shawl

Abalone

Sweater

(5 boxes, 1 to 5 in terms of doneness)

Prowl around

I need help using this.  
 Please take me to a tutorial.

### Pattern Search

I feel lucky:

Craft:
 

Crochet

Yardage:
 

200-400 yards (xxx meters)

Yarn weight:
 

Lace (2 ply)

Needles:

Gauge:

Yarn Brand or Manufacturer:
 

Artful Yarns

Pattern Name:

Category:
 

Clothing

Style Elements:
 

Turtleneck

Techniques:
 

Knit/Purl

Special Sizing:
 

Plus

Designer or Publisher:
 

Amy McElwain

Source:
 

Book

New patterns for browsing:
 



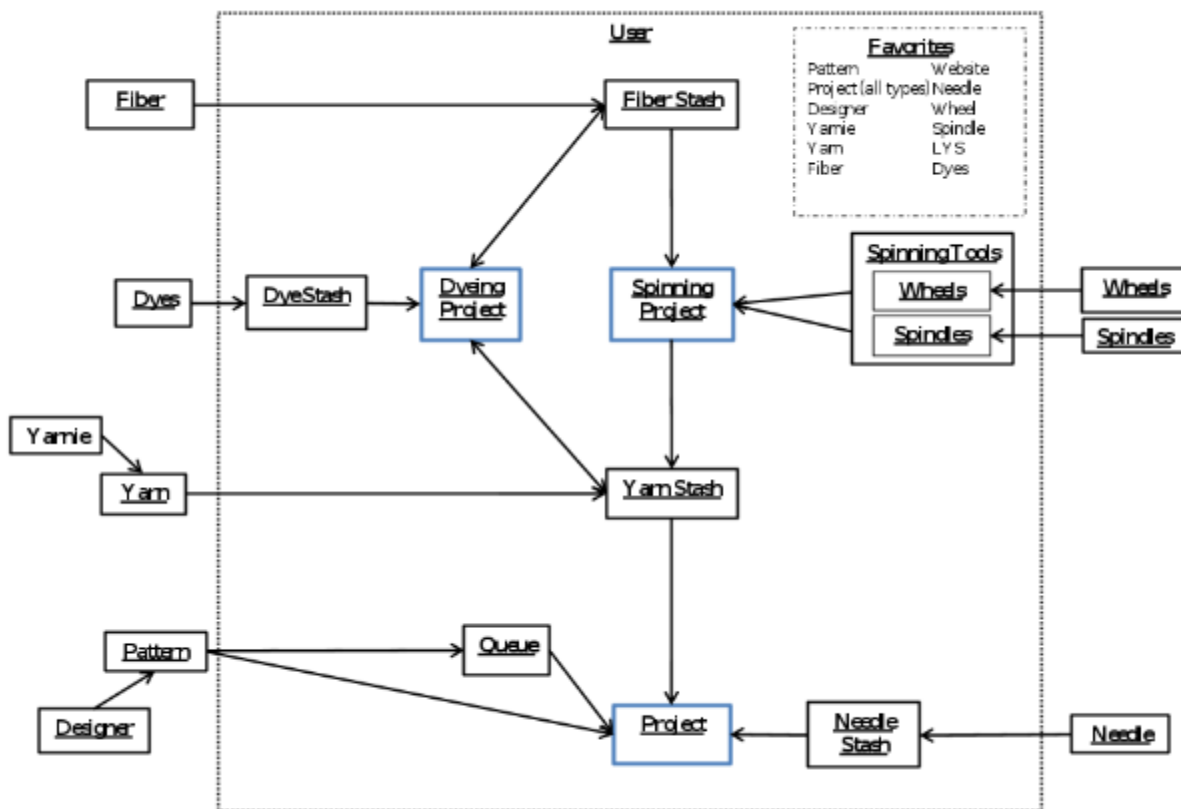



Ad Space

## Database

The website will consist of a community of users in the fiber community – knitters, crocheters, spinners, designers, dyers, etc. Each user has access to a series of databases, including patterns, yarns, fiber and needles, that they can use to create a project. The project can be used to link these different databases, e.g., if a user creates a project using a specific yarn, another user can then view all other projects using that yarn. While there is a pattern database within Nimblestix.com, there is also a web-based search that allows users to find patterns that have not yet been entered into the database. Patterns, yarns, needles, etc can be uploaded into the databases, linking users' photos as an example for other users to see when viewing the detail pages of these items.

**Rough schema of database. Detail available by request.**



### Technical Requirements

- must be knowledgeable in Mysql. Knowledge of other database systems is good as well.
- be able to figure out social aspect, i.e. User A is friend of User B and commenting on User B; and given a list of recommended people to friend based on their location, kinds of pattern they create. And if they want to block a certain person, the database needs to reflect that and behave accordingly. Said person must be interested in figuring out how outfits such as Facebook, LinkedIn, Flickr, Twitter do this.
- be able to detect possible scalability issues (similar to those encountered by Twitter due to server overcapacity) and suggest solutions, if needed.
- nice to have - document-oriented database experience (such as CouchDB)
- note - programming language will be ColdFusion; this is non-negotiable.
- important - be able to document own work.

Other skills - Though it is not critical, it would be helpful if the database administrator had some level of knowledge of fiber arts to best understand how the user will interact with the data and to be able to foresee potential pitfalls and problems.

**Timeline:** The principals anticipate that our beta testers will soon be able to commence populating the database in preparation for our beta testers to then interact with the site as users some 3 months thereafter. Initially the Database Administrator will take the role of a consultant on an as-needed basis. For example, the input would initially take the form of “Your schema looks good, you can tweak it here and there”

or “Here’s how to perform a nightly backup”. As the site develops, the interaction will become more complex, particularly as traffic begins to get heavier with hundreds of thousands of records in the database. The review process should take one week.

**Budget:** FiberMuses will analyze the results of the RFP’s in order to construct a technology budget, and secure funding. The project should be analyzed and priced as an initial consult of the work thus far and include a set of recommendations for next steps. There should then be a price established for ongoing consultation.

**Further information:** In order to more fully develop the concepts included here, or to ask questions, please contact:

Questions about fiberarts or site functionality-

Leann Ross- [Leannross@gmail.com](mailto:Leannross@gmail.com)

Tina Kasimer- [tkas@comcast.net](mailto:tkas@comcast.net)

Questions about the technical aspects of the site or requirements of this position-

Lola J.L. Beno [loljl@gmail.com](mailto:loljl@gmail.com)

**Please submit proposals to Lola J.L. Beno [lolajl@gmail.com](mailto:lolajl@gmail.com) by August 23, 2010**

Local to Washington DC Metro area preferred, but not a required as long as there is consistent and predictable access to various modes of electronic communication.