

Architectural Plan for Collaborative Art Platform

- **Backend:** Use an Express.js server (a “minimal and flexible” Node.js web framework ¹) with a MongoDB database. The backend handles user accounts, token balances, and art metadata. Organize code into modules (e.g. *auth*, *wallet*, *artwork*, *token*) and mount them on `app.use()` for a clean structure.
- **Token System:** Simulate a token economy in the database (not on a real blockchain). For example, maintain nested JavaScript objects or Mongo documents mapping each *artist* to a token balance and each *artwork* to its price and contributors. Tokens can be transferred internally by updating these balances. In code, this might look like a nested object:

```
// Example token state
const platform = {
  artists: {
    alice: { tokens: 100 },
    bob: { tokens: 50 }
  },
  artworks: {
    "art1": { price: 30, owner: "alice" },
    "art2": { price: 80, owner: "bob" }
  }
};

// Simulate transfer function
function transferTokens(from, to, amount) {
  if (platform.artists[from].tokens >= amount) {
    platform.artists[from].tokens -= amount;
    platform.artists[to].tokens += amount;
  } else {
    throw new Error("Insufficient tokens");
  }
}
```

Each artwork can also have multiple collaborators. For example:

```
const collaborations = {
  art1: { contributors: ["alice", "bob"], shares: [0.6, 0.4] }
};

function distributeSale(artId, salePrice) {
  const { contributors, shares } = collaborations[artId];
  contributors.forEach((artist, i) => {
    const shareAmount = salePrice * shares[i];
```

```
    transferTokens("buyer", artist, shareAmount);
  });
}
```

- **Collaboration:** Design art objects to include contributor lists and share percentages. On a sale event, the token transfer function splits payment among contributors. This encourages collaboration by automatically rewarding all participants.
- **User & Wallet Management:** Implement user accounts with email/password and optional digital *wallet* addresses (for simulated currencies). Store wallet addresses in the user record. Provide API endpoints for registering a user, logging in (returning JWT tokens), and adding/removing wallet addresses. For example, an Express route might accept a wallet address and associate it with the authenticated user.
- **Art Management:** Provide endpoints for artists to upload or create art entries. Store metadata (title, description, image URL) and link each art to its creator(s). Allow querying art listings (e.g. GET `/api/artworks`) and buying pieces (which triggers token distribution).
- **Frontend:** Build a web interface (single-page or multi-page) that communicates with the API. For rendering generative art or interactive visuals, use the WebGPU API if available; if not, fallback to WebGL with GLSL shaders. The page will show user info (dashboard), art gallery, and actions (buy, transfer tokens, etc).

Token Exchange Simulation (Code Example)

Below is a simple Node.js example showing nested data structures and token transfer logic. This simulates buying an artwork and splitting tokens among multiple artists:

```
// Simulated state (in-memory)
const state = {
  users: {
    alice: { tokens: 100 },
    bob:   { tokens: 50 }
  },
  artworks: {
    "sunset": {
      price: 30,
      contributors: ["alice", "bob"],
      shares: [0.6, 0.4] // 60% to Alice, 40% to Bob
    }
  }
};

// Function to simulate purchase
function buyArtwork(artId, buyer, state) {
  const art = state.artworks[artId];
  if (!art) throw new Error("Artwork not found");
  const price = art.price;
  // Buyer pays tokens out of their account
```

```

if (state.users[buyer].tokens < price) {
  throw new Error("Buyer has insufficient tokens");
}
state.users[buyer].tokens -= price;
// Distribute to contributors
art.contributors.forEach((artist, idx) => {
  const share = art.shares[idx];
  const amount = price * share;
  state.users[artist].tokens += amount;
});
console.log(`Sale of ${artId} for ${price} tokens: `, state.users);
}

// Example usage:
try {
  buyArtwork("sunset", "bob", state);
} catch(e) {
  console.error(e.message);
}

```

In this code, `state.users` holds token balances, and `state.artworks` has price and contributors. The `buyArtwork` function deducts tokens from the buyer and distributes them according to contributor shares. This nested structure clearly shows how multiple artists can share proceeds without a blockchain.

Express.js API and Testing

Design RESTful endpoints using Express. For example:

- **POST** `/api/register` - registers a new user.
- **POST** `/api/login` - logs in and returns a JWT.
- **POST** `/api/wallet/add` - (authenticated) adds a wallet address to the user.
- **GET** `/api/dashboard` - (authenticated) returns user info, token balance, owned art, etc.
- **GET** `/api/artworks` - lists all art.
- **POST** `/api/artworks/buy` - (authenticated) buy an artwork (handles token transfer).

Testing Example (Jest + Supertest): Write tests before implementation (TDD). For instance, a test to check user registration:

```

// test/auth.test.js
const request = require('supertest');
const app = require('../index'); // your Express app

describe('Auth Endpoints', () => {
  it('should register a new user', async () => {
    const res = await request(app)
      .post('/api/register')

```

```

    .send({ username: 'alice', email: 'alice@example.com', password:
'Pass1234' });
    expect(res.statusCode).toBe(201);
    expect(res.body).toHaveProperty('message', 'User registered');
  });
});

```

Implementation Example: The corresponding Express route might be:

```

// In your Express app setup
const bcrypt = require('bcrypt');
const jwt    = require('jsonwebtoken');
const User   = require('./models/User'); // Mongoose model

app.post('/api/register', async (req, res) => {
  const { username, email, password } = req.body;
  const existing = await User.findOne({ email });
  if (existing) return res.status(400).json({ message: "Email taken" });
  const hash = await bcrypt.hash(password, 10);
  const newUser = new User({ username, email, password: hash });
  await newUser.save();
  return res.status(201).json({ message: "User registered" });
});

```

This route creates a user with hashed password. Similar patterns apply for `/login` (verifying password and issuing a JWT) and authenticated routes (checking the JWT before proceeding).

Front-End Rendering: WebGPU with WebGL Fallback

On the client side, detect WebGPU support and gracefully fallback to WebGL if unavailable. For example (in a script tag or module):

```

async function initGraphics(canvas) {
  // Try WebGPU
  if (navigator.gpu) {
    const adapter = await navigator.gpu.requestAdapter();
    if (adapter) {
      const device = await adapter.requestDevice();
      // ... setup WebGPU pipeline with device and canvas context ...
      console.log("Using WebGPU");
      return;
    }
  }
  // Fallback to WebGL
  const gl = canvas.getContext('webgl') || canvas.getContext('experimental-

```

```

webgl');
  if (gl) {
    // ... setup WebGL shaders and buffers ...
    console.log("Using WebGL fallback");
  } else {
    console.error("Neither WebGPU nor WebGL are supported");
  }
}

// Usage:
const canvas = document.getElementById('renderCanvas');
initGraphics(canvas);

```

This code first checks `navigator.gpu` (see MDN example [2](#)) and attempts to initialize WebGPU. If that fails, it creates a WebGL context. This ensures broad compatibility while preferring the newer GPU API. WebGPU (via `navigator.gpu.requestAdapter()`) offers more modern features, but the WebGL fallback can use Three.js or custom GLSL shaders if needed.

HTML Example (Single File and Modular)

A **single-page** HTML could embed everything:

```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Collaborative Art Platform</title>
</head>
<body>
  <h1>Welcome to the Collaborative Art Platform</h1>
  <canvas id="renderCanvas" width="800" height="600"></canvas>
  <!-- Scripts can be inline or linked -->
  <script>
    // Include the initGraphics code here, or link to separate JS below
    (async function() {
      const canvas = document.getElementById('renderCanvas');
      if (navigator.gpu) {
        const adapter = await navigator.gpu.requestAdapter();
        if (adapter) {
          const device = await adapter.requestDevice();
          // WebGPU rendering code...
          console.log("Initialized WebGPU");
          return;
        }
      }
      // WebGL fallback...
      const gl = canvas.getContext('webgl');
    })();
  </script>

```

```

    // WebGL rendering code...
    console.log("Initialized WebGL");
  })();
</script>
</body>
</html>

```

For a **modular** approach, split JS into modules:

- **index.html:**

```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Art Platform</title>
</head>
<body>
  <canvas id="renderCanvas" width="800" height="600"></canvas>
  <script type="module" src="app.js"></script>
</body>
</html>

```

- **app.js:**

```

import { initGraphics } from './renderer.js';
document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', () => {
  const canvas = document.getElementById('renderCanvas');
  initGraphics(canvas);
});

```

- **renderer.js:**

```

export async function initGraphics(canvas) {
  if (navigator.gpu) {
    const adapter = await navigator.gpu.requestAdapter();
    if (adapter) {
      const device = await adapter.requestDevice();
      // Setup WebGPU...
      console.log("WebGPU initialized");
      return;
    }
  }
  // Setup WebGL...
}

```

```
const gl = canvas.getContext('webgl');
console.log("WebGL initialized");
}
```

Using `<script type="module">` allows the code to be organized into files. This modular setup can be bundled (via tools like Webpack or Rollup) or served directly with modern browsers. Either approach loads the same functionality but promotes maintainability.

User Accounts, Wallets, Dashboard and Art Management

- **User Registration/Login:** Already shown above. After login, the client stores a JWT to authenticate future requests. Middleware (`authJwt.verifyToken`) checks this token on protected routes.
- **Wallet Registration:** The API can offer routes like `POST /api/wallet/add` (requiring a valid JWT) to attach a cryptocurrency address (or any identifier) to the user profile. The server simply records this address in the user's record (e.g. `user.walletAddress = req.body.address`).
- **Dashboard:** Provide a route `GET /api/dashboard` (authenticated) that returns the user's profile info, token balance, list of owned artworks, etc. For example:

```
app.get('/api/dashboard', verifyToken, async (req, res) => {
  const user = await User.findById(req.userId).populate('artworks');
  res.json({
    username: user.username,
    tokens: user.tokenBalance,
    artworks: user.artworks
  });
});
```

The client dashboard page can call this endpoint to display the user's data (profile details, token balance, owned art thumbnails, etc.).

- **Art Upload/Management:** Create endpoints like `POST /api/artworks` for artists to submit new digital art (title, description, file upload or URL). Store these in an `Artwork` collection with fields like `{ title, description, imageUrl, owner, contributors, shares }`. Also, allow `GET /api/artworks/:id` to fetch details. This way, artists can manage their works via API and the front-end can display them.
- **Roles and Administration:** Define roles (e.g. "user", "admin") in the database to manage permissions. Our existing code initializes roles ("user", "admin", etc.) ³. Protect sensitive routes (like deleting users or editing any profile) by requiring `authJwt.isAdmin`.
- **Email Verification / Password Reset:** (Optional) Implement endpoints to send verification or reset emails (like `/api/auth/verifymail` and `/api/auth/forgotpassword`) as in the sample code. This improves security and user trust.

Together, these pieces create a full-stack workflow: users register/login, link a wallet (simulated or real), see their dashboard with token balances and artworks, and can collaborate on new art. Buying/selling art invokes the token transfer logic from above, rewarding contributors. The single-page or modular front-end renders the art (optionally with GPU acceleration) and communicates with the Express API.

Overall, the system **simulates a collaborative art marketplace** where tokens flow between participants, without an actual blockchain. It's built on standard web technologies (Node/Express, MongoDB, modern JS) and designed in modular layers for easy extension and testing.

Sources: The Express.js framework is “fast, unopinionated [and] minimal” for building APIs ¹. For browser graphics, it's recommended to check `navigator.gpu` for WebGPU support (as shown in MDN's example ²) and fallback to WebGL if not available. These approaches inform the code examples above.

¹ Express - Node.js web application framework

<https://expressjs.com/>

² Navigator: gpu property - Web APIs | MDN

<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/API/Navigator/gpu>

³ index.js

<https://github.com/spectra-gallery/arquolab-sandbox-models/blob/7bfe64dcb39d03a6d8100f55c823667e74ca6648/index.js>