

Collective access

Open Source Collections
Management Software

<http://www.CollectiveAccess.org>

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What is it?

- ✻ Collections management software for museums and archives.
- ✻ Collections *presentation* software providing framework for web and kiosk applications; includes media clients such as a high-resolution image viewer and audio/video player, and can transcode video & audio formats.
- ✻ A collaboration between Whirl-i-Gig and partner institutions in North American & Europe.
- ✻ Freely available under the open source GNU Public License (GPL).

Features

- ✻ Entirely web-based.
- ✻ Integrated digital asset management - support for many media and document formats.
- ✻ Extensive support for authority lists.
- ✻ Extended support for controlled vocabularies.
- ✻ Configurable support for metadata standards.
- ✻ Direct web-presence with CA-Access.
- ✻ Georeferencing/GIS support.
- ✻ Can run on Linux/Unix, Mac OS X and Windows servers.

GOONEY ISLAND

HISTORY PROJECT

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DEVELOPMENT MAP

changes and land use

Map Satellite Hybrid

1906 1920s 1995 11/30/2006

Henderson's Building
Stillwell Avenue frontage of the Henderson Building in the 1920's, after Stillwell Avenue had been widened and the building cut in half.

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Beth Allen Incubator baby

05:28/08:37

Now playing: The incubators

Interviewer: Elinoar Astrinsky

Interviewee: Beth Allen

Location: Residence of Beth Allen

Beth Allen was born 2 months premature in 1941. Desperate to save her and with few other options - hospitals of the day had no facilities for premature infants - her parents placed her in the care of Dr. Martin Couney, a neonatal pioneer largely responsible for the now widespread use of incubators. Couney was also a controversial figure, a physician outside the mainstream who for decades operated his neonatal care facility as a 10¢ sideshow in Coney Island. In this interview, Beth Allen recounts her origins as an "incubator baby" and her family's relationship to Dr. Couney.

Related interviews:

Roslyn Tromer (*Interview with another "incubator baby."*)

Terry Silverman (*Terry Silverman is Beth Allen's older cousin*)



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Open Source?

- ✻ All software is free to download and use. There is no commercial aspect to the project.
- ✻ GNU Public License version 2 (GPLv2): do what you want with the software. Forever.
- ✻ Source code is included:
 - ✻ Gives you the freedom and ability to modify the software to suit your needs.
 - ✻ Software can never be orphaned as user community has the means (source code and legal rights) to fix bugs and maintain compatibility.
- ✻ GPLv2 gives you the right to distribute your modifications so long as source code is included.

History

- ✿ Project began in 2003 by Whirl-i-Gig, with roots in web-based cataloguing systems developed in the 1990's. Originally released as *OpenCollection*.
- ✿ Developed to fill a specific need for a free, flexible and modern system.
- ✿ February 2007: first public release.
- ✿ Today: 25 institutional users (that we know about).
- ✿ Project renamed in late 2008 from *OpenCollection* to **CollectiveAccess**.
- ✿ Major revision due in first part of 2009.

Selected users

- ✿ Royal Museum for Central Africa, Brussels
- ✿ Deutsche Kinemathek, Berlin
- ✿ Center for Biodiversity Conservation, American Museum of Natural History, New York
- ✿ Hearst Museum of Anthropology, UC Berkeley
- ✿ The Parrish Art Museum, Southampton, NY
- ✿ The Frick Collection, New York
- ✿ Museum of Jewish Heritage, New York
- ✿ National Museum of Women Artists, Washington, D.C.
- ✿ Hansen's Snobliz, New Orleans, LA

Types of collections

- ✻ Fine Art
- ✻ Film
- ✻ Technology
- ✻ Architectural design archives
- ✻ Costumes and clothing
- ✻ Anthropology/ethnographic collections
- ✻ Biodiversity conservation (field photographs)
- ✻ Oral history
- ✻ Exhibition asset management
- ✻ Corporate archives
- ✻ Photography
- ✻ Historical societies

Support

- ✿ Whirl-i-Gig's work on CA directly funded by users - all developed code is contractually covered by the GPL.
- ✿ Indirect funding through our related work in cultural heritage and the natural sciences.
- ✿ Indirect support from US Institute for Museum and Library Services, US National Endowment for the Humanities, US National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council for the Arts and New York City Department of Cultural Affairs through project partners.

Roadmap

- ✱ Version 0.5x branch:
 - ✱ Bug fixes and minor enhancements through end of 2008
- ✱ Version 0.6x branch:
 - ✱ Major overhaul of user interface and data model
 - ✱ Support for multilingual cataloguing
 - ✱ User-customizable user interfaces
 - ✱ Improved import and export facilities
 - ✱ Installable application profiles: DublinCore, DarwinCore, PBCore, CDWA, etc.
 - ✱ Expected release in first part of 2009

Roadmap

- ✻ Early 2009
 - ✻ Expanded support for external service interfaces (vocabulary services, data lookups, etc.)
 - ✻ Improved CA-Access.
 - ✻ Expanded tools for time-based cataloguing and media presentation.
 - ✻ Move towards 1.0 release by summer 2009.
 - ✻ ... more ...

Overarching goals

- ✿ Develop broad-based international user community.
- ✿ Establish CA as a viable platform for the widest practical range of uses in as many locales as possible.
- ✿ Develop support infrastructure: net-based community support as well as local consultants.
- ✿ Establish productive collaborations with complementary projects.

Thank you!

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Questions or comments?

Contact: Seth Kaufman
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For more information on CollectiveAccess:
<http://www.CollectiveAccess.org>