



**COLLABORATING. PRESERVING.  
SHARING.**

**JEANNE M. LONG**  
Executive Director



# The Chicago Collections Consortium

## WHO WE ARE

Launched in 2012, the Chicago Collections Consortium is a membership organization composed of not-for-profit institutions with collections that chronicle the rich history of Chicago. The work of this collaboration is led by a Board of Directors drawn from the participating institutions. Their work is accomplished with guidance from several standing and advisory committees.



# Core Commitments of Founding Members:

- Saving primary sources
- Education and scholarship
- Openness and discovery
- Collaboration and community
- Sustainability



# A Shared Commitment

## Mission

Chicago Collections is a consortium of libraries, museums, and other institutions with archives that collaborate to preserve and share the history and culture of the Chicago region.

## Vision

Chicago Collections is the collaborative force in sharing, promoting and preserving the history and culture of the Chicago region.



# Governing Members

CHICAGO  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY



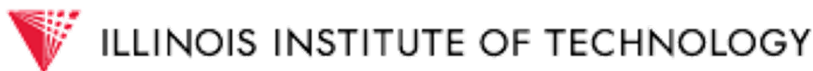
ChicagoHistoryMuseum



CHICAGO STATE  
UNIVERSITY



Northwestern  
University



*Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives*

# Members



Alliance Française



LAKE FOREST  
COLLEGE



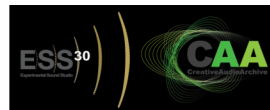
Chicago Film Archives

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK  
OF CHICAGO

Northwestern Memorial  
HealthCare Archives



Columbia  
COLLEGE CHICAGO





# Shared commitment: Saving Primary Sources

## Jane Addams Hull House to close

January 19, 2012 | By Kate Thayer | Tribune reporter

The need for its services is as strong as ever, but after years of rising costs and dwindling income from fundraising the Jane Addams Hull House Association will close and [file](#) for bankruptcy, the agency said today.

"For the last several years the agency has had trouble in the [fundraising](#) side of things," said Stephen Saunders, chair of the association's board of trustees. "After many years of struggling, we have to close our doors. It was a very difficult decision."

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The Jane Addams Hull House complex once covered a city block on Chicago's... (Chicago Historical Society, Barnes Crosby photo)

# Flexible Membership

Membership Levels and Benefits	Governing \$6,000	Participating \$2,500	Associate \$500	Partners Program \$5,000
EXPLORE Chicago Collections participation (explore.chicaocollections.org) and staff training for adding content	✓	✓	✓	✓
ASK Chicago Collections reference services	✓	✓	✓	✓
Content and metadata consultations	✓	✓	✓	✓
Representation on committees, task forces, and working groups	✓	✓	✓	✓
Promotional opportunities for your institutions	✓+	✓	✓	✓
Exhibitions	✓+	✓	✓	✓
Workshops for staff	Unlimited spots	6 spots/year	2 spots/year	Unlimited spots
Grant Participation	✓	By invitation	By invitation	
Voting eligibility for consortium decisions (one vote per institution)	✓			



# Strategic Member Growth

**Pullman National Monument (National Park Service)**

**Friends of the Pullman State Historic Site**

**Riverside Historical Museum**

**Riverside Public Library**

**Northwestern Memorial HealthCare Archives**

**Henry Crown and Company**

**Chicago Cultural Alliance**



CHICAGO  
CULTURAL  
ALLIANCE



**Northwestern  
Memorial  
HealthCare Archives**



# Stories of Im/Migration



- Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture
- Chinese American Museum of Chicago
- Filipino American Historical Society of Chicago
- Polish Museum of America
- National Hellenic Museum
- Puerto Rican Arts Alliance

Fiestas Puertorriquenas, Puerto Rican Arts Alliance.

<https://explore.chicagocollections.org/image/praa/186/zg6hp3k>

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# The key goals for the EXPLORE CHICAGO COLLECTIONS portal

Bring together content about the city of Chicago from multiple institutions into a single discovery system

- Initial focus: Descriptive metadata and finding aids about archival collections
- Expanded scope: Digital images and other digital files when available



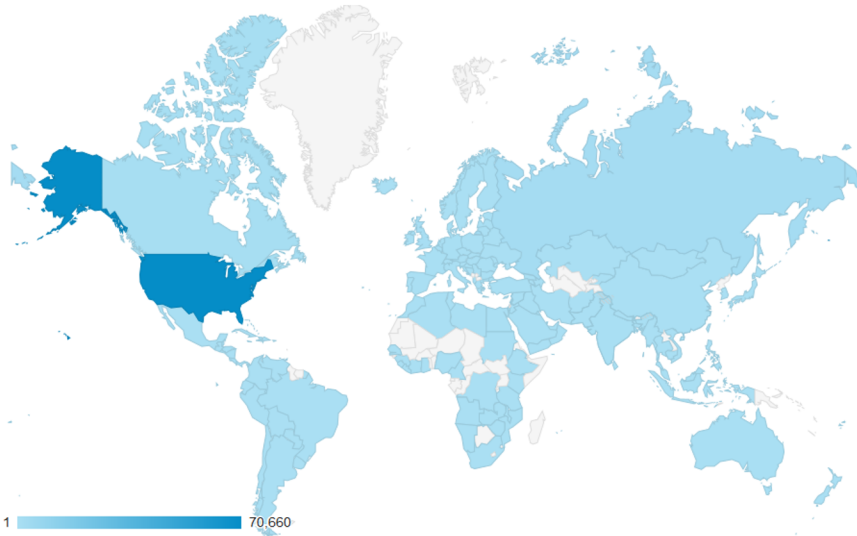
# EXPLORE

## CHICAGO COLLECTIONS

An online portal to discover  
the history and culture of Chicago



# Who is using EXPLORE Chicago Collections?



397,775+ users

182+ countries

All 50 United States

2,586,256+ page views

# Outcomes for Public Cultural Heritage

## Connections, access, and preservation

- Public awareness and education
- Revalorizing archival resources
- Potential to work as a group to save smaller collections

## Leveraging print and digital

- Simultaneously improve access and protection
- Multiple ways to participate and engage

## Collaboration is the only way

- Ensure broad support and accountability
- More effective advocacy
- Future sustainability



Twitter [@ChiCollections](https://twitter.com/ChiCollections)  
[#TogetherChicago](https://twitter.com/ChiCollections)

Facebook [facebook.com/ChiCollections](https://facebook.com/ChiCollections)

Join our eNews from our Homepage at  
[chicagocollections.org](http://chicagocollections.org)

Explore collections at  
[explore.chicagocollections.org](http://explore.chicagocollections.org)