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
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."

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

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