

# Accessing History:

## Education Collection Management for the Museum of History and Industry

### The Collection

MOHAI'S Education Department has a collection of over 600 artifacts used in support of its programming for children and families.

With the Museum's move to its new location in 2012, this collection was moved to a storage facility 7 miles away from the Education Department offices. Education Staff needed a way to search their collections remotely.

### The Solution

*CollectiveAccess*: web based, open source, collections management software.



### The Process

- Preliminary inventory
- Stakeholder input
- Customized, domain and department specific vocabularies
- Customized search

### Why Open Source?

- No Cost
- Unlimited Access
- Customizable

### Impacts

This database will:

- Save staff 2-3 hours per week of travel and search time.
- Enable staff to track and find artifacts across multiple locations.
- Allow staff to identify artifacts based on many attributes including historical themes or condition.
- Make the collection accessible online.
- Allow for future collaboration with educators.



Rachael Black, MLIS

Ashley Fejeran,  
MLIS

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