Museum of Interesting Things - CatalogIt

Marilyn Ray

"We are a traveling show -Like a circus...just no elephants!"

Museum of Interesting Things

"The Museum of Interesting Things is a traveling, interactive demonstration and exhibition of antiques and inventions."

Founder

Denny Daniel

Mission

"Inspiring innovation and creativity - learning from the past to create a better future!"

Background

Daniel was working as a freelance filmmaker/documentor and photo retoucher/restorer and creating his own personal collection of over 300 antiques. He realized that the neighbor's kids would excitingly wait to see what new thing he got for his collection and wanted to know how they worked and Daniel got an idea.

Specialties

Toys, Math, Music, Science, Medical, Literature, Household, Photography

Hartzman, M. (2019). [Denny Daniel stands over his Mutoscope at the Museum of Interesting Things]. Weird Historian
https://www.weirdhistorian.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/denny-portrait-768x1024.jpg

Is it a Museum?

ICOM's Definition 2022

A museum is a **not-for-profit**, **permanent** institution in the service of society that **researches, collects, conserves, interprets** and exhibits tangible and intangible heritage. **Open to the public, accessible and inclusive**, museums **foster diversity and sustainability**. They operate and communicate **ethically, professionally and with the participation of communities**, offering **varied experiences for education, enjoyment, reflection and knowledge sharing**.

Denny Daniel's Museum of Interesting Things

Not-for-profit? Unsure (But does this matter?)

Permanent? Sort of...

Researches, collects, conserves, interprets? Yes

Open to public, accessible, foster diversity and sustainability? Yes

Ethically, professionally, w/ participation of communities? Yes

Varied experiences for education, enjoyment, reflection, knowledge sharing? YES

Inclusion of a CMS

Addition of a CMS

- Enhances virtual experience for patrons, visitors, and general public
- Digital preservation
- More efficient collections management

Satisfaction of the methods and techniques of digital humanities

- Works to both assist the backend and the public
- Focuses on the addition of digital technology to digitize and preserve the objects
- Allows progress to be publicly accessible

Pigeon Harness

Pigeons have been used for over 3,000 years to carry long distance messages, especially during wartime. Some birds have flown over 600 miles in one day. Pigeons in World War I and World War II were trained to fly at least 50 miles without stopping before they were used to carry messages. Soldiers and spies could place messages in small tubes attached to the birds' legs. The birds would instinctively fly back home, carrying the messages with them. This mesh harness from World War II allowed a soldier to carry a pigeon strapped to his chest for up to six hours. The pigeon could then be released from any location and sent home with important information.

CatalogIt - CMS System

- Accessibility (ios, Android, web enabled)
- CatalogIt Hub (Web Interface)
- No need for special hardware, servers, or backups (cloud enabled)
- Price friendly

- Cataloging Objects
- Digital Preservation
- Object Tracking
- Organization
- Condition Reporting
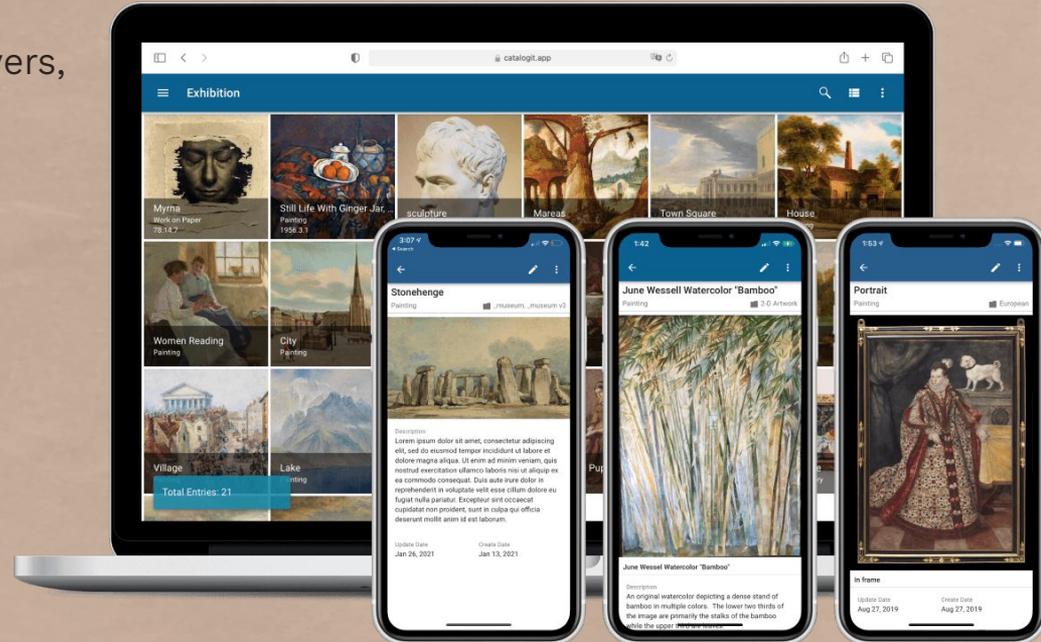
Implementation

Staff:
- Denny Daniel
- Interns
- Volunteers
- New Registrar Position

Step 1: Assessment of Collection

How many objects?

What categories?

Numbering scheme?

Metadata standards?

Training

Step 2: Cataloging Objects

Titles

Descriptions

Materials

Provenance

Etc.

Photographs

Step 3: Location Tracking

Organization of objects physically

Using accession numbers to track

Groupings for "Themes"

Incoming/Outgoing

Step 4: Condition Reporting

Condition of object

Any conservation necessary?

Step 5: Web Interface Rollout

Choosing what to rollout first

Rechecking records to confirm photographs and all important information is there

Organization of site

Funding

Inspire! Grants for Small Museums; Institute of Museum and Library Services

Necessary Funding

$540 a year for 25,000 entries, 100GB, and 10 users (CatalogIt)

I recommend hiring a registrar/collections management position to spearhead this project.

Goal of Program

Designed to support small museums in project-based efforts to serve the public

Three categories:
- Lifelong Learning
- Institutional Capacity
- Collections Stewardship and Access

Amount

Between $5,000 - $75,000

Grant period is 1-3 years

Interview - Marina Mayne at the Raupp Museum

Registrar and Public Education (½ employees)

Been there for 6 years

Local History Museum in Buffalo Grove, Illinois, situated within a local government entity.

Collection of 6,000 objects
4,000 - 5,000 photographs and documents

Marina handled the transition from PastPerfect in May of 2023

Switched due to cost and accessibility via the public hub and the app

RAUPP MUSEUM
at the Buffalo Grove Park District

Raupp Museum

901 Dunham Lane, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

BUFFALO GROVE PARK DISTRICT

Item Count

3758

The Raupp Museum preserves Buffalo Grove's heritage and provides the broadest possible access to community history. The Museum's collection includes over 5,000 objects, archives, and photographs from the past 200 years of Buffalo Grove history. This Museum database is a work in progress. The Museum regularly acquires new objects and conducts research on its collection. For more information, contact the Raupp Museum at 847.850.2135 or email museum@bgparks.org. The Raupp Museum is part of the Buffalo Grove Park District.

Arcadia Farm Collection

21 Items

Object/Artifact, Archive, Photograph

Arcadia Farm was a horse boarding stable, situated along Arlington Heights Road, from 1959 to 1978. The farm was owned and operated by Blanche Kloman and her children. For almost 20 years, people

Books

61 Items

Publication, Book

Explore our collection of historic books from the mid. 1800s until present day. Included are published volumes and books from local organizations and businesses.

Search Communication and

ALL

ARCADIA FARM COLLECTION

BOOKS

BUFFALO GROVE DAYS COLL...

BUTTONS AND PINS

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES

COMMUNICATION AND TEC...

HISTORIC BUFFALO GROVE ...

HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

HOME AND KITCHEN

MAPS

RECEIPTS FROM THE GENE...

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT

TOYS AND GAMES

Communication and Technology

Explore tools and equipment used in communication and technology in the late 1800s until present day, with a focus on technologies used in Buffalo Grove during the town's development.

Brownie 8 Movie Camera
Object/Artifact

Brownie Flash Six-20
Object/Artifact

Calculator, Desktop
Object/Artifact

Camera
Object/Artifact

Camera
Object/Artifact

Camera, Ansco Ready Flash
Object/Artifact

Check Writer
Object/Artifact

Colorburst 250
Object/Artifact

Computer Monitor
Object/Artifact

Edison Phonograph
Object/Artifact

F & E Check Writer 1920s
Object/Artifact

Gabriel clock
Object/Artifact

Home Blickensderfer
Object/Artifact

IBM Computer Floppy Disc...
Object/Artifact

IBM Computer Floppy Disc...
Object/Artifact

IBM Computer Tower
Object/Artifact

Kodak Instamatic 104 Ca...
Object/Artifact

Kodak No 2A-Brownie
Object/Artifact

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Brownie Flash Six-20

Object/Artifact

[Raupp Museum](#)

Description
Black textured camera with protruding lens mounted to the front and carrying handle on the top. Metal box body with optical direct vision finder. Silver metal knobs.

Made/Created
Date made
1946 - 1955

Dimensions
Width	Height
4 in	4-1/4 in

Depth
3-1/2 in

Condition
Overall Condition
Good

Material
Metal, Plastic, Glass

Entry/Object ID
2000.02.127

Origformat: Print-Photographic

Camera, Ansco Ready Flash
Object/Artifact

Gabriel clock
Object/Artifact

Home Blickensderfer
Object/Artifact

IBM Computer Floppy Disc...
Object/Artifact

IBM Computer Floppy Disc...
Object/Artifact

IBM Computer Tower
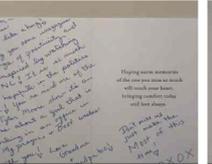Object/Artifact

Kodak Instamatic 104 Ca...
Object/Artifact

Kodak No 2A-Brownie
Object/Artifact

User Trial

Blue Kyanite	
Object/Artifact	2024.1.1

The Ray Family	
Painting	2024.2.1

Endless Hike	
Textile	2024.2.2

Tabitha to Marilyn Postcard	
Postcard	2024.2.3

Ghosts on the Farm	
Painting	2024.3.1

The Prantls in a Chevy	
Photograph	2024.3.4

1948 Texas Prison Rodeo	
Print	2024.4.1

Skeleton on Dictionary	
Drawing	2024.5.1

Aggie Ring	
Jewelry	2024.6.1

Brown Quartz	
Object/Artifact	2024.7.1

Grandma and Grandpa to Mj	
Letter	2024.13.1

Celcius Patch	
Object/Artifact	2024.15.1

Total Entries: 12

Description
Abstract painting featuring three figures and a cat like figure in blue in front of a tie dye background

Type of Painting
Easel

Medium
Acrylic on Canvas

Subject
Father, Mother, Daughter, Cat

Subject Person
Marilyn Ray   Tabitha Ray   Tommy Ray

Context
My mother painted this when I was around 10 and it represents my family at the time

Collection
Decor

Cataloged By
Marilyn Ray

Category
Wall Decor

Acquisition

Accession
2024.2

Source or Donor
Tabitha Ray

Acquisition Method
Gift

Credit Line
Gift of Tabitha Ray

Made/Created

Artist
Tabitha Ray

Role
Painter

Time Period
21st Century

Lexicon

Thank You!

Do you have any questions?

Works Cited:

Buffalo Grove Park District. "Raupp Museum." Accessed November 14, 2024.
https://www.bgparks.org/facilities/raupp-museum/.

"CatalogIt - Powerful, Intuitive Museum & Private Collections Management."
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http://www.museumofinterestingthings.org/about.html.

"Inspire! Grants for Small Museums." Accessed November 14, 2024.
http://www.imls.gov/grants/available/inspire-grants-small-museums.