

PUBLIC ART ARCHIVE

www.publicartarchive.org

Fact Sheet **The Public Art Archive™ Collection Management System**

The public art field now has access to a collection management system built specifically for public art collections. The system can accommodate the public art process workflow from commissioning through conservation and is designed to reduce staff time while increasing the flow of information to administrators, artists, and the public. A special benefit of the system is the opportunity to easily publish data to the Public Art Archive site, which currently contains information on 13,000 works of public art.

Connecting with the Archive's existing network of searchable works of public art brings substantial benefits. These include the increased exposure of public art collections beyond often difficult to find local networks, the ability to easily edit existing records, the ability to attach additional information and multimedia content to works of art in the database, and the use of social media tools and API integrations designed to prolong and deepen engagement with public art.

About the System

The Public Art Archive Collection Management System is built on the [CollectionSpace](#) platform and administered through WESTAF's [Public Art Archive](#) project. Subscribers to the system can connect to this cloud-based tool anytime, from anywhere. WESTAF provides hosting services that include setup, migration and/or import of existing collections data, maintenance, backups, and security in addition to training and customer support.

Subscriptions are available for a low-cost annual fee. A subscription allows collection administrators access to the tool and qualifies them to receive training and technical assistance. Additional add-on services include migration services available to help onboarding collections move their records onto the new tool as rapidly and completely as possible. Public art programs currently licensing a Collection Showcase page will have the benefit of retaining the page for a fee of \$500 a year provided they subscribe to the Collection Management System.

About WESTAF

WESTAF is an experienced technology developer. A nonprofit organization, WESTAF began working in the area of art and technology in 1999. Presently, the organization offers seven distinct online projects that benefit the arts and creative industries. Subscribers to the new Public Art Archive Collection Management System receive the added benefit of an established and experienced technology provider that will ensure site reliability, data security, and a high level of ongoing maintenance. Additional information about WESTAF and its technology programs can be found at WESTAF.org.

Software Functionality

The Public Art Archive Collection Management System has been customized to reflect the public art workflow. Below is a list of the baseline collections management functions the system has been built to accommodate.

- Cataloging
- Commission and Acquisition
- Condition Check/Maintenance
- Data Entry Templates
- Data Import/Export
- Deaccession
- Exhibition Planning
- Intake
- Loans In/Out
- Media Handling
- Roles and Permissions
- Reports
- Valuation
- Publish to Public Art Archive

Both CollectionSpace and the Public Art Archive are committed to the principles of user-centered design. The online environments that are being built have been developed to match the needs of actual users, thus making the software accessible and highly usable. The Public Art Archive's Collection Management System has been developed by administrators, collection managers, and other highly experienced practitioners from the field. For more information regarding software functionality, see [this document](#).

No-Obligation Demonstrations

Free demonstrations of the system can be scheduled by contacting the Public Art Archive team at PAArchive@westaf.org.

About the Public Art Archive

The Public Art Archive is an existing, free, online database and service that fosters education, supports scholarship, increases exposure, and expands knowledge of the evolving roles of public art in society and culture. Launched in 2010, the Archive presently holds data detailing almost 13,000 public artworks and contains over 35,000 images. The public art inventory contained in the site grows daily as dedicated public art and data specialists import artwork and information from public artists and agencies. The process entails a highly curated procedure to ensure the accurate collection of data requirements. Learn more at: publicartarchive.org.