

CHICAGO ARTISTS RESOURCE



Key Characteristics:

- **Collaboration between government, artists and arts organizations**
- **Informed by an in-depth study of Chicago artists**
- **Comprehensive local resource addressing a broad range of artists' needs**
- **Database-driven directory of resources, services, opportunities, articles**

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Innovative Features:

- **Bottom-up development model**
- **De-centralized content maintenance**
- **Open Source content management system**
- **Content and technical collaborations**
- **Modular design**

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Innovative Features:

- **Bottom-up development model**
 - Network partner participation
 - Agile development principles
 - User feedback, networking and content contribution via site interface
 - Content development by practicing artists
 - Word of mouth, network-based marketing

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Innovative Features:

- **De-centralized content maintenance**
 - Inspired by Wikipedia, Craig's List, online civic initiatives
 - Events-based contributions by arts community
 - Jobs and available space postings, forum posts by arts community
 - Article contributions, link recommendations received via interface
 - Team of artist researchers that represent diverse disciplines and communities

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Innovative Features:

- **Open Source Content Management System**
 - Recommended in majority of CAR site build proposals
 - Technology is community-driven
 - Versatile, stable, cutting edge
 - CMS dramatically reduces content maintenance
 - Open source CMS is affordable

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Innovative Features:

- **Content and Technical Collaborations**
 - Toronto Artscape
 - University of Illinois at Chicago Center for Health and the Arts
 - Nonprofit Technology Enterprise Network Conference panel participants
 - New York Foundation for the Arts
 - Leveraging Investments in Creativity

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Innovative Features:

- **Modular Design**
 - Toronto Artscape's use of Square Feet interface
 - Future replication of entire site structure
 - Interoperability with LINC Information Network initiatives

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CAR Development Strategies and Open Source:

- **Avoid reinventing the wheel**
- **Adapt plans to new technologies**
- **Scalability, Sustainability**
- **Develop a community around the site**
- **Use nonprofit and for profit best practices**
- **Collaboration**
- **Facilitate national networked resources**

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Launch scheduled for October 2005

www.chicagoartistsresource.org