

# **Open Source for Museums**

## The Next Experiment in Museum Technology



Tuesday, May 5, 2009

<http://www.opensource.org/>

# Open Source for Museums

## The Next Experiment in Museum Technology

### Chaired by:

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### Presenters:

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**Bryan Kennedy**, Exhibit Project Leader, Science Museum of  
Minnesota, Saint Paul, MN

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**Carl Goodman**, Senior Deputy Director, Museum of the  
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# Open Source for Museums: The Next Experiment in Museum Technology



## Open source

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Open source is an approach to design, development, and distribution offering practical accessibility to a product's source (goods and knowledge).

Some consider open source as one of various possible design approaches, while others consider it a critical strategic element of their operations.

Before open source became widely adopted, developers and producers used a variety of phrases to describe the concept; the term open source gained popularity with the rise of the Internet, which provided access to diverse production models, communication paths, and interactive communities.

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[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open\\_source](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_source)



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## Open source software

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Open source software (OSS) is defined as computer software for which the source code and certain other rights normally reserved for copyright holders are provided under a software license that meets the Open Source Definition or that is in the public domain. This permits users to use, change, and improve the software, and to redistribute it in modified or unmodified forms. It is very often developed in a public, collaborative manner...

...A report by Standish Group states that adoption of open source software models has resulted in savings of about \$60 billion per year to consumers

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[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open\\_source](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_source)



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It's "free" like a "free puppy"

[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:AMERICAN\\_COCKER\\_SPANIEL\\_PUPPY\\_7\\_WEEKS.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:AMERICAN_COCKER_SPANIEL_PUPPY_7_WEEKS.jpg)

Photo by: [Yeti](#) ([Talk](#) | [contribs](#))



## **Open Source for Museums:** The Next Experiment in Museum Technology

### Open Source IS NOT...

From CNET, Perspectives

Open source is not without cost. Someone has to underwrite the community. Developers have to donate their time and expertise.

### **It's not about free stuff.**

In the evolved open-source development model, a "community of code" maintains an open-source code base, preferably itself evolved "in the open." It uses behaviors and principles well documented elsewhere, which inherently lead to better code faster, not least because of the scrutiny of the community. These benefits are obtained as long as there is a viable community of interested parties to create, maintain and improve the code.

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<http://news.cnet.com/2010-1071-954384.html>



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"You're soaking in it"

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_bEkq7JCbik](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_bEkq7JCbik)



# Open Source for Museums: The Next Experiment in Museum Technology

## The Rise of Open Source Software



Linux (and Unix)  
Operating Systems  
Run on 10 million  
servers world wide



Firefox Web browser  
22.% of market share  
of all browsers only  
IE is higher at 67%



WordPress  
Blog Software  
Largest self-hosted  
blogging platform, it  
is on hundreds of  
thousands of sites



Apache Web server  
106,368,727 installed  
45.95% of all servers

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<http://marketshare.hitslink.com/browser-market-share.aspx?qprid=0>  
<http://techspotlight.today.com/2009/03/03/pc-mac-linux-market-share/>  
<http://www.klid.dk/statistics/osmarket.html>  
<http://wordpress.org/about/>



# Open Source for Museums: The Next Experiment in Museum Technology

## The Rise of Open Source Software for Museums?



Collective Access



Collection Space



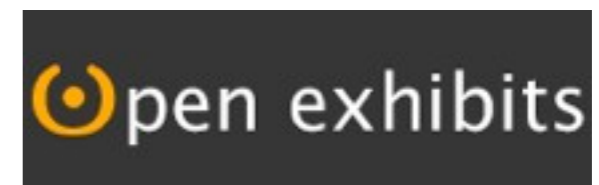
Fluid Engage



Omeka



Pacyderm



Open Exhibits



Steve

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<http://openexhibits.org/>

<http://omeka.org/>

<http://www.pachyforge.org/>

<http://fluidproject.org/projects/fluid-engage/>

<http://www.collectiveaccess.org/>

<http://www.collectionspace.org/>



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