UIC Libraries have developed a new digital exhibit template using the WordPress platform to streamline our development process and simplify the maintenance of our digital ecosystem. This template will help expand the reach of our archival materials by allowing us to both curate new exhibit sites and migrate older exhibit websites, including one that documents the Chicago Urban League's fight against school segregation.

**Goals**
- Develop responsive and accessible websites
- Migrate older sites that could no longer be updated and need a redesign.
- Create digital components for physical exhibits
- Fit within new UIC branding guidelines.
- User-friendly enough for archives staff to make sites.
- Simplify future WordPress maintenance, development, workflow.

**Workflow**
- Assess old site functionality and potential new site functionality needs.
- Make a list of requirements.
- Create wireframes.
- Theme/Plugin assessment for features and conflict testing.
- Development (aka the long part): Creating the sites and page template layouts, customizing CSS, hacking PHP.
- Ingesting the materials.
- Testing and more testing!
- Documentation: (Two sets, a user’s guide and an admin guide)
- Conduct staff workshops on using the template.

**Going forward**
- Expand metadata functionality & make more sites!

**Template Toolset (Themes and plugins used)**
- Storefront - A theme developed by WooCommerce that sets the overall look and settings. We chose this for its basic design scheme and being both ARIA ready (for accessibility) and mobile-friendly.
- Page Builder by SiteOrigin - Customizes the look of the site and page layouts via drag and drop widgets. All layouts can be transferred across sites.
- Envira Gallery - Provides gallery functionality and allows users to filter images by section.
- Custom Post Types - Creates a post type called exhibit page that we can customize for content/navigation.
- Advanced Post Types Order - Allows us to order our exhibit pages to create a guided navigation for users.
- Yoast SEO - Breadcrumbs to help users understand where they are in the site.
- Custom code via PHP, CSS, a bit of Javascript.

**Previous Fight School Segregation site (note the weird Start Over button)**

**The new Fight School Segregation site**

http://culexhibit.blog.library.uic.edu

Any Questions? - icoll@uic.edu