

CASE STUDY



WWW.FORTSNELLING.ORG

INDUSTRY

Non-Profit, Historic Site

BACKGROUND

Friends of Snelling is a non-profit group made up of individuals focused on aiding and assisting Fort Snelling.

CHALLENGE

Friends of Fort Snelling had a very outdated website that was difficult to maintain and enhance with new technology. They needed a newly designed website that would enable online donations, interactive mapping, interactive timelines, forms, events, and more.

WHY SITEFINITY

Friends of Fort Snelling was looking for an intuitive Content Management System that took advantage of technologies in today's marketplace.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

The Friends of Fort Snelling website was built during an overnight website challenge specifically targeted at development teams providing free consulting for non-profit organizations. The contest involved 10 people developing the web site within a 24 hours straight period. The site was developed with ASP.NET, MySQL and Sitefinity CMS.

HOW SITEFINITY HELPED FRIENDS OF FORT SNELLING.

Friends of Fort Snelling is dedicated to the Preservation of the Historic and Natural Values of the Fort Snelling Area.

THE CHALLENGE

Every year a company in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area selects ten to twelve non-profit organizations looking for a new web-site. Friends of Fort Snelling were selected as one of these non-profit organizations looking for a new website, and it was our challenge to give them one within 24 hours.

The current portal of Friends of Fort Snelling needed a fresh look and new features to keep up with the demands of today's connected society. A more cohesive design would help people easily find scheduled events, podcasts, meeting notices, and information about the Fort and park.

A new interactive web site would allow Friends of Snelling to reach out to the public and draw them into the many attractions in the Fort Snelling area. People with interests as varied as history, architecture, canoeing, fishing, hiking, biking, birdwatching, and more would all find a wealth of free or low cost opportunities.

With the appeal of a captivating webpage, Friends of Fort Snelling aimed to attract visitors who will treasure the history of the Fort and the outdoor opportunities at the State Park and become advocates for their upkeep and preservation.

THE SOLUTION

It was essential that Friends of Fort Snelling were able to administer content, create events, manage online donations, and event registrants without in depth web development skills and from any computer on the internet.

Sitefinity allowed us to meet the challenge requirements, and exceed the customers' expectations. The Sitefinity CMS allowed us to develop custom modules to meet their complex needs in a very timely manner, and gave them a lot of out of the box features that they were searching for.

Implementation specific of this project include:

- Event registration custom module
- Online donation custom module
- Organization membership custom module

RESULTS

Friends of Fort Snelling are very pleased with the results.

"WOW!!! It's even more wonderful than I imagined! Many, many, many thanks," says Dorothy Waltz, President at Friends of Fort Snelling.

- Interactive map
- Interactive timeline

"Sitefinity allowed us to focus on the unique needs of Friends of Fort Snelling, while providing us with a stable and flexible application architecture model that enabled rapid application development on top of a CMS system. This was key for an event like the overnight website challenge." – Justin J. Vogt, Director of Application Development - Inetium

THE RESULTS

Our team of ten people which was made up of web designers and developers were able to successfully launch a Sitefinity website from start to finish in 24 hours. Friends of Fort Snelling are very pleased with the results and have incorporated design elements from their new website into all of their other materials. Due the ease of use of the Sitefinity product the organization was able to take over full control of the website after one 1 hour training session.

After the success Inetium found with this project, we began offering sites developed on Sitefinity platform as one of our service offerings.



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- Jeff Cleath, CTO - Inetium

SOLUTION PARTNER