Mistakes Were Made

Session Chair
Kathy Gustafson-Hilton, Hands On! Studio

Presenters
Neil Gordon, Executive Director, Discovery Museum
Charla Fields, Sr. Director, Community Engagement & Impact, Discovery Place
Joseph Knight, Executive Director, Hands On! Children’s Museum
Tami Fowler, Assistant Director, ExpERIEnce Children’s Museum
Our definition of a mistake:

There was really something lost: resources, time, goodwill, pride. The example should be a bit embarrassing. It should have helped our organizations or us, as professionals, grow in a significant way. Experimentation is, of course, an excellent way to develop new programming and operations, but that’s different from a mistake in this sense.
More valuable than learning how to avoid mistakes is learning how to correct them when they occur, because they will.

Brady Lane, Experimental Aircraft Builder
It was my mistake, and I’m sorry.

Mark Zuckerberg, Founder & CEO
The greatest thing in life is experience. Even mistakes have value.

Henry Ford, Founder, Ford Motor Company
Museum of
Failure

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#Come Fail with Us
Sometimes when you innovate, you make mistakes. It’s best to admit them quickly, and get on with improving your other innovations.

Steve Jobs, Founder of Apple
(and the man who pulled the plug on the Newton)
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Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep.

Scott Adams, Creator of *Dilbert* Comic Strip
Make bold choices and mistakes. It’s all those things that add up to the person you become.

Angelina Jolie, Actor, Filmmaker, Humanitarian
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