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As I wrap up my internship over the next few days, it's a marvel to think about the work I experience over the past three months. From start to finish, I was able to see a variety of departments in the museum and better understood the roles of these positions play in the museum. I also felt like a part of the community in the museum because of my Ceramics Rehousing Project, in which I organized and housed the majority of the museum's ceramics collection and ensured a smooth acquisition of new pieces from the Toledo Museum of Art. While I definitely hit bumps in the road with this process, I never felt as though I was doing the 'grunt-work' that I and other interns have had to deal with at past internships. I truly think that after the work I did and continued updates in the database, accessing and studying these objects will be considerably easier. It was also exciting because I was the third of three people who have this project over the course of many years, so I felt as though I were a part of a larger team associated with the museum. As my summer ends, I'll no longer have a part to play in the project--but I'll have left instructions or suggestions for the next person to come along to the museum.

My understanding of the museum world has changed dramatically over the past year because of the new perspectives I've heard in my Museum Studies classes and at my internship this summer. I used to think that I wanted to live on the east coast and work for a big-time art or history museum, but now I think I may prefer the intimacy and freedom of a smaller museum.

This is something I'm definitely going to keep in mind as I search for future internships and perspective jobs, and it's clear that my experiences over the past year have helped me better understand both myself and my goals in these institutions.