

Getting Started With the Digital Commonwealth



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What *IS*
Digital Commonwealth?

Digital Commonwealth Is...

- An organization designed to bring together digital collections held in cultural heritage organizations throughout Massachusetts through a single point of entry: **we are building a cultural commons.**
- A volunteer group of librarians, archivists, and other people wanting to share their knowledge and enthusiasm about digital collections – and assist other organizations in providing the same.



Digital Commonwealth Is...

- A membership-driven organization. Without our members, Digital Commonwealth would not have access to the rich cultural and academic heritage it currently hosts or the knowledge base it can access.
- Current membership rates:
 - Small cultural organization - \$50
 - Large cultural organization - \$100
 - Group Sponsoring Organization - \$500

Member Rights and Responsibilities

Small/Large Cultural Organization

Rights

- Participation in the governance of the Digital Commonwealth. You are invited to attend Digital Commonwealth meetings, vote as an organization, run for office and serve on committees.
- The Digital Commonwealth will harvest your metadata & provide link to your site.
- Attend Digital Commonwealth events (non-governance) at member rates.
- Eligibility to subscribe to the Digital Commonwealth repository service.
- Receive telephone and electronic support from Digital Commonwealth contractors and volunteers.

Responsibilities

- Pay annual membership fee
- Maintain compatibility with Digital Commonwealth standards

Member Rights and Responsibilities

Group Sponsoring Organization

Rights

- Participation in the governance of the Digital Commonwealth.
- The Digital Commonwealth will harvest your metadata & provide link to web.
- Attend Digital Commonwealth events (non-governance) at member rates.
- Receive telephone and electronic support from DC contractors and volunteers.

Responsibilities

- Pay annual membership fee
- Maintain compatibility with Digital Commonwealth standards

Member Rights and Responsibilities

Cultural Institutions that belong to Group Sponsoring Organization

Rights

- The Digital Commonwealth will harvest your metadata from your group sponsoring organization's repository and allow it to be searched from our site. This requires compatibility with our harvester.
- Attend Digital Commonwealth events (non-governance) at member rates.

Responsibilities

- Maintain membership with Group Sponsoring Organization including relevant fees for services and/or membership.
- Follow the standards and guidelines established by your Group Sponsoring Organization.



Digital Commonwealth Committees

Executive Committee

- Consists of ten appointed voting members
- Handles general governance of Digital Commonwealth
- We are looking for members!

Digital Commonwealth Committees

Portal and Repository Technology & Standards

- Charged with making recommendations for current portal and repository

Conference

- Charged with planning annual conference

Outreach and Promotion

- Charged with overseeing publicity and training

We are always looking for participants for the committees!



Digital Commonwealth is also...

- A Portal
 - contains *only* the metadata that enables the discovery of the digital objects; it does *not* contain the actual digital objects.
- A Repository
 - stores and maintains all the components of a digital collection (including both metadata and digital objects) according to a framework of policies and standards. By means of its technological infrastructure, the repository provides access to the digital content.

Current Participants

Portal contributors

- Billerica Library
- Boston College
- Central/Western MA Automated Resource Sharing (C/W MARS)
- Congregational Library, Boston
- Massachusetts Historical Society
- North of Boston Library Exchange (NOBLE)
- Northeastern University
- State Library of Massachusetts
- Sturgis Library
- UMass Amherst
- UMass Lowell
- WGBH Educational Foundation

Portal & Repository contributors

- Brookline Public Library
- Framingham State University
- The Governor's Academy, Pescosolido Library
- Jewish Women's Archive
- Lincoln Public Library
- Newton Free Public Library
- Northeast Massachusetts Regional Library System
- Watertown Free Public Library

as of April 2012



Participation: Harvested or Linked Site

- Digital Commonwealth will harvest your metadata for inclusion in the portal.*
 - Metadata must be in an OAI-PMH compliant system; OR
 - An OAI static repository document must be created and hosted on a web server to enable harvesting
- Digital Commonwealth will add a link on our portal to your online digital collection.
 - Included in your annual membership fee

Participation: Digital Repository

- Digital Commonwealth will put your collections into our repository*
- Scanning and metadata is done by the contributing institution
- Additional costs are associated for hosting beyond the membership

* Current harvesting and repository services are on hiatus until the new Omeka system is in place.

Portal

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

Digital Commonwealth
Massachusetts Collections Online

Advanced Search | Browse Subjects

FIND BY LOCATION



RECENT QUERIES

Dance
New England
Historic
Ipswich
Accidents
Montpelier
Wakfield, MA - Board of
governor dummer

NOW INDEXING

Records (27850)
Archives (349)
Subjects (6758)
Collections (261)
Types (170)
Creators (8992)
Sources (938)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ARCHIVES



Working for victory



Will of William Dummer



Churches - Appleton Street

Repository

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window with the address bar displaying <http://repository.digitalcommonwealth.org/>. The page content includes a login field, a breadcrumb trail for 'Repository Home', a main welcome message, and several navigation sections: 'Search Repository' with a search box and 'Go' button, 'Browse' with a list of categories, and 'My Account' with 'Login' and 'Register' links. The 'Institutions' section lists five member libraries.

Repository Home - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Delicious Bookmarks Tools Help

http://repository.digitalcommonwealth.org/

Repository Home

Login

Digital Commonwealth

Repository Home

Welcome to the Digital Commonwealth Central Repository

This repository houses digital collections belonging to Digital Commonwealth members.

Search Repository

Enter some text in the box below to search the repository.

[Advanced Search](#)

Browse

- **Entire Repository**
 - [Institutions & Collections](#)
 - [Titles](#)
 - [Authors](#)
 - [Subjects](#)
 - [By Dates](#)

My Account

- [Login](#)
- [Register](#)

Institutions

Select a member institution to browse its collections.

- [Brookline Public Library](#)
- [Digital Commonwealth Executive Committee Documents](#)
- [Jewish Women's Archive](#)
- [Northeast Massachusetts Regional Library System](#)
- [Watertown Free Public Library.](#)

This is all great:

But *what else* can Digital
Commonwealth do for my
institution?

What can Digital Commonwealth membership do for you?

- Provide a portal/repository to share digital collections by Commonwealth member organizations
- Host an annual conference on digital issues
- Promote digital initiatives to Digital Commonwealth members and non-members alike
- Offer responsive and effective training on digitization and related services

Annual Conference

- Digital Commonwealth Conference
Committee begins planning in the fall
- Partnered with Massachusetts Library Association in 2011 as pre-conference
- Reach out to members and non-members across New England



Promotion

- When funding sources are available, Digital Commonwealth provides annual grant rounds to support digital collections
 - Wilson Grants recipients
 - K-12 Curriculum Lesson Plans – based on Digital Commonwealth portal and repository
 - Digital Commonwealth list available to announce projects within membership

Training

- Sessions in-person and online previously offered:
 - Introduction to Digital Commonwealth
 - Metadata
 - LYRASIS Digitization track courses
 - “Digital Barn Raising” – collaboration with C/W MARS, former CMRLS and WMRLS

What is coming up for Digital
Commonwealth?

Coming up

- Training sessions this summer
 - New England Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) – announcement coming soon
- Incorporation and establishing 501©3 status for grant funding
- Transitional portal, based in Omeka
- Collaboration with Boston Public Library for joint digital repository and portal

Ready To Get Started?

Contact Us!

Website: www.digitalcommonwealth.org

Email: digitalcommonwealth@gmail.com

Questions?

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