

## Collection Update for December 2019

23,425 new items were added in December

### Hosted

- Boston Public Library - Paintings and Fine Arts Collection at the Boston Public Library (10 items)\*
- Jamaica Plain Historical Society - Doyle's Cafe Memorabilia (111 items)
- Lawrence Public Library - Phyllis Tyler Paper Doll Collection (258 items)

### Harvested

- University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries Special Collections and University Archives (27 new collections; 23,055 new items)\*\*

\* items added to existing collection \*\* re-harvest

147,014 Item views    789,027 Total item-level records    309,557 Total hosted items

### DPLA News...

Under funding from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the Digital Public Library of America has partnered with [BiblioLabs](#) to provide unprecedented statewide access to ebooks. This new partnership offers libraries the ability to license a growing collection of more than 16,000 ebooks, including independent author collections and titles from a number of major publishers, using a simultaneous multi-use model that allows an unlimited number of patrons to borrow books at the same time. The model also provides expanded access for people who don't live near a library or can't get to one.

Jill Blades has also joined the DPLA team as ebooks outreach program leader. She comes to DPLA from Baker and Taylor, where she worked with both school and public libraries all over the U.S., most recently as field sales consultant to public libraries in the Southeast. Jill will strengthen DPLA's partnerships with libraries across the country, helping them to improve patron access to ebooks and audiobooks through the DPLA Exchange.

To learn more about Open Bookshelf, SimplyE and other DPLA ebooks offerings, visit [ebooks.dp.la](http://ebooks.dp.la).

### Digital Commonwealth Board Elects New Vice President/President Elect...



At their December meeting, the Board of Digital Commonwealth unanimously elected Justin Snow, Digital Initiatives Librarian at Salem State University to be Vice President/President Elect. Justin joined the Digital Commonwealth board last year and has served as co-chair of the Conference Committee for the past 2 years. Justin holds a Bachelor's of Liberal Studies, Philosophy from Salem State, and an MLS from Simmons College.



Contextual Conversations:  
Representation and Digital Practice

**Conference Registration is now open!**  
**[Register here.](#)**  
**[Full conference schedule.](#)**

### New Friends of Digital Commonwealth Membership Level...

Digital Commonwealth strives to make its collections, resources, and programs available to everyone who is interested in the Massachusetts Collections Online. The Friends' membership level allows individuals who are either not associated with an institution or associated with an institution that is ineligible to join Digital Commonwealth, to become members.

Benefits: The Friends' membership will provide eligible individuals with the same privileges as institutional membership, except for voting rights. The Digital Commonwealth Membership Committee will review eligibility criteria for interested individuals to ensure that individual eligibility is maintained.

Benefits include: member pricing for all DC events; advance notice of events; notification of DPLA events and programs; and access to member-only events.

**Become a DC Friend [here](#)...**

## Featured New Collection...

Having grown up playing with, making and designing clothes for paper dolls, selecting the Phyllis Tyler collection from the Lawrence Public Library to feature this month was a no-brainer. I loved paper dolls...my three sisters and I had quite a collection and they would provide hours of entertainment for us. We would carefully cut out any suitable "heads" from the family Christmas cards we received and convert them to new members of our paper doll collection. Patricia Feeley also talks about this collection in her final DC [blogpost](#) (thanks Tricia for all your great posts over the years) and mentions that given the span of the collection from 1938-1959, it includes several War World II Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS) dolls. The WAFS, created in 1942, never numbered more than 28, was created in September 1942 and members were recruited from among commercially licensed women pilots with at least 500 hours flying time and a 200-hp rating. Originally their mission was to ferry USAAF trainers and light aircraft from the factories, but later they were delivering fighters, bombers and transports as well. The collection even includes Bitsy the paper doll dog!!



## New Digital Commonwealth Blogs...

### [A Closer Look: Brown, Cooley, Noble and Strong families](#)

In this blog, the Outreach Committee asks us to consider an unusual photo of the Brown, Cooley, Noble and Strong families from the Granville Public Library...where does the raging river in the background come from? Take a look and see what you think...

[Season's Greetings](#) An interesting blog from the Outreach Committee on the Schwarz family (of F.A.O. Schwarz fame) highlighting the store's trading cards. While we tend to think of Santa Claus dressed in his familiar red with white fur, the trading cards and other similar cards in the Digital Commonwealth repository hark back to earlier appearances of Santa dressed in other colors including yellow, blue and black.



Trade cards for (left to right): [Atmore's mince meat and genuine English plum pudding](#); [boys' overcoats for Christmas and New Year's presents at the Old South Clothing House](#); [R. Schwarz, toy bazaar](#), Historic New England collection

## Save the dates for 2020!!

### *"Getting Started with Digital Commonwealth"*

February 12, 2020, 1-3pm, Wilbraham Public Library.

### *"Digitization Open Forum"*

March 11, 2020, 10am-12pm, Thayer Memorial Library, Lancaster.

*"2020 Annual Conference"*, Tuesday April 7, 2020, 8-4pm, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA. [Register here.](#)

### *"Getting Started with Digital Commonwealth & Little Red Shop Museum Tour"*

May 15, 2020, 10am-1pm, Little Red Shop Museum, Hopedale.

### *Members Only VIP Tours of BPL Digitization Lab*

Monday, June 8, 10am – 12pm

Wednesday, September 23, 10am – 12pm

Tuesday, December 8, 10am – 12pm

### *Members Only Behind the Scenes Tour of the Peabody Essex Museum Library*

July 13, 2020, 10am-12pm

### *"Getting Started with Digital Commonwealth"*

October 16, 2020, 10am-12pm, Canton Public Library.

## Membership News

Welcome new member

- Town of Concord Archives

Welcome back all our returning members!

- Cambridge Public Library
- Kingston Public Library
- New Bedford Whaling Museum
- Phineas S. Newton Library
- Sharon Public Library
- Stoughton Public Library
- Sturgis Library
- Worcester Public Library

## Not a Member? [Join here](#)



## DC Board Says Goodbye to Past President, Sadie Roosa...

Past President, Sadie Roosa announced this week that she will be leaving the DC Board this month. Sadie will be starting a newly created position as Collection Strategist for Repository Services within the Scholarly Communications and Collection Strategy team at the MIT Libraries. We thank Sadie for all her great work on the Digital Commonwealth Board as Secretary, Vice President, then President, and wish her all the best for this exciting next step in her career.