Mountain West Digital Library

The Digital Public Library of America

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What is the DPLA?

1880 US map, courtesy of David Rumsey
What is the DPLA?

OUR national digital library

1880 US map, courtesy of David Rumsey
What is the DPLA?

- Originally led by DPLA Secretariat at the Berkman Center at Harvard University, funded by The Sloan Foundation and The Arcadia Fund.
- Director for Content hired in October 2012; Assistant Director, January 2013
- Executive Director, Dan Cohen, announced in March, and began permanently on April 18
- As of April 14, an independent 501c3 organization
- A new board is in place, replacing former steering committee.
  - Many former steering committee members remain, serving in advisory roles.
DPLA Board Members

- Laura DeBonis, Consultant, Former Director for Library Partnerships for Google Book Search
- Cathy Casserly, CEO of Creative Commons
- Paul Courant, University Librarian, University of Michigan
- Robert Darnton, Carl H. Pforzheimer University Professor and University Librarian at Harvard University
- Luis Herrera, City Librarian of San Francisco
- Jamie Hollier, President of Anneal, Inc.; Partner, Commerce Kitchen
- John Palfrey, Head of School, Phillips Academy; Chair of DPLA Board
- Amy Ryan, President of Boston Public Library
- Siva Vaidhyanathan, Robertson Professor in Media Studies Chair, Department of Media Studies, University of Virginia
Elements of the DPLA
Elements of the DPLA

1. Code

KayPro IV Personal Computer, National Museum of American History
Code

• Open API, website templates, and more at: https://github.com/dpla/platform

• Platform released under an AGPLv3 license
Elements of the DPLA

2. Metadata

National Park Service sign, National Archives and Records Administration
2. Metadata

- CC0 = No rights reserved on the metadata
- Allows for maximum use, reuse
- Enables interoperability on a global scale
- Open, raw data required to operate in a Linked Open Data environment

- [http://creativecommons.org/about/cc0](http://creativecommons.org/about/cc0)
Two categories of rights

- **Metadata**

- **Content**
Two categories of rights

- **Metadata**
- **Content**

Item-by-item rights assignment
Linked Open Data - What is it?
from Europeana.eu
DPLA Board statement

01. The vast majority of metadata is not subject to copyright restrictions.

02. The DPLA’s partners share the DPLA’s commitment to open, shareable metadata. (expressed via CC0 license)

03. The DPLA asserts no rights over its database of metadata and waives all claims for infringement thereof.

04. Free and unencumbered access to metadata.
Metadata aggregation is hard

- Good data *in* means good data *out*
  - Not all data errors can be fixed
  - Things break...and we fix them

- This is a pilot
  - We’re forging new ground

Forging, 1955. Utah Valley State College. Mountain West Digital Library
Data provider (aka “Owning Institution”)

1. Dublin Core (10 partners)
   - Publisher, 3
   - Contributor, 2 (+1 “sort of”)
   - Coverage, 1
   - Publisher AND/OR source, 1
   - n/a [hard coded], 1
   - All of the above + scripted, 1

2. MODS (3 partners)
   - <location><physicalLocation>
   - n/a [scripted]
   - n/a [hard coded]

3. Other (3 partners)
   - EAD - “record-group creator (which may come from the collection_[n].xml record; if that isn't available, then <reference-units><name>”Homegrown - <data_source>System specific - “display/lds03 or search/lsr12”
Elements of the DPLA

3. Content

Sweetgrass sewing basket with hinged lid. Lowcountry Digital Library, South Carolina Digital Library
### 3. Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early, pre-film photographic process created images</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETDs</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Images of paintings</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Images of three-dimensional artworks/objects</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Images of specimens</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manuscripts (letters, documents, archival records)</td>
<td>85.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maps / GIS data</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving images (film, video, etc.)</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspapers</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other texts</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographs (from film)</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sound (includes music, oral history, etc.)</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Answer Choices</td>
<td>Responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local history</td>
<td>71.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Your] state history</td>
<td>64.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State documents</td>
<td>42.86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National history</td>
<td>42.86%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts, Decorative Arts, etc.</td>
<td>35.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil War</td>
<td>35.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonial history</td>
<td>35.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African Americans</td>
<td>35.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Agricultural History</td>
<td>35.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry, Industrial history</td>
<td>35.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political science</td>
<td>28.57%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revolutionary War</td>
<td>28.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library history</td>
<td>21.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>21.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil rights</td>
<td>21.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genealogy</td>
<td>14.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans (any war)</td>
<td>14.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County government</td>
<td>14.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological sciences</td>
<td>14.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban development</td>
<td>14.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WWI</td>
<td>14.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of science</td>
<td>7.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and public spaces</td>
<td>7.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indians of North America</td>
<td>7.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam War</td>
<td>7.14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
~450 participating institutions...

...from ~15 states

Crowds of cotton pickers, 1940. National Archives and Records Administration
Elements of the DPLA

4. Tools & Services

Example of Student-made tools, Utah State University, Mountain West Digital Library
4. Tools & Services

- Front end is built on API
- Apps created at AppFests and Hackathons in early 2013

**API**
(application program interface)

A set of routines, protocols, and tools for building software applications.

A good API makes it easier to develop a program by providing all the building blocks.

A programmer then puts the blocks together.
Elements of the DPLA

5. Community

Bake sale on Montello, Nevada, main street to raise funds for refurbishing of community church, 1985
Utah State University, Merrill-Cazier Library, Mountain West Digital Library
5. Community

- Forums: http://dp.la/info/forums
- Committees: http://dp.la/info/about/who/committees
  - Advisory
  - Content strategy
  - Legal
  - Marketing and Outreach
  - Technical Advisory
- Plenary sessions, workshops, DPLAfest!
Digital Hubs Pilot

• Planning process in workstreams led to formation
• Managed by DPLA Content Staff
The Hubs Pilot

- Launched in late September 2012
- First effort to establish a national network out of the 40+ state or regional digital collaboratives, numerous large content repositories, and other promising initiatives currently in operation throughout the US
- Digitized content from across the country in a single access point
- Six states and one region (Service Hubs) and nine large content providers (Content Hubs) to aggregate and harvest metadata
- Funding provided by: NEH, IMLS, and Knight Foundation
How it works

- Existing large content repository
- State or other collaborative
- Regional collaborative
- Existing large content repository
- State or other collaborative
- State or other collaborative
How it works
Partners

Service Hubs
- Digital Commonwealth
- Digital Library of Georgia
- Kentucky Digital Library
- Minnesota Digital Library
- Mountain West Digital Library
- South Carolina Digital Library

Content Hubs
- ArtStor (records from multiple partners)
- Biodiversity Heritage Library (records from multiple partners)
- David Rumsey Map Collection
- Harvard University
- NARA
- New York Public Library
- Smithsonian Institution
- University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
- University of Virginia
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The Service Hubs Advantage

• Infrastructure already exists
  • Often with some federal grant support and/or LSTA funds
  • Aggregation and metadata services
  • Relationships

• Diverse institutions represented via state/regional aggregations
  • Academic libraries, archives, museums, public libraries, historical societies, and other cultural heritage organizations

• Unique content
  • Photographs, Manuscripts, Books, Newspapers, Oral Histories and other audio files, Streaming Video and MORE

• Limited one-to-one direct relationships with DPLA
Service Hub Offerings

- Offer a “full menu” of standardized digital services to local institutions, including:
  - digitization
  - metadata consultation
  - data aggregation
  - storage services
  - locally hosted community outreach programs bringing users in contact with digital content of local relevance.
  - exhibition building
John Butler representing the Minnesota Digital Library

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J7UhgI5Czl8&playnext=1&list=PL68azUN8PTNjJaxLymJulrw-l2LqfDnpT&feature=results_main
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  - University of Virginia
Content Hubs

• Nine partner institutions providing 250,000 or more records
  • ...or particularly unique content (David Rumsey Map Collection)

• Roles:
  • Provide metadata and previews for harvest by DPLA
  • Edit metadata as needed
  • Sign with data provider agreement as trusted partner
  • Agree to share metadata under CC0 license
High Level Timeline

- Project has two year timetable that started October 2012
- Pre launch
  - Prepare metadata and content previews for harvest
  - Develop metadata application profile
  - Harvest existing metadata from Content & Service Hubs
  - Develop exhibitions
- Post launch
  - New digitization and metadata
  - Evolving front-end and data services, including for many Service Hubs the addition of new partners, and targeted community engagement programming
  - Community engagement about open, linked data
Not just a pretty face...
In Congress, July 4, 1776: A Declaration by the Representatives of the United States of America

Dunlap Broadside (Declaration of Independence) Congress of the Confederation. (03/02/1781 - 03/04/1789)

Bread and Roses Strike of 1912: Two Months in Lawrence, Massachusetts, that Changed Labor History

A Worker's Life

Life in Lawrence was hard for mill workers. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor's Report on the Strike (1912), in 1908 Lawrence had the eighth-highest death rate per 1000 in the country (Lowell the worst), the seventh-highest death rate for infants in the country; and the fifth-highest death rate for children under 5.

A platform & API

Make something awesome.
Visualization

Graphing the history of philosophy http://griﬃsgraphs.com/

Mapping the Republic of Letters https://republicofletters.stanford.edu/

Linked Jazz http://linkedjazz.org/network/
y Niccolò Machiavelli (translated by William K.)

Dr. Medici

It is not the business of a prince to come before him with such things as they hold most precious, or in which they see an officer's home, arms, clothes of gold, precious stones, and such ornaments presented to princes, worthy of their

ask them for their opinion, and they are willing to give it to you. However, if they are not, it would be better not to ask for it at all. Some princes have a reputation for being generous and hospitable, while others are known to be stingy and stingy. The Louvre has a large collection of precious stones, and in order to contemplate the nature of the stones, it is necessary to look at it in detail.

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Join us in building the DPLA!
Questions?

• Contact info:
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  • Assistant Director for Content
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  • [http://dp.la](http://dp.la)