Pond to Lake to Ocean: Partnerships for Moving Cultural Heritage Materials into DPLA

Anne Karle-Zenith, METRO NY Library Council
Natalie Milbrodt, Queens Library
“How might we leverage libraries as a platform to build more knowledgeable communities?”
Culture In Transit (CIT)
CULTURE IN TRANSIT

MBQE

Digitizing & Democratizing Metropolitan New York's Cultural Heritage
New York City (+ Westchester)
● Funded by the Knight Foundation News Challenge on Libraries
● 18 month project starting in Feb 2015
● Hired 3 Mobile Digitization Specialists
● Decided on mobile digitization equipment for kits
● Purchased, tested, replaced refined
Mobile Digitization Equipment

Flatbed Scanner

Copy-Stand

Outreach
Mobile Digitization Equipment

- We love our wheeled Pelican cases!
Partnerships 1:
CIT Project Partners
Winners

Announcing the winners of the Knight News Challenge.

Congratulations to all our contributors!

The Library Freedom Project: Bringing Privacy Education and Digital Tools to Local Communities Through Libraries

Threatened by surveillance from corporations and governments, our right to access information is chilled. As stewards of information and providers of internet access, librarians play a central role in

Don Means
Updated on 06:48, Nov 13, 2014 27

Library-led 50 state field test of TV White Spaces (TVWS) potential to enable 100,000 new distributed library Wi-Fi access points.

Libraries leading the first national field trial of FCC-enabled TVWS networks with pilots in every state to foster innovative uses of this new open regional-scale wireless broadband capability.

Isabel Shelman
Updated on 16:09, Oct 27, 2014 23

Library For All: A digital library for the developing world.

Imagine walking into a school with row after row of empty shelves. This is the situation for millions of students around the world. At Library For All, we envision a world without barriers to knowledge.
Goals: METRO

- DPLA and ESDN
- Support needs of our smaller/underfunded members
- Pilot small-scale digitization service for members
- Collections to seed DCMNY
- Learn about our Member needs - digitization and related
Partnerships 2: Cultural Heritage Institution Partnerships
Institutional Scanning - METRO
Onsite work

Offsite work
Choosing Partners

If you chose option two above, please briefly tell us more about these materials.

Please provide collection title and a brief description of the materials in the collection (subject matter/themes, as well as material types, e.g., photographs, postcards, pamphlets etc.).

Long answer text

What is the size of the collection?

Please provide approximate number of items you would like to see digitized. If the items are made up multiple pages (pamphlets etc.), please provide total page count, or average number of pages per item. This will provide a rough sense of how long it will take to digitize the collection. CIT aims to visit host institutions for a 1 to 2 week period and is looking for small to medium sized collections to digitize.

Long answer text

To what extent are the materials currently organized and described?

How are the materials currently organized (boxes, folders etc.)? What metadata exists for the materials (e.g., records, spreadsheet, finding aid, etc.)?

Long answer text

Have you digitized any material from your collections before?

Small-scale or grant-funded digitization projects (not digitization on demand services for patrons).

☐ Yes
Choosing Partners

- Quality (cohesive, significant)
- Feasibility (material type, #s, condition)
- Collection status (processed, cataloged, rights?)
- Practicalities (location, physical space, security, contact person, timeline)
Choosing Partners

Site Visits:

- View / Assess Materials
- Go to Location/View Space
- Meet with staff
Feedback

Thank you for agreeing to host the Mobile Digitization Specialist at your institution. We'd love to hear your thoughts on participating in the project so we can better understand your experiences.

Your Name

Short answer text

Your Title

Short answer text

Your Institution

Short answer text

Decision to participate in project

Description (optional)

Did you find the information provided about the project (in the announcement on METRO site http://metro.org/culture-in-transit/ and the Expression of Interest form http://bit.ly/1VNKRP8) to be useful for determining your desire to participate in the project?
Facts & Figures

So far.....

- 8 METRO member institutions visited
- Over 1,150 items digitized
- 6 collections online - dcmny.org
- 3 collections in DPLA
- Others harvested - should be there soon!
LGBT Center: Unique & Historically Important
Hostos Community College: Celebration of Local Culture
Yeshiva University: Oversize & Inaccessible
Use Cases of Digitized Content

A Sense of Place: Research Workshop

January’s edition of the White Plains History Roundtable will be A Sense of Place: Research Workshop on Wednesday, January 20, from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM.

Ever wondered what the layers of history and human experience are that combine to create White Plains? Join Librarian Ben Himmelfarb and student of White Plains history Cliff Blau to learn how to research the history of any address, building, business, house, or spot in White Plains. Maps, directories, photographs, and online resources from the White Plains Collection will be available for everyone to use.

Come prepared with a favorite place to research and we will walk you through the process of discovering more! There will be plenty of time for storytelling and sharing the history we are bound to uncover. We hope you’ll leave with a stronger sense of place and a new perspective on the places we live, work, and spend time in.

The White Plains History Roundtable is an educational, participatory, and social event where we hear a presentation on an historical topic, examine primary source documents from the White Plains Collection, and engage in discussion with each other.

January’s History Roundtable is one of many programs commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the City of White Plains during 2016. Check out the City’s Website and the White Plains Historical Society for information on other events.

January 17, 2016 | by Ben Himmelfarb
Categories: Events and History.
Tags: adults, all ages, families, historical research, local-history, teens, white plains centennial, white plains collection, and white plains history.
Use Cases of Digitized Content

Still making scrapbooks?
Bring history into the 21st century at the White Plains Public Library!

Community History Day
Saturday, December 12
11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Bring up to 10 photographs, documents, or maps related to your family or White Plains history (from any era) to be digitized and added to our online collection. Everyone leaves with digital copies to share with family and friends! More info: www.whiteplainlibrary.org/local-history
Refreshments will be served.
Partnerships 3:
Community Partnerships
CIT Community Scanning in Queens (6/2015-4/2016)
Community Scanning in Brooklyn

- Williamsburg
- Clinton Hill
- Park Slope
- Flatbush
- Dyker Heights
- Bed-Stuy
- East New York
- Canarsie
- Sheepshead Bay
- Greenpoint
Goals: Queens Library

- Bring broader attention (internally and externally) to our work
- Bring our model to scale in a variety of settings
- Nurture existing partnerships and establish new collaborations
  ...especially with Brooklyn Public Library
- Test & refine processes, documenting them for use internally by staff, external partners, and colleagues
Welcome to Culture in Transit

Culture in Transit is a partnership between the Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO), the Brooklyn Public Library and Queens Library to bring mobile scanning equipment to smaller libraries, archives, museums, and the communities they serve. We are one of 22 projects to win the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation’s Knight News Challenge on Libraries. Our work falls into two main areas:

- **Community Events** (Queens Library and Brooklyn Public Library): We bring our mobile digitization kit to library branches and invite residents to bring in family photos and memorabilia. We scan the materials, which are returned to the donors along with a flash drive of digital copies. The digital copies are also included in own digital catalogs, and shared with the Digital Public Library of America.
- **Institutional Scanning** (METRO): We bring our mobile digitization kit to METRO member institutions across New York City and Westchester. We scan selected collections and make them available on METRO’s digital platform and the Digital Public Library of America.
Community Scanning
Queens Library, Brooklyn Public Library

Brooklyn Public Library
- 22 public events
- 750 unique items digitized
- Close to 100 items cataloged on BPL

Queens Library
- 23 events
- 665 unique items digitized
- 600 items cataloged on queensmemory.org and prepared for ingest into DPLA
Selection Criteria Guide Every Decision

From where to host events to engaging participants in what to scan:

- Connect with institutional mission
- Fill gaps in collections
- Accommodate partners' priorities

Erika Banga on swingset, 2003
Frank D. O’Connor Playground, Elmhurst
Donated by Kamaljit Kaur
How it Works

- Donors work one on one with staff
- Prepare folder of materials for scanning

St. Albans Community Library
**Working on Paper: Consent & Metadata**

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**Brooklyn Public Library**

**Informed Consent and Copyright Permission**

**For Images and Personal Documents**

**Participants Name:**

**Hacking Address:**

**Phone:**

I am at least eighteen years of age (under the age of eighteen, consent must be signed by parent) and I voluntarily agree to share my interview, images, and personal documents with Brooklyn Public Library.

I understand that the following items may be created from the items I share:

- promotional materials
- additional digital derivatives
- videos clips
- social media posts

I understand that my items may be distributed to the public for educational purposes, including formats such as print, public programming, and the internet.

I agree to freely share my items under the terms of a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License. This means that I retain the copyright to my material, but the public may freely copy, modify, and share these items for noncommercial purposes under the same terms. If they include the original source information.

Further, I agree to hold the Brooklyn Public Library, its affiliates, and its employees harmless against any claim, action, loss, damage or alleged infringement of any copyright, trademark, or other third party property rights caused by or arising from the publication exhibition or release of my personal documents furnished to the Brooklyn Public Library.

I understand that I shall receive no compensation for the materials I share. In return, Brooklyn Public Library agrees to provide one free copy of the images at the time of digitization.

Any exceptions to this agreement, such as a request for anonymity, must be noted below:

**Permission granted:**

- Participant’s Signature: __________________________ Date: ____________
- Parent’s Signature: __________________________ Date: ____________

**Questions:**

Contact Manager of Special Collections, Ivy Melvin, 718-230-2707, ivym@bklyn.org

Alexandr Sign TWO copies one stays with the participant, and the other returns to Brooklyn Public Library.

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**Queens Memory**

**Submission Information Form**

**Photographs:**

Date photograph was taken: __________________________

Location of photograph (specific address if possible): __________________________

**Name of photographer:**

Name(s) of persons/people in the photo: __________________________

Name of event taking place in photo: __________________________

Organizations represented in photo: __________________________

Make / model of camera and software used: __________________________

Measurements (height x width): 5” x 8” in book: __________________________

**Additional Notes:** Any or all of the following information:

- Context for this photo
- Relationship between photographer and the event taking place in the photo
- Description of events in the photo

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For more information, contact Director, Yashima Middlebrooks, yashima.middlebrooks@queenslibrary.org
How it Works

- Staff digitize items, save properly
- Load external HD with all donations
- Load thumbdrive for donor
Donors take away....

- The materials they shared
- Thumbdrive of scans
- Consent form
- Our contact information
- Queens Memory brochure
- Personal digital archiving brochure
After the Event: Processing
Goals: Queens Library

- Bring broader attention (internally and externally) to our work
- Bring our model to scale in a variety of settings
- Test & refine processes, documenting them for use internally by staff, external partners, and colleagues
- Nurture existing partnerships and establish new collaborations...especially with Brooklyn Public Library
Community Partners Established

Asian Americans for Equality

Brooklyn Connections

Douglaston / Little Neck Historical Society

Five Boro Story Project

Forest Hills Asian Association

Good Neighbors of Park Slope

Greater Ridgewood Youth Council

My Baryo, My Borough

Woodhaven Cultural and Historical Society
Community Partnerships

- Community groups as a liaisons
- Targeted outreach
- Access to new communities
- Language support
- Credibility
- Focused documentation of traditionally under-represented communities
Benefits of Partnership for Culture in Transit

- Leveraging expertise of 3 specialists + permanent METRO, BPL and QL staff
- Support within cohort of 3 CIT specialists for problem solving and dissemination
- Demonstrate usefulness and work output of a desired staffing model
Contact

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natalie.milbrodt@queenslibrary.org
@QueensMemory

Culture in Transit : www.mnylc.org/cit
@DigitizeNYC