Library Digitization Hubs

On December 10, the State Library of Ohio Board awarded Institute of Museum and Library Services LSTA grants to the Cleveland Public Library, Columbus Metropolitan Library, Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, and Toledo-Lucas County Public Library to purchase imaging equipment to establish four regional "Digitization Hubs." All four grants were matched by funds from OPLIN because this partnership-based project supports, expands, and improves statewide access to digital information, the purpose for which OPLIN was created in the Ohio Revised Code.

Although the total amount of the grants and OPLIN funds is considerable – over $750,000 – this represents only a portion of the resources which will go into the project. Each of the four libraries is committed to providing and maintaining adequate space for the digitization hubs, providing trained personnel to operate them, and purchasing additional software and equipment not covered by the grant funds. This collaborative initiative is a very large and important project for Ohio and has the potential to serve as a model for other states.

The Digitization Hubs project builds on previous digitization experiences of the four partners as well as the Ohio Memory Project. Their shared knowledge from past mistakes and successes will build the foundation for a cohesive, statewide approach to digitizing materials held by their libraries and those held by other libraries, museums, archives, and local communities throughout Ohio. Valuable digitization requires the production of high-quality images associated with high-quality metadata. The Digitization Hubs will be able to fulfill both of these requirements to institutions in their region.

Some of the equipment to be used in the hubs, particularly the large-format planetary scanners, is rarely found in cultural institutions because of its cost. The grant funds provided by the State Library and OPLIN will help the four partners overcome the significant financial hurdle of initial equipment costs.

Two committees will guide the work of the Digitization Hubs: a Metadata Advisory Committee and a Project Oversight Committee. The committees will not have governing authority over the project, but instead will function as clearinghouses for best practices and solutions to problems. In time, other institutions will be invited to participate in these committees to promote best practices in all the digitization activities going on in Ohio. Ultimately, the partners hope to produce a single website providing access to as much of the digitized material held by Ohio institutions as possible, and coordinate this access with the Digital Public Library of America.

Ohio libraries have a rich history of uniting to achieve lofty goals, and we are excited about the future of this cooperative project.

Dynamic Website Kit Upgrades

From November through December, regular maintenance upgrades were implemented for the Dynamic Website Kits. These upgrades did not affect the functionality or appearance of the websites, but were performed for basic maintenance of the underlying systems.

Some important changes to note:

▪ As of January 1, 2014, OPLIN will no longer support or do work to allow Website Kits to render on legacy versions of Internet Explorer 6, 7, or 8. Also remember, Microsoft will not support Windows XP as of April 2014.

▪ For most Website Kit libraries, especially those built March 2013 or later, this will have no effect. For older sites, OPLIN will no longer address requests if the library's website does not render in these IE versions.

▪ If the site already contains code for rendering in legacy IE versions, it will not be removed at this time. But, we will not be making adjustments for future issues.

▪ The Ohio eBook Project and the SEO Digital Catalog have merged their OverDrive media to form The Ohio Digital Library, effective November 7, 2013, with a new logo.

▪ If your website contained the old service logo, we have replaced it. If not, please notify us that your library still has the old Ohio eBook logo.

▪ Also, we have added a new feature to the search for The Ohio Digital Library members. This is the ability to choose "eMedia" as a search option, and will appear along with "Catalog," "Site," and "Ohio Web Library."

For SEO libraries only:

▪ SEO has made "My Account" URLs available for each of its catalogs. OPLIN began installing these in December for those library Website Kits with direct "My Account" links. This process should have been completed before January, but please notify us if you still see the old URL.

Recently Launched Website Kits

Bossard Memorial Library
http://www.bossardlibrary.org

Brown Memorial Public Library
http://www.brownmemorial.lib.oh.us

Burton Public Library
http://www.burton.lib.oh.us

East Palestine Memorial Public Library
http://www.east-palestine.lib.oh.us

Licking County Library System
http://www.lickingcountylibrary.info

Newcomerstown Public Library
http://www.nctlib.org

Ohio Web Library Updates

As a new year begins, this is a reminder that NewsBank was discontinued on October 31, and Mango Languages was discontinued on December 31, 2013, as part of the statewide database subscription. As previously announced, LearningExpress Workforce Skills for 21st Century Success is one of the new additions to the Ohio Web Library resources. Workforce Skills provides tools for improving basic workplace and job search skills in addition to preparing job seekers for advanced occupational training.

Workforce Skills for 21st Century Success is available for use at:
http://www.ohioweblibrary.org/db/workforce

For an overview of WS21, the 15-minute video user guide is available at:
http://www.learningexpresshub.com/ws21c/user-guides/full-length-video

Workforce Skills for 21st Century Success – Logos and Materials:
http://library.ohio.gov/Marketing/Libraries/LearningExpressLibrary/WorkforceSkills4SuccessResources

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Database Tutorials

The Ohio Web Library includes a variety of instructional video tutorials, provided by database vendors, State Library of Ohio (SLO), INFOhio, and Reference and Information Services Division (RISD) of the Ohio Library Council. The tutorial links are found by visiting http://www.ohioweblibrary.org/databases, and then clicking on the "+" sign after the name. Tutorials or instructional videos are available for the following resources:

- About:Books (SLO)
- American and English Literature (RISD)
- Biography Reference Bank (INFOhio)
- All EBSCOhost Databases (vendor)
- EBSCO MasterFILE Premier (SLO)
- EBSCO Points of View Reference Center (RISD)
- EBSCO Science Reference Center (RISD)
- EBSCO Consumer Health Complete (RISD)
- EBSCO Student Research Center (RISD)
- EBSCO Kids Search (vendor)
- EBSCO Searchasaurus (vendor)
- Facts on File Science Online (INFOhio)
- LearningExpress Library (vendor)
- LE Workforce Skills for 21st Century Success (vendor)
- World Book Academic (RISD)
- World Book Academic eBooks (RISD)
- World Book Online (SLO)

Lorrie Germann, state E-Rate coordinator, will present a free E-Rate workshop to outline the process and assist public libraries in completing Form 471. This workshop will be held at the State Library of Ohio with videoconferencing available to other locations around the state. For a calendar, visit http://library.ohio.gov/event.

- **E-Rate Workshop (Form 471): February 10, 9:30AM – 12PM**

Please remember that each OPLIN email account has 1Gb of storage space, and if using webmail, you should receive a warning when approaching this limit.

HOWEVER, if you discover that you frequently approach or surpass this storage limit, you will need to delete email on a regular basis, or the better option is to simply use an email client (Outlook, Thunderbird) to store an unlimited amount of email on your own computer without deleting.

OPLIN Calendar

Thursday, January 16
SLO Board Meeting
State Library, 10am

Friday, January 17
OLC Board Meeting
OLC office, 10am

Monday, January 20
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Holiday, OPLIN CLOSED

Monday, February 10
E-Rate 471 Workshop
State Library, 9:30am-12pm

Friday, February 14
OPLIN Board Meeting
OPLIN office, 10am

Monday, February 17
Presidents' Day
Holiday, OPLIN CLOSED

Thursday, March 20
SLO Board Meeting
State Library, 10am

Friday, March 21
OLC Board Meeting
OLC office, 10am