Collaborating to Promote Cultural Identity in Public Libraries through the Portal to Texas History

Celebrate our 50th Anniversary by attending LITA Programs at ALA Annual


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Collaborating to Promote Cultural Identity in Public Libraries through The Portal to Texas History

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Project Development Librarian
University of North Texas Libraries

http://texashistory.unt.edu/
Overview

• What is The Portal to Texas History?
  • What is it?
  • Interesting Partnerships and Collections
  • How the information can be used
  • How are they funded?
  • What do you give back?

• Texas Digital Newspaper Program
  • What is the Texas Digital Newspaper Program (TDNP)?
  • Who does it serve?
  • How is it funded?
  • What does it look like?

http://texashistory.unt.edu/
The Portal to Texas History

• 2004
• 350 collaborative partners
• About 917K digital objects
• 9.5 million files
• 10K added each month
• 120K added last year
• 550K+ uses per month
The Portal to Texas History

- 174,926 photo
- 432,096 newspaper issues
- 4,337 books
- 83,262 maps
- 12,112 legislative docs
From every corner of Texas

Museums  Corporations
Libraries  Genealogical Groups
Archives  Historical Societies
Universities  Historical Commissions
Newspaper Publishers
Private Collectors
Government Agencies

http://texashistory.unt.edu/
Examples of resources in the Portal

• Photographs
• Maps
• Family letters
• Gammel’s Laws of Texas and other state docs
• Genealogical publications, yearbooks, serials
• Course curriculum
Miss Toothacker is wearing a dress that copies the coronation robe of Mrs. Wallis Warfield Simpson, fiancé of King Edward VIII of great Britain. The robe was made of diamond shaped turnips. The train was of beets & carrots.

Dorothy Carlisk. Her dress is made out of 1000 acalpha leaves. The purse is overlaid with ground alfalfa. The jerkin is made of rows of the scarlet bracts of the poinsettia plant.
Organization Collections: Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company, Fort Worth
Gammel’s Law

• Hans Peter Mareus Neilsen Gammel

• 31 Volumes

• Early colonization laws

• Proceedings from constitutional conventions

• All laws and resolutions passed from every congressional and legislative session from statehood to 1897
African American Funeral Programs of San Antonio

• 3,778 programs digitized
• 1,000 more to digitize
• 1930’s to Present
Black Academy of Arts and Letters Records

- Founded in 1977
- 5,618 photographs
- Stimulating awareness of black artistic accomplishments
- Over 100 performance a year
Civil Rights in Black and Brown

• 94 oral histories
• 2 languages
• Multicultural relations past and present
Correspondence Ledger of the Kempner Family
@Every3Minutes
Every Three Minutes
@Every3Minutes

In the antebellum United States—a human being's parent was just traded.

A person was sold about every 3 minutes in the antebellum era. One was called Joshua.
Funding of Projects

- Partner funded
- Recuing Texas History program
- State Grants
- National Grants

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<th>Format</th>
<th>Cost to scan and create descriptive metadata</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Photographs</td>
<td>$3.75 per item</td>
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<tr>
<td>Film Negatives or Slides</td>
<td>$5.00 per item</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glass Plate Negatives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Handwritten Materials (letters, notes, etc.)</td>
<td>$3.00 per item + 45¢ per scan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Printed Documents (certificates, deeds, books, etc.)</td>
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</tbody>
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What do I get for this?

• Creating a master quality image or digital file for preservation
• Providing you with master digital copies of all of your scanned materials
• Creating derivative versions for online viewing
• Creating a thorough metadata record to describe each item.
• Digitally preserving the image or digital file in our dark archive
Leveraging Partnerships for Community Preservation

Supporting community identity preservation, one page at a time

June 24, 2017
by
Ana Krahmer, PhD
Director, Digital Newspaper Program
University of North Texas Libraries
For
ALA Annual 2017
Overview

- What is the Texas Digital Newspaper Program (TDNP)?
- What do partnerships mean for TDNP?
- What are significant projects representing communities of color?
- Research Projects that utilize TDNP are . . .
TDNP is . . .

• An endeavor to preserve cultural identity.
• A long-term preservation initiative.
• The largest single-state preservation and access initiative in the U.S., with over 5.1 million newspaper pages.
TDNP Technology Workflows

• Ingest content from
  • Physical scans: 24-bit, full-color TIF
  • Microfilm scans: 8-bit, grayscale TIF
  • Partner-digitized scans: Mystery files
  • Born-digital files: PDFs from the Texas Press Association, submitted by ~308 member publishers

• Newspapers:
  • Create issue-level metadata (volume, issue, and notes about non-standard issue situations)
  • Batch-level, qualified DC metadata in one XML file, per year or by set of consistent issues within a year
  • OCR with bounding boxes and ABBYY XML coordinates for full-text searching and highlighting
TDNP Audiences

- Genealogists
- Educators of all levels
- Students of all levels
- Lay-historians
TDNP Partnerships

Texas Public Libraries

- Tocker Foundation: Dedicated to supporting public libraries that serve populations >12,000, provides full support for newspaper digitization up to 1965 to libraries who apply.

- Ladd & Katherine Hancher Foundation: Supporting public libraries serving populations >50,000.
TDNP Partnerships

TexTreasures competitive grants program:

• The Dallas Voice (2014-2015)
• The Texas Jewish Post (2015-2016)
• The Borderlands Digitization Project (2016-2017)
Newspaper Projects Representing Communities of Color

• National Digital Newspaper Program-Texas: Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, we are digitizing Spanish-language newspapers with the goal of representing the Mexican-American community in Texas on both state and national scales, via both the Portal and Chronicling America. (chroniclingamerica.loc.gov)

• Historic Mexican & Mexican American Press Collection: Collaborative project between University of Arizona, University of Texas at El Paso, and University of North Texas, this project digitized newspapers, many in Spanish, from Tucson, El Paso, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Sonora, Mexico from the mid-1800s to the 1970s. The collection is hosted out of University of Arizona, and the El Paso Morning Times, also hosted on the Portal, was the only newspaper to cover the whole of the Mexican Revolution in both Spanish and English editions. (www.library.arizona.edu/contentdm/mmap)
Newspaper Projects Representing Communities of Color

• *The Dallas Express*: Begun as the Dallas Bee in 1892 and renamed Dallas Express in 1893, the paper served as an advocate for African Americans in Dallas and throughout the South.

• *The Representative*: Published in Galveston from 1871 - 1872 by Richard Nelson, this Texas newspaper was the first published by an African-American proprietor/editor. In its pages, the paper advertised "It will advocate the rights of all American citizens, 'without regard to color, race, or previous condition of servitude.'"
Newspaper Projects Representing Communities of Color

• The African American Newspaper Collection: Digitized from duplications of LC’s pre-1923 African American microfilm collection, these newspapers provide a record of the culture, daily life, and history of the community, from across the United States.

• The San Antonio Register: Founded by Valmo C. Bellinger, the paper began printing in 1931, running without interruption for 47 years. Though its initial goal was preserving the political influence of Bellinger's father, Charles, the paper later focused on local, state, and national events of specific interest to San Antonio's African-American community.
Research Projects that Utilize TDNP

• Mapping Texts: Collaboration between UNT and Stanford University. Data spans from 1829, when Texas was actually the Mexican state of Tejas y Coahuila, up to 2008. (mappingtexts.org)

• Texas Runaway Ads: “Unfortunately, the primary sources on slavery in the United States are limited. These sources are usually written from the perspective of the slaveholder and often reduce slaves to their monetary value. This can make it difficult for historians to learn about the personal experiences, attitudes, and relationships of enslaved men and women. Among these primary sources, runaway advertisements offer one of the best glimpses into the names, personalities, and experiences of individual slaves, as well as the institution of slavery as a whole.” (twitter.com/TxRunawayAds)

• Texas Runaway Slave Project: “Developed with the goal of locating and opening biographical information about people for whom biographies were not written, the Texas Runaway Slave project has so far documented the names, talents, and locations of interest of over 1400 runaway slaves from Texas.” (digital.sfasu.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/RSP)
Thank you!

Questions?
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Visit us: https://texashistory.unt.edu/explore/collections/tdnp/
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