

# Digital Public Library of America: Minnesota's Contribution Year One +

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[dp.la](http://dp.la) | [reflections.mndigital.org](http://reflections.mndigital.org) | [mndigital.org](http://mndigital.org)



MINNESOTA  
DIGITAL LIBRARY



# Minnesota Digital Library

The **Minnesota Digital Library**, based in Minitex, engages in and supports access to online resources, digitization, educational outreach, professional development and digital preservation.

**Minnesota Reflections** is a free online database of digitized materials from many of the state's leading cultural heritage organizations.

The screenshot displays the Minnesota Digital Library website interface. At the top, the logo for "MINNESOTA DIGITAL LIBRARY" and "minnesota reflections" is visible, along with a scenic image of Lake Superior. The navigation bar includes links for Home, Browse All, User Guides, Newspapers, Favorites, and Help. A search bar is present with a "Search" button and a link to "Advanced Search".

The main content area is titled "Minnesota Reflections" and lists "All Collections". The collections listed are:

- County Historical Society**: Contributed to *Minnesota Reflections* show early street scenes, business... [more...](#)
- Baptist General Conference History Center**: The work of the Baptist General Conference History Center was established in 1898. Located on the campus of Bethel University, the BGCHC collects, preserves and disseminates materials significant to Swedish Baptist institutional, cultural, and immigration history; the Baptist General Conference; and Bethel University. The images... [more...](#)
- Basilica of St. Mary**: The archival collection of the Basilica of Saint Mary contains documents and artifacts dating to the parish's founding in 1858. Images contributed to *Minnesota Reflections* include photographs documenting the life of the church from 1907 to 1966, and also architectural drawings for the interior finish of the Basilica church, rectory... [more...](#)
- Becker County Historical Society**: From Detroit Lakes, Minn., in the northwestern part of the state, the Becker County Historical Society serves the public with a museum, archive collection, cultural demonstrations and K-12 workshops. Their holdings include artifacts dating back to the glacial period of the county, a newspaper microfilm archive, photo collection and an... [more...](#)
- Beltrami County Historical Society**: The Beltrami County Historical Society operates out of the James J. Hill railroad depot in Bemidji, Minnesota. The historical society collects photographs, printed materials and artifacts related to the history of this north central Minnesota county. In *Minnesota Reflections*, Beltrami has images showing early street scenes, milling and... [more...](#)
- Bethel University**: Bethel University is a leader in Christian higher education with approximately 6,400 students from 25 countries enrolled in undergraduate, graduate, seminary, and adult education programs. The Bethel University archive collection includes photographs and documents related to the history of this St. Paul, Minnesota, institution from its... [more...](#)

On the right side, there is a section titled "About the collections" with a small image of a lake. Below it, a "Tutorials" section lists:

- [Browsing & Searching](#)
- [Viewing an Object](#)
- [Special Features](#)
- [Advice on Newspapers](#)
- [Saving a Personal Collection Using Favorites](#)

At the bottom right, there are logos for "CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT", "INSTITUTE of Museum & Library SERVICES", "DPLA", and "Minitex DEDICATION. EXPLORATION. INNOVATION."

**Minitex**  
DEDICATION.  
EXPLORATION.  
INNOVATION.



# MDL Footprint (2014)

- **~160 cultural institutions – all types and sizes**
  - County, Area, and Regional Historical Societies
  - Academic, Public, and Special Libraries
  - Museums
  - Governmental agencies, including national, state, and county offices
  - Non-profit foundations
  - Religious organizations
  - Church and monastery archives
- **>200,000 files** -- images, audio-recordings, newspapers, maps & documents
- **Educational Programming**
  - Lesson plans and exhibits
- **Large-scale aggregation & discovery**
  - via DPLA Service Hub role

# MDL's Five Program Areas

- **Digital Conversion**
  - Photographs, textual materials, maps, audio, video
- **Online Access**
  - Minnesota Reflections
  - Metadata brokering (DPLA, WorldCat, Google)
  - Experimentation with Google SA, Steve Project (tagging)
- **Digital Master Storage and Preservation**
  - Evolving towards a state-wide preservation service
- **K-12 and Lifelong Learning Support**
  - Teacher guides, tied to Minnesota Curriculum Standards
  - Teacher-designed Pachyderm modules (online learning objects)
- **Professional Development & Education**
  - Metadata and digital capture training/webinars
  - Annual conference

# MDL Funding and Support

- **Start-up Phase:** year-to-year LSTA awards
  - \$150K – \$235K per year
  - Generous in-kind effort contributions from MDL Coalition anchors
- **Establishing Phase:** annual state-wide LSTA funding
  - \$200K – \$225K per year
  - Generous in-kind effort contributions from MDL Coalition anchors
- **Sustaining Phase:** State-wide Legacy and Minitex Funding
  - Legacy Funding established for years 2010-2035 – now @ \$300K/year
  - Minitex Funding (Office of Higher Education)
  - Generous in-kind effort contributions from MDL Coalition anchors



# Digital Public Library of America

About ▾ Hubs ▾ For Developers ▾ Get Involved ▾ Help ▾ News ▾ Contact ▾ [Donate](#) [Login](#) [Sign Up](#)



[Home](#) Exhibitions Map Timeline Bookshelf Apps



## A Wealth of Knowledge

explore 7,574,844 items from libraries, archives, and museums

## Exhibitions

[View all »](#)

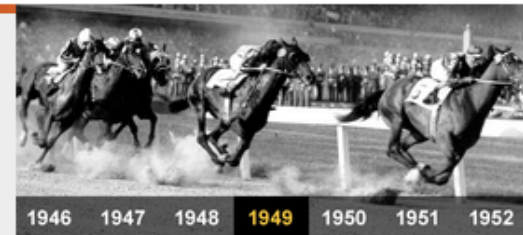


## Explore by Place

[Map »](#)

## Explore by Date

[Timeline »](#)



1946 1947 1948 **1949** 1950 1951 1952

## Apps

The DPLA is a platform. Developers make apps that use the library's data in many different ways. Here are just a few. [App Library »](#)



**Wikipedia**  
Eric Phetteplace

Search

DPLA

**DPLA Search Widget**  
Dean Farrell and Josh Wilson

## News



Version 3.1 of the DPLA Metadata Application Profile (MAP) now available!  
Aug 12

Summer of Archives: Historical Cats  
Aug 11

[All News »](#)

[@dpla on Twitter](#)

# DPLA is ...

*The Digital Public Library of America brings together the riches of America's libraries, archives, and museums, and makes them freely available to the world.*

## ■ Portal

- Providing innovative ways to search and scan through millions of items, including by timeline, map, virtual bookshelf, format, subject, and partner.

## ■ Platform

- Enabling new and transformative uses of our digitized cultural heritage. With an API and maximally open data, DPLA can be used by others to create novel environments for learning, tools for discovery, and engaging apps. (<http://dp.la/info/developers/download>)

## ■ Public Option

- DPLA works, along with like-minded organizations to foster an open intellectual landscape in the face of increasingly restrictive digital options.

# DPLA Funders

- Alfred P. Sloan Foundation (\$2.5M)
- Arcadia Fund (\$2.5M)
- John S. and James L. Knight Foundation (\$1M)
- National Endowment for the Humanities (\$1M)
- Institute of Museum and Library Services (\$250K)
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (\$1M)



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE  
Humanities

BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation



# DPLA Launch - April 18, 2013

**April 18, 2013**

Total DPLA records: 2.4 M  
Service Hubs: 6 (including MDL)  
Content Hubs: 10  
Organizations represented: ~500

**April 18, 2014**

Total DPLA records: 7.1 M  
Service Hubs: 11-12  
Content Hubs: 16  
Organizations represented: ~1,300

## A Wealth of Knowledge

from libraries, archives, and museums

Search the Library



Explore  
by Date

Timeline »



1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952

## Apps

The DPLA is a platform. Developers make apps that use the library's data in many different ways. Here are just a few. [App Library »](#)



### Library Observatory

Created by metaLAB at Harvard

Library Observatory is an interactive tool for searching and visualizing the DPLA collections, accompanied by an interactive documentary that weaves together history, visualizations, and



### Search DPLA and Europeana

Jesús Domínguez

Through the Europeana and DPLA APIs, it's easy to discover sources of information previously unknown or unforeseen and go directly to a digital version of an item.

## News



[A Proud Day for the DPLA](#)  
Apr 18

[Welcome to the Digital Public Library of America](#)  
Apr 18

[All News »](#)

## @dpla on Twitter

RT @foundhistory MT @omeka: Like exhibitions in @dpla? [bit.ly/11yyREX](http://bit.ly/11yyREX) All are built in @omeka [n.b. platform was chosen before @dancohen joined up] [about 27 minutes ago](#)

# Sources for Metadata Aggregation

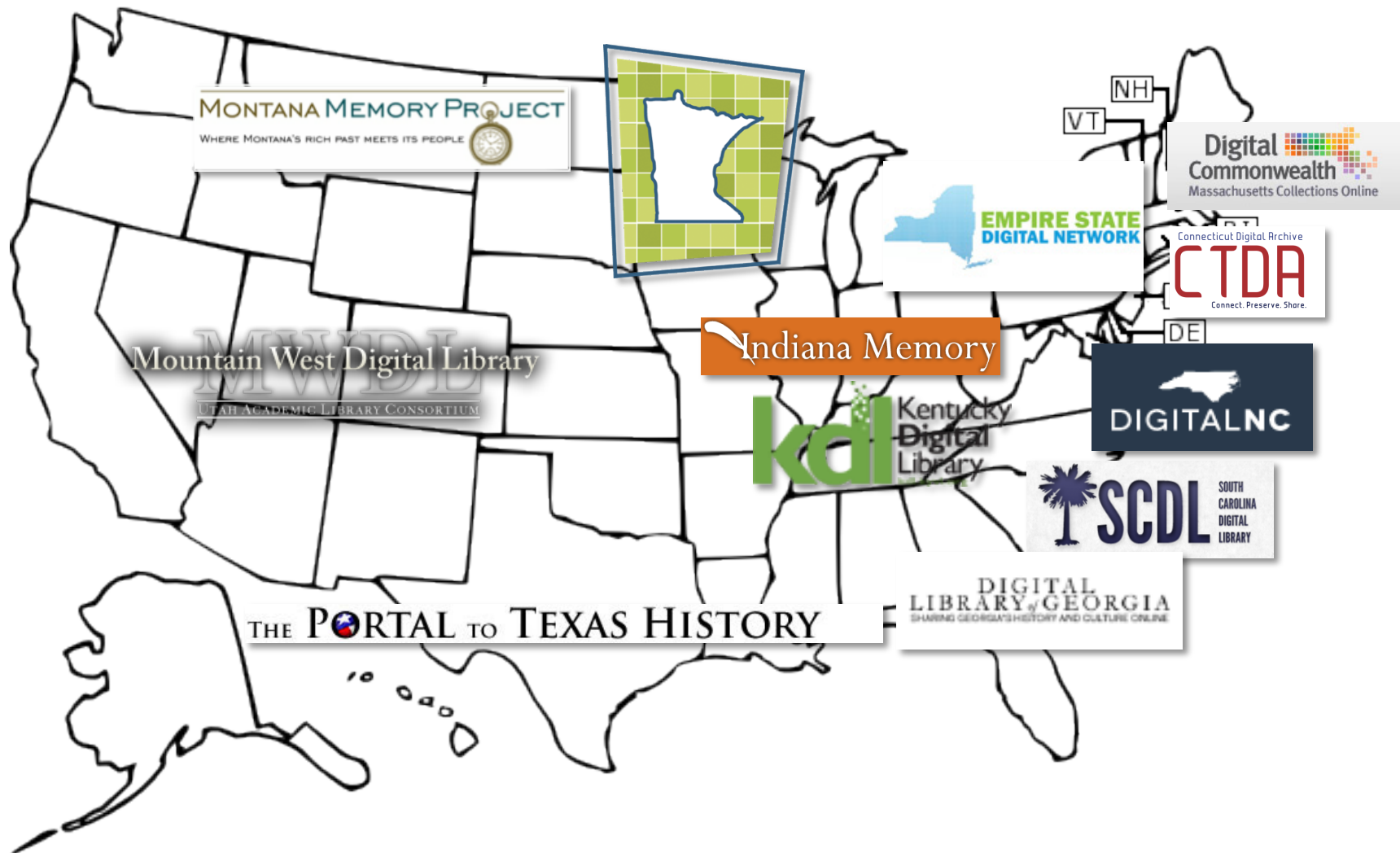
- Metadata for cultural heritage digital objects and books aggregated from **Service Hubs** and **Content Hubs**
- Starting with harvesting from Service Hubs for the initial dataset.

## SERVICE HUBS

- Mountain West Digital Library
- Digital Commonwealth (Mass.)
- Digital Library of Georgia
- Kentucky Digital Library
- **Minnesota Digital Library**
- South Carolina Digital Library
- Empire State Digital Network (New York)
- North Carolina Digital Heritage Center
- The Portal to Texas History
- Connecticut Digital Archive
- Indiana Memory
- Montana Memory Project

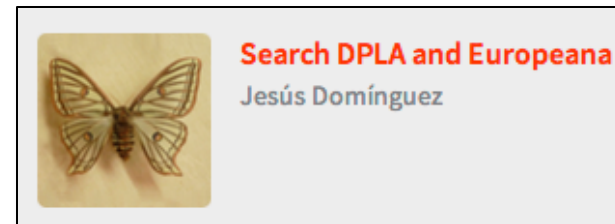
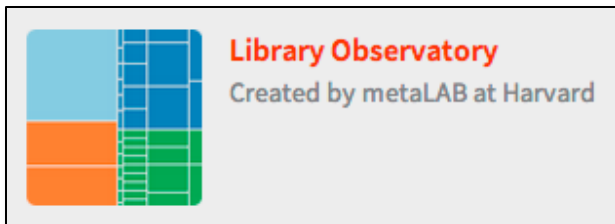
# MDL among the Service Hubs

## Sharing our Story



# Fostering Innovation via Re-use

- The point of the API is for the community to build on it
  - Beta sprints
  - Appfests
- **Developer Portal** – [http://dp.la/wiki/Dev\\_portal](http://dp.la/wiki/Dev_portal)
- **Code** – <https://github.com/dpla>
- **App Library** – <http://dp.la/apps>



Search the Library



## App Library

Share

The DPLA is a platform that enables new and transformative uses of our digitized cultural heritage. The DPLA's application programming interface (API) and open data can be used by software developers, researchers, and others to create novel environments for learning, tools for discovery, and engaging apps.

Become an App Developer

1 2



### WikipedPLA

Eric Phetteplace

See relevant results from the Digital Public Library of America on any Wikipedia article using this Google Chrome extension.

[App Home Page >](#)



### Term vs. Term

Owen Mundy

Compare the number of search results for two phrases from the Digital Public Library of America.

[App Home Page >](#)



### FindDPLA

Eric Phetteplace and Jake Orlowitz

Want to see DPLA's related text and images for any Wikipedia article? FindDPLA is an easy-to-install tool that pulls up relevant content from the DPLA any time you view a Wikipedia article.

[App Home Page >](#)



### Historical Cats

Adam Malantonio

A Twitter bot that grabs an item at random via the DPLA's API platform and tweets it out.

[App Home Page >](#)



### Metadata Games

Tiltfactor Labs

Metadata Games is a digital game platform for gathering data on photo, audio, and moving image artifacts. The platform entices players to visit archives and explore humanities content while contributing to vital records. Metadata Games is fueled in part by digital materials contained in DPLA via its partners.

[App Home Page >](#)



### DPLA Search Widget

Dean Farrell and Josh Wilson

Search the DPLA right from your webpage in three easy steps! DPLA Search Widget allows you to easily install a DPLA search box on your website or WordPress pages.

[App Home Page >](#)

# Aligning Policy with Aspiration

- The DPLA hopes that the content and resources in the library will be put to ***creative uses that educate, inform, and empower*** current and future generations.
- The DPLA aims ***to make the cultural and scientific record available, free of charge***, to all through databases of metadata. The DPLA, for this purpose, has undertaken the task of ingesting, indexing, enriching, and making available descriptive metadata and wishes ***to make such metadata widely available for reuse***.
- The DPLA wishes to promote innovation in the development of applications and tools that use and rely on this metadata. In order to foster such innovation, the DPLA is ***committed to ensuring such metadata is unencumbered by legal restrictions***.

# Metadata Policy Statement

- ① The vast majority of metadata is not subject to copyright restrictions
- ② DPLA's partners share the DPLA's vision of and commitment to freely sharable metadata to promote innovation.
- ③ DPLA asserts no rights over its database of metadata and dedicates its contributions to the public domain
- ④ DPLA's users are free to harvest, collect, modify, and/or otherwise use any metadata contained in the DPLA.

# Download, re-use, re-invent...

Search the Library



## For Developers

[API Codex](#)

**[Bulk Download](#)**

[Ideas & Projects](#)

[Metadata Application Profile](#)

[Sample Code & Libraries](#)

Search this site



## Bulk Download

All DPLA data in the DPLA repository is available for download as zipped json files. These include the standard DPLA fields, as well as the complete record received from the partner.

## Complete Repository

[Download the complete repository](#)

## Data from Individual Partners

[ARTstor](#)  
[Biodiversity Heritage Library](#)  
[David Rumsey](#)  
[Digital Commonwealth](#)  
[Digital Library of Georgia](#)  
[Harvard Library](#)  
[HathiTrust](#)  
[HathiTrust Digital Library](#)  
[Internet Archive](#)  
[Kentucky Digital Library](#)  
[Minnesota Digital Library](#)  
[Mountain West Digital Library](#)  
[National Archives and Records Administration](#)  
[North Carolina Digital Heritage Center](#)  
[Smithsonian Institution](#)  
[South Carolina Digital Library](#)  
[The New York Public Library](#)  
[The Portal to Texas History](#)  
[University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign](#)  
[University of Southern California. Libraries](#)  
[University of Virginia Library](#)

**Note:** For information about the format of the files contained in these bulk downloads, visit the [database export files page](#)



# MDL+DPLA

Addressing the Full Spectrum of Digital Needs



**Historical Cats**  
Adam Malantonio



**DPLA Search Widget**  
Dean Farrell and Josh Wilson

Reuse

Amplification

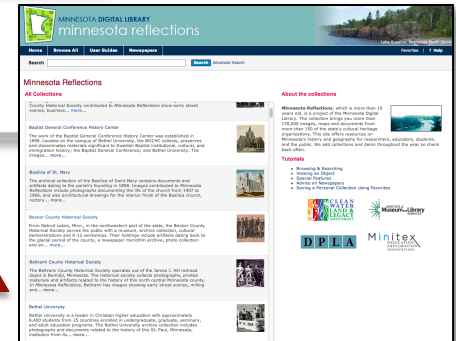


DIGITAL PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF AMERICA

Preservation



Discovery & Access



Digitization & Cataloging



# Minnesota Digital Library

## Sharing our Story

*DPLA-funded Initiatives*



MINNESOTA  
DIGITAL LIBRARY

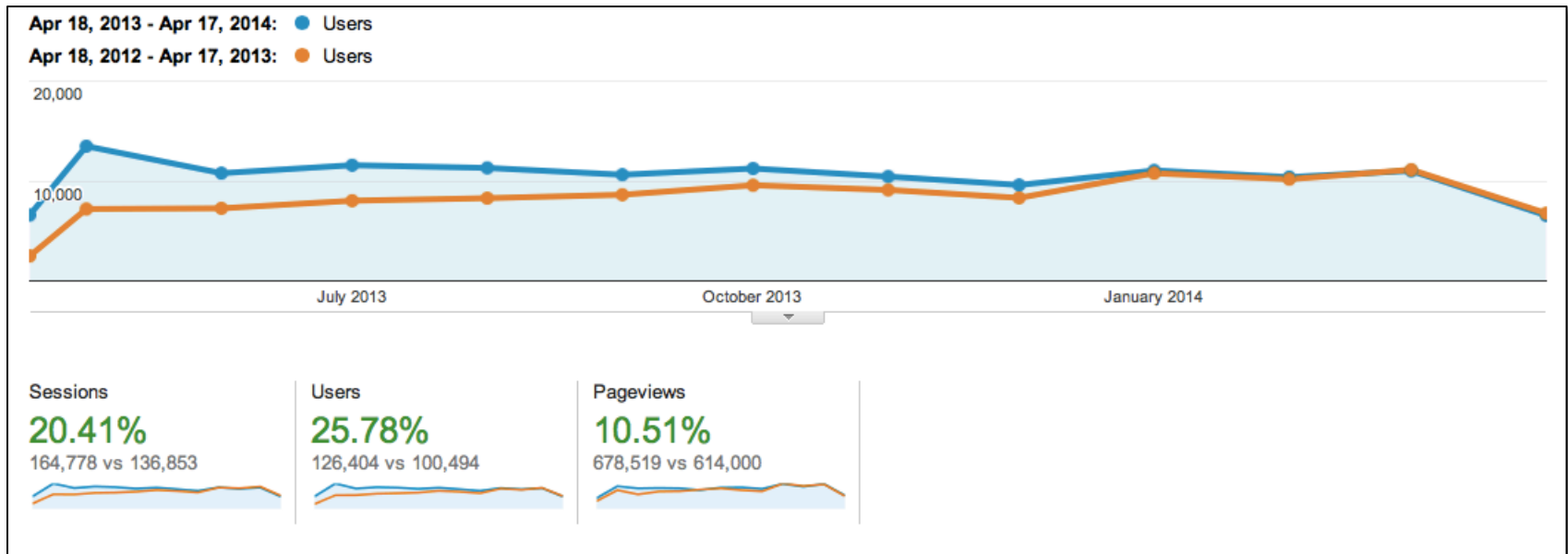


# MDL's DPLA-funded Activities

- State-/Region-wide digital library metadata aggregation
- Major new digitization projects
- Digital storytelling
- New Audio/Visual Documentary initiatives
- Community-centered engagement and outreach

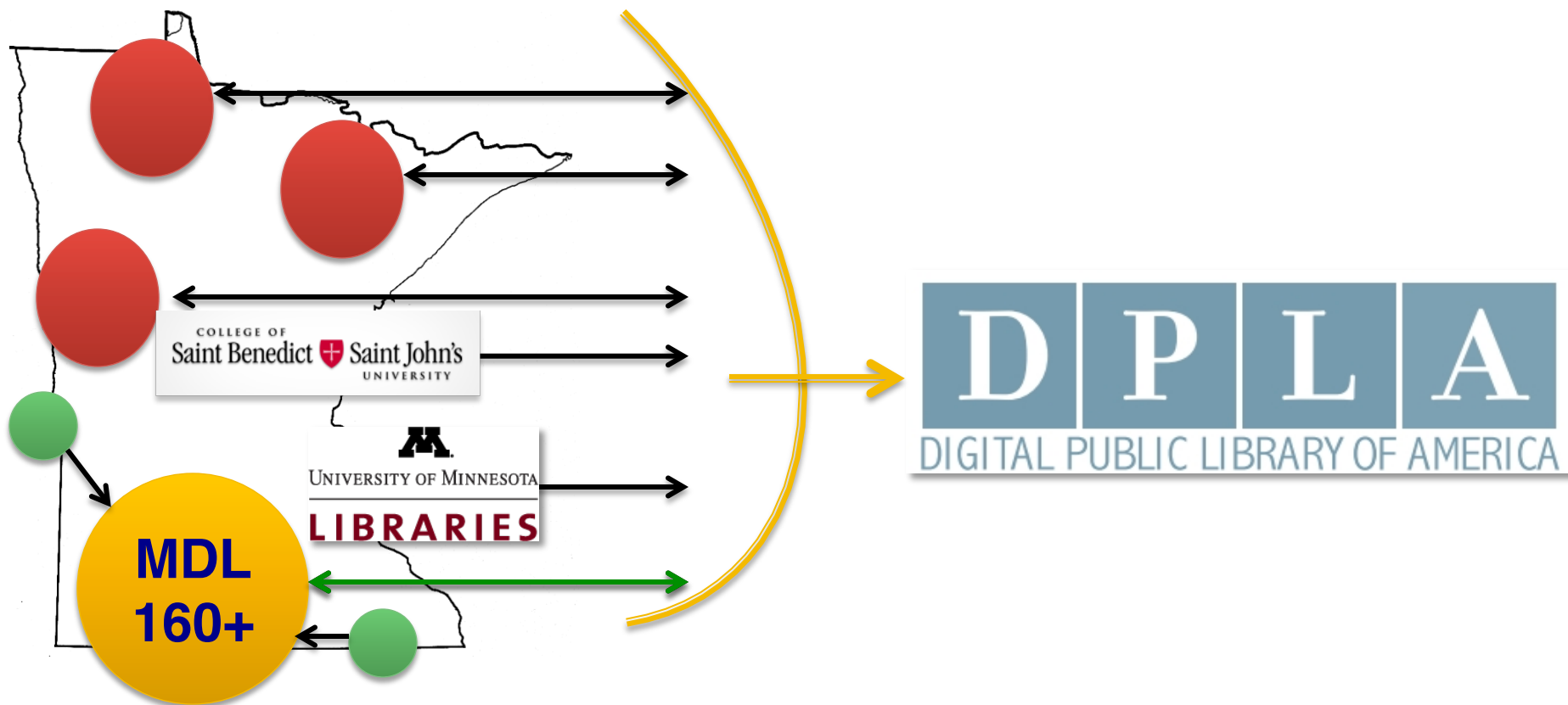
# Why Aggregate?

MDL + DPLA = Amplification

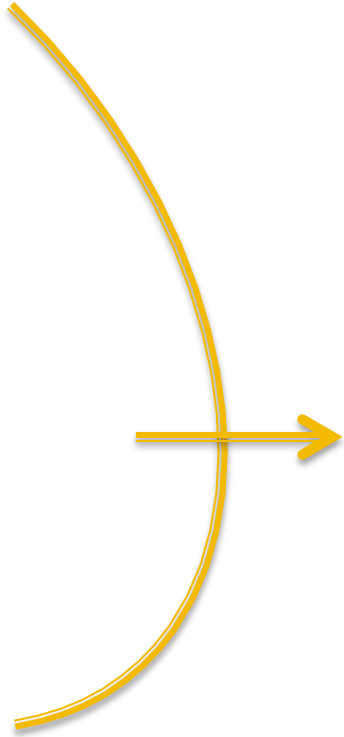


# MDL + DPLA = Aggregation

Beyond the MDL Digital Collections



# Data Aggregation

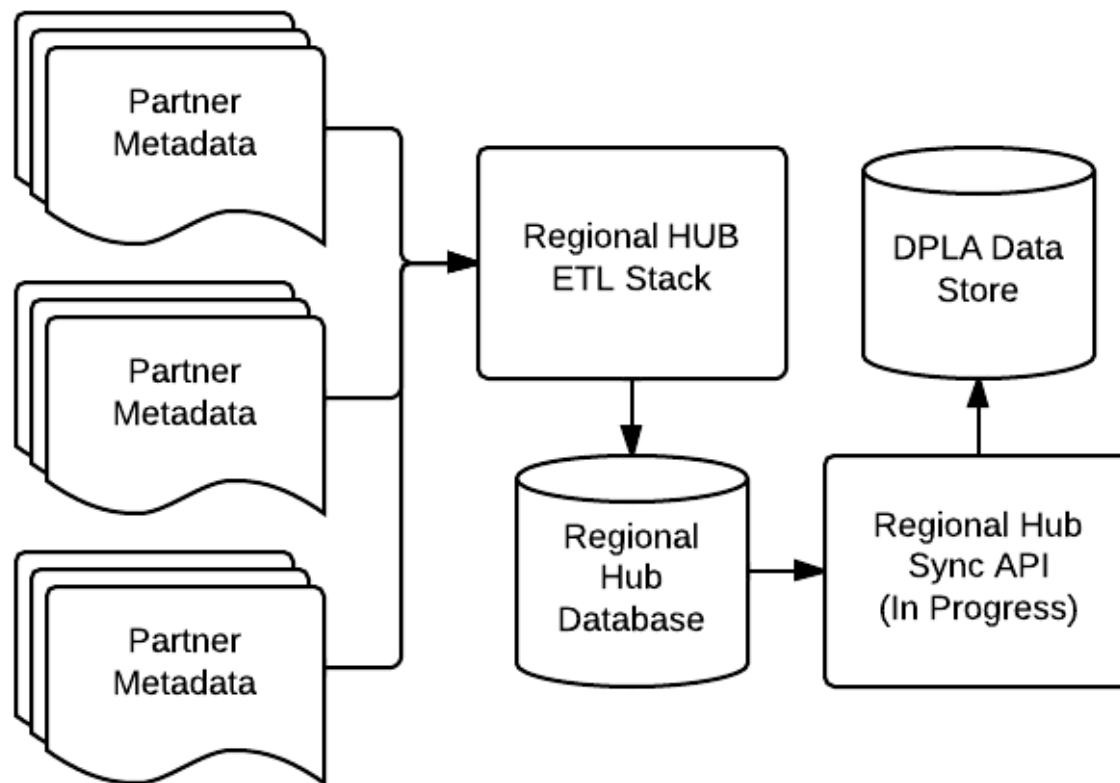


## Gets Metadata

- ...From Regional Partners
- ...On a Regular Basis
- ...Transforms it Into DPLA Metadata
- ...Loads it Into A Local Database
- ...Brokers it to DPLA
- ...Without being added to *Reflections*.


# Data Aggregation



## Process Overview



# Data Aggregation

## Import Jobs

Import Jobs    Batch Workers Admin 

Logged in as **libsys@gmail.com**     [Edit Profile](#) | [Logout](#) 

### Import Jobs


Job ID	Name	Notes
2	csbsju	<a href="#">Run ETL</a> <a href="#">Run ETL - First Batch Only</a> <a href="#">Cancel Import</a> <a href="#">Batches</a> <a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>
1	MDL	<a href="#">Run ETL</a> <a href="#">Run ETL - First Batch Only</a> <a href="#">Cancel Import</a> <a href="#">Batches</a> <a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>

[New Import job](#)



# Data Aggregation

## Import Batch Management

Import Jobs Batch Workers Admin  Logged in

**Name:** MDL  
**Canceled:** true  
**Notes:**  
**Is Active?:** Inactive

[Edit Import Job](#) [View Import Jobs](#) [Cancel Import](#) [Run ETL](#) [Run ETL - First Batch Only](#) [Delete All Batches](#)

### Individual Batch Operations

**Batch ID:** 924  
**Transformed and Loaded:** Inactive  
**Batch Parameters:** none

[Re-extract](#) [Re-transform](#) [View JSON](#) [Download JSON](#) [Delete Batch AND RECORDS](#)

**Batch ID:** 2443  
**Transformed and Loaded:** Inactive  
**Batch Parameters:** resumptionToken=:::oai\_dc:1000

[Re-extract](#) [Re-transform](#) [View JSON](#) [Download JSON](#) [Delete Batch AND RECORDS](#)

# Data Aggregation

## Turning This

```
<record>
  ▼<header>
    <identifier>oai:cdm.csbsju.edu:CSBArchives/0</identifier>
    <timestamp>2009-11-03</timestamp>
    <setSpec>CSBArchives</setSpec>
  </header>
  ▼<metadata>
    ▼<oai_dc:dc xmlns:oai_dc="http://www.openarchives.org/OAI/2.0/oai_dc/" xmlns:dc="http://www.openarchives.org/OAI/2.0/oai_dc/" http://www.openarch
      <dc:title>Aerial Photo of the College of Saint Benedict 1957</dc:title>
      <dc:description>looking NE</dc:description>
      ▼<dc:rights>
        Copyright© 2008 College of Saint Benedict Archives. All Rights Reserved.
      </dc:rights>
      ▼<dc:identifier>
        http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchives/id/0
      </dc:identifier>
    </oai_dc:dc>
  </metadata>

```

# Data Aggregation

## Into This

```
"isShownAt": "http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchives/id/31",
"title": "HAB West",
"sourceResource": {
  "title": "HAB West",
  "identifier": "oai:cdm.csbsju.edu:CSBArchives/31",
  "description": null,
  "rights": "Copyright© 2008 College of Saint Benedict Archives. All Rights Reserved."
},
"provider": {
  "@id": "http://dp.la/api/contributor/csbsju",
  "name": "College of Saint Benedict & Saint John's University"
},
"identifier": "oai:cdm.csbsju.edu:CSBArchives/31",
"object": "http://cdm.csbsju.edu/utils/getthumbnail/collection/CSBArchives/id/31",
"originalRecord": {
  "header": {
    "identifier": "oai:cdm.csbsju.edu:CSBArchives/31",
    "datestamp": "2009-11-03",
    "setSpec": "CSBArchives"
  },
  "metadata": {
```

# Data Aggregation

## DPLA Hub Tech Stack:

- Ruby on Rails
- PostgreSQL 9.3 (with JSON Support)
- Sidekiq
- Redis

# Our Goals

- ✓ State-/Region-wide digital library metadata aggregation
- Major new digitization projects
- Digital storytelling
- New Audio/Visual Documentary initiatives
- Community-centered engagement and outreach

# Sharing our Story



Exhibitions / History of Survivance: Upper Midwest

## History of Survivance: U Narratives

### Dressing a Buffalo Skin

Seth Eastman, an American soldier stationed at Fort Snelling near modern-day Minneapolis in 1840, was commissioned by Congress to create maps and images of the Native inhabitants. Several of his engravings were collected in several volumes, including *Information Regarding the History and Prospects of the Indian Tribes of the Upper and Lower Mississippi*. Eastman was charged with providing the U.S. government an idea of what tribes existed in the region. One of his early engravings in particular is general and could be depicting either a Dakota or Anishinabe scene. The image is of a woman performing the traditional practice of prepping and cleaning a hide next to a tree, a scene that has been romanticized, most notably in the painting *Minnesota* by Albert Bierstadt.

◀ Prev Next ▶ 2 of 7



Dakota quillwork leather vest



Dakota quillwork leather vest, a photograph by Minnesota Historical Society, <http://www.mnhs.org/r>

Share

Something more needs to be heard, of the exhibit is Native must be present, of endings, as

Transition to Christianity, the units of the lives of those recounted in the exhibit and demise, and survival – a

Through the lens of the exhibit, the origin that tell a story of the population of

### Credits

Minnesota Digital Library, <http://www.mndigital.org>



# Immigrant Narratives

*The MDL proposes an initiative that gathers and digitizes extant oral histories from organizations across the state. These existing materials will be coupled with newly created or emerging stories that best document the rich tradition of immigration to this state.*

*A final web portal will weave together the audio, video, and images gathered into a single space where these stories will be gathered, saved, and shared in an openly and freely accessible manner.*

# Immigrant Narratives

MDL seeks to gather and share stories in three ways:

1. Provide for the **digitization and transcript creation** for previously documented stories that may now exist only in analog format.
2. Collaborate with local organizations with existing community relationships **to visually/orally document the immigrant communities** that make up our state.
3. Work with partners -- **Immigration History Research Center and the Center for Hmong Studies** -- to capture these stories.



# Immigrant Narratives Interface

Search:

## New Documentary Projects

Center for Hmong Studies

## Oral History Collections

Use existing MDL metadata for describing oral histories, but will need to include additional targeted information on Ethnicity, location. Need to be able to segment by date of interview, ethnicity of interviewee and geographical location of interview.

Collection 01

Collection 02

Collection 03

Collection 04

Collection 05

Collection 06

Collection 07

Collection 08

Collection 09

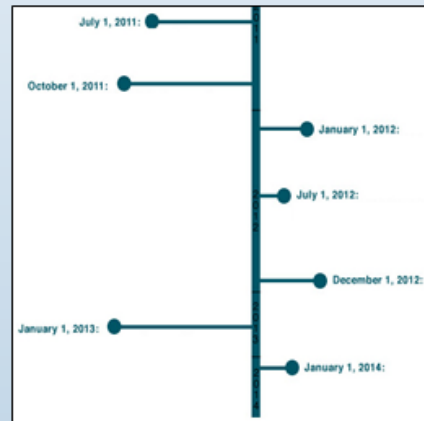
## Immigrant Stories

Immigration History  
Research Centers

Browse by Place:



Browse by Date:



Browse by Ethnicity:

Italian  
Finnish  
Russian  
Hmong  
Somali  
Swedish  
Greek  
etc.

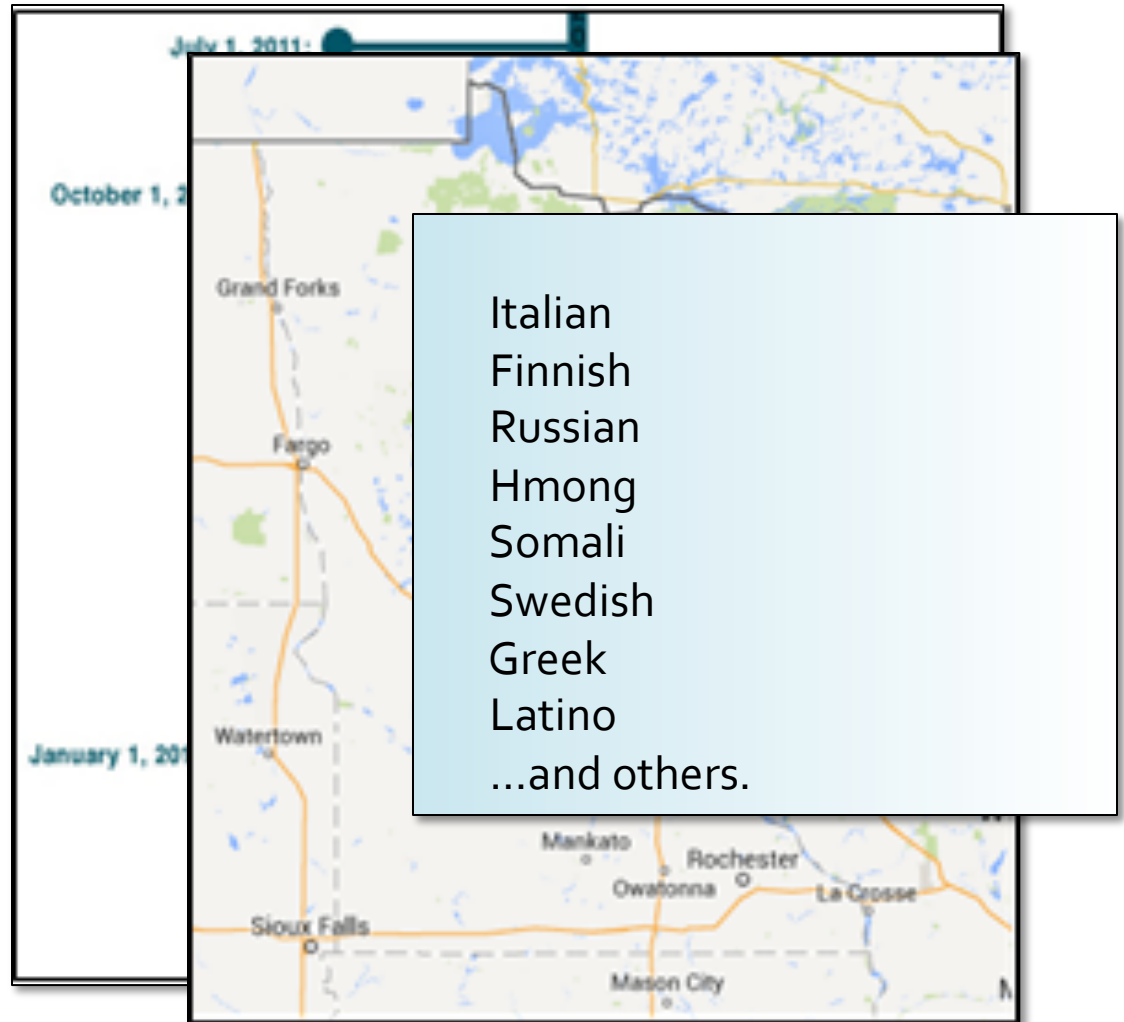
# Immigrant Narratives

## Minnesota's immigrant story

Over Time...

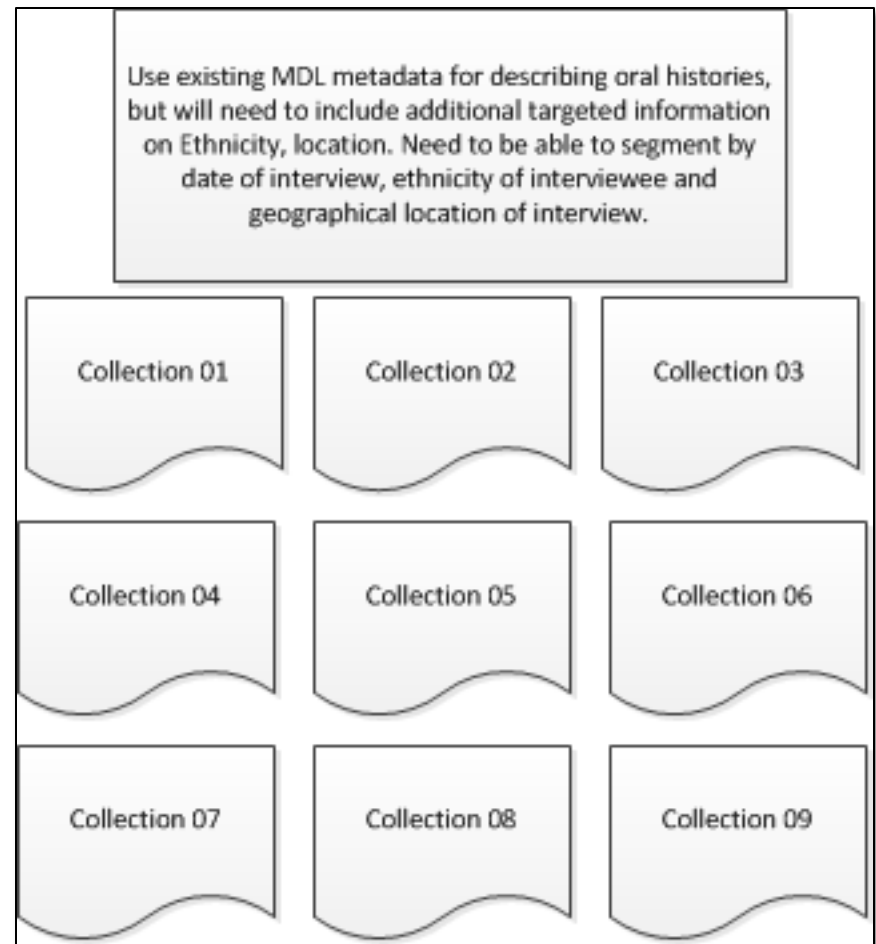
Across the state...

Numerous cultures...



# New Oral History Digitization

- **Digitize** existing analog oral histories.
- Incorporate stories **already in digital format**.
- Work with organizations to identify opportunities to **share their oral history collections** online.
- Allow for **cross-searching** of all materials.



# Immigrant Stories



The purpose of **Immigrant Stories** is:

- partner with Minnesota's distinctive, yet understudied, immigrant and refugee communities to share their histories of migration and home in Minnesota through **digital storytelling** methods and technologies.
- create a **publicly accessible digital archive** of these stories and unique historical material.
- connect faculty, staff, and students to local communities of recent immigrants and refugees through **outreach activities**.
- train the next generation of undergraduate and graduate student researchers in digital storytelling, **community-engaged research**, and archive creation methodologies.

# Immigrant Stories

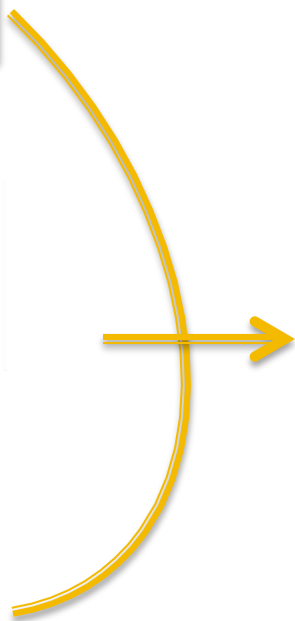


This project will employ Concordia University Hmong students in conjunction with a local filmmaker to train, and equip Hmong students to **interview 10 historically significant Hmong figures in the community.**

The following permanent resources that will become a part of the Center for Hmong Studies collection and made available for discovery and access through the MDL and DPLA.

- Full-length digital copies of all 10 interviews conducted.
- Full text transcripts of all interview.
- Film to be created by the filmmakers from these 10 oral history interviews.
- All materials will be licensed in accordance with Creative Commons.
- Center for Hmong Studies will hold an on campus or near campus community event to showcase these stories and the participants and students who helped to make it possible.

# Discover & Amplify



# Public Library Partnerships Project

The DPLA working with existing Service Hubs will provide digital skills training for public librarians and connect them sustainably with state and regional resources for digitizing, describing, and exhibiting their cultural heritage content.

Through the project, the DPLA and its Hub partners collaborate towards the achievement several key goals:

- Train public librarians in digital skills related to content selection, rights, scanning, digital preservation, metadata, writing for the web, and digital exhibition curation.
- Foster sustainable partnerships between Hubs and public libraries.
- Create new pathways through the Hubs for public library participation in DPLA
- Develop, implement, revise, and publicly share curricula for digital skills training as models for future use.

more at >> <http://www.mndigital.org/projects/plpp/>



# Questions?



*Portrait of Dr. G. A. Dahl, Mankato, Minnesota, by George E. Keene. ca. 1900.*  
Blue Earth County Historical Society  
<http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/ref/collection/blue/id/1689>

