Preserving News on the Margins

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AUGUST 17, 2017: IFLA
• Digital preservation network and community
• Preserving member content since 2004
• More than 70 participating institutions on 3 continents
• Wide variety of content types
  • (ETDs, data, a/v, images, newspapers...)
• Always looking for new members!
Research Projects

- Knight Foundation/DPLA “News on the Margins” 2017
- IMLS “ETDplus” 2014-2017
- NEH “Chronicles II: Digital Newspaper Preservation Training and Education” 2014-2015
- NDIIPP “Identifying Continuing Opportunities for National Collaboration” 2012-2013
- NEH “Distributed Preservation of Born-Digital and Digitized Newspaper Collections” 2011-2013
- IMLS “Lifecycle Management for Electronic Theses and Dissertations” 2011-2014
- NDIIPP “MetaArchive Cooperative” 2004 – 2011

http://metaarchive.org
Researchers have long relied on news sources by and for marginalized groups—from African-American newspapers to labor union publications, from temperance newspapers to refugee periodicals, and from lesbian ‘zines to religious serials—to reveal the density of perspectives and experiences embedded in U.S. local and national cultures.
We wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken for us. Too long with the cordial approbation of every friend of humanity.

The peculiarities of this Journal render it important that we should advert to the world the motives by which we are actuated, and the objects which we contemplate.

We wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken for us. Too long has the public been deceived by misrepresentations, in things which concern us dearly, though the estimation of some must be trivial; for though there are many in society who exercise towards us benevolent feelings, nothing will ever make us content with the present state of things, unless we are enabled to establish a system of education, in which the moral and intellectual development of our people can be promoted. We therefore appeal to the public, and invite their support, by subscribing to our journal. We trust that our efforts will be welcomed, and that the publication of our views will be of service to the cause of freedom and equality.

The Freedman's Journal, New York City, March 12, 1829.
News on the Margins

Major obstacles block access to these news sources for most prospective users:

1. Where on earth is the content? Who knows...unless you go through every archive, library, and museum...
2. Lots of content is still print/microfiche only
3. Digitized content was digitized to many different standards
4. Born-digital content isn’t being collected yet (!!!)
6. Paywalls
So what can we do?
Surfacing stories

1. Digital Public Library of America (DPLA): idea to create a directory tracking print, microfiche, and digital as comprehensively as possible

2. Educopia/DPLA: now creating and releasing an open data collection framework and methodology for recording information about newspapers by and for marginalized communities.

3. Educopia/DPLA: producing and releasing (openly and freely) two datasets this Fall
   1. a digital directory of African American newspapers
   2. a digital directory of LGBT newspapers

4. Educopia: producing a synthesis of the project’s findings and recommendations for next steps, including priorities for aggregation and other tasks DPLA and others might undertake in the future to increase access to these crucial historical sources.
Four months to create WHAT?

Photo by Boris Smokrovic on Unsplash
How we’re doing it

1. Data framework and model vetted by 10+ leaders in news aggregation and cataloging
2. Crowdsourcing launch this week: 45+ associations that work with libraries, archives, and museums of all sizes
3. Building on existing bibliographies (especially James Danky’s *Bibliography of African American Newspapers and Periodicals* and Rivendell Media’s “Local Gay and Lesbian Publications” listing in *Gay Press, Gay Power*)
4. Hub and spoke approaches in two states
5. Individual contact with known archives
6. Individual contact with scholars, activists, journalists, publications
7. ALL IN!
## Deliverables and deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 1-July 31:</td>
<td>Project start up, form advisory committee, conduct research, begin developing data model</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 1-Aug 20:</td>
<td>Refine data model, build web presence, build launch plan and launch network</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 21-Sept 31:</td>
<td>Launch crowdsourcing, data collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 1-Oct 31:</td>
<td>Deduplication, dataset refinement, analysis, Directory releases</td>
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<td>Nov 16-17:</td>
<td>“Dodging the Memory Hole” event at the Internet Archive</td>
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