Library of Congress
Digital Preservation Newsletter

April
2013

Preservation Week 2013

In celebration of Preservation Week 2013, April 21-27, the Library of Congress is sponsoring a number of activities to share preservation strategies that help people care for their personal materials—and thereby pass them on. Check out our entire events listing in the Washington DC metro area.

Upcoming Events

Digital Cultural Heritage DC #DCHDC April 18, Washington, DC

CATCH Meeting: Archiving the Web: How to Support Research of Future Heritage? April 19, The Hague, Netherlands

2013 IIPC General Assembly, April 22-26, Ljubljana, Slovenia

A Michigan Digital Preservation Practitioners Group, April 24, Detroit, MI

Real-World Collection Challenges with Digital Forensics Tools and Methods, June 3-5, Chapel Hill, NC

NDSA Regional Workshop, May 10, Boston, MA

NDSA Regional Workshop, June 14, New York, NY

Visit us at:
digitalpreservation.gov/

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The Signal

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Newsletter

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2013 NDSA Innovation Awards

The National Digital Stewardship Alliance Innovation Working Group is proud to open the nominations for the 2013 NDSA Innovation Awards. As a diverse membership group with a shared commitment to digital preservation, the NDSA understands the importance of innovation and risk-taking in developing and supporting a broad range of successful digital preservation activities. These awards are an example of the NDSA's commitment to encourage and recognize innovation in the digital stewardship community.

This slate of annual awards highlights and commends creative individuals, projects, organizations, and future stewards demonstrating originality and excellence in their contributions to the field of digital preservation. The program is administered by a committee drawn from members of the NDSA Innovation Working Group.
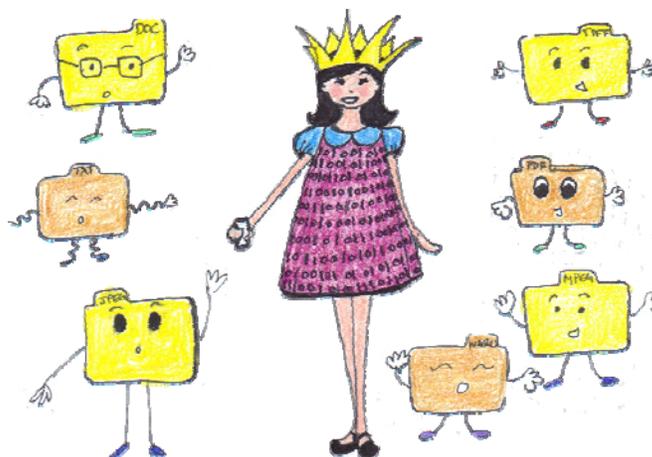
2012 NDSA Innovation Winners

Nominations are now being accepted. You can submit a nomination using this quick, easy online submission form or by emailing a brief description, justification, and the URL and/or contact information of your nominee to ndsa@loc.gov.

Nominations will be accepted until May 16, 2013. The prizes will be plaques presented at the Digital Preservation 2013 meeting on July 23-25, 2013 in Washington, DC.

Snow Byte and the Seven Formats
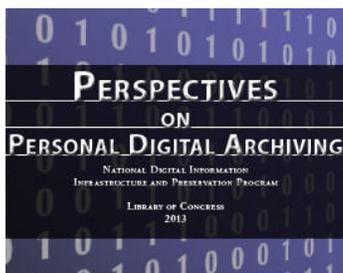
Snow Byte and the Seven Formats

Written by Tess Webre, Illustrations by Sara Allen

At what age should individuals start understanding digital preservation? Our NDIIPP intern Tess Webre approached this question in a interesting and creative way: writing a digital preservation fairy tale. Read the complete tale here.

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"Perspectives on Personal Digital Archiving" Publication

We are very excited to unveil our new e-publication, Perspectives on Personal Digital Archiving! This is something new for us: a published compilation of selected blog posts published in The Signal. All of these posts are written by NDIIPP staff as well as guest bloggers from inside and outside the Library of Congress. This resource can serve as a primer for the digital archive novice, as well as a refresher for those with more experience.

For some time now, we have had a section on the NDIIPP website offering basic guidance on personal digital archiving. But since overall interest in this topic is growing, we responded to this with more and more posts on our blog. Now that we have all this material, we wanted

to make it even easier to navigate, so we gathered many of these posts together under one virtual cover. This is meant to serve as a companion resource to the existing material on our website.

You can download the free PDF on our website.

A Week at SXSW 2013

The #ideadrop house. Credit: Butch Lazorchak

South by Southwest is a great venue for getting exposed to new ideas, and this year the libraries, archives and museum communities (LAMs) made great strides in drawing attention to the work we do by engaging SXSW attendees with information, technology savvy and good humor while thinking outside the (Library)Box.

The outreach started with the work of ER&L and its partners (especially Bonnie and Sandy Tijerina and Christine Goetz) and their sponsorship of the #ideadrop house. The Ideadrop house acted as a clubhouse for people to decompress a bit from the mania of the conference while also serving as a stimulating meeting place to share ideas about topics affecting LAMs. They hosted a number of presentations over the course of the week, many of which were streamed live and recorded for later viewing.

Another shout-out goes to Andrea Davis, a Reference and Instruction Librarian at the Naval Postgraduate School who's the brains and brawn behind the @sxswLAM account and who co-hosted a well-received SXSW interactive session on "Libraries: The Ultimate Playground," which brought a diverse group of people together to think about the future of libraries.

Other excellent sessions included Culture Hack: Libraries & Museums Open for Making, Poetry in Motion: Sound Culture & Data Mining, the Pop Up Archive workshop on building an archive, as well as two panels we hosted, one for Interactive on "Why Digital Maps Can Reboot Cultural History" and one for Music on "Citizen Archivists and Cultural Memory."

Read more about LAMs activities at SXSW.

An Awesome Little Library Box. Credit: Butch Lazorchak

Digital Preservation Outreach and Education

Calendar of Events: Access training and educational offerings in the practice of digital preservation.

Personal Digital Archiving Bytes

Death, Taxes, Digital Audits and PUPPIES!

The Personal Pain of Data Loss

When Smart People Make Silly Decisions about their Files

What Resolution Should I Use? Part 3

Viewshare Highlights

Re-Discovering and Linking Metadata in Viewshare: An Interview with Jeremy Myntti

Visualizing Linked Data for Holdings and Cataloging with Viewshare: An Interview with Violeta Ilik

Conversation Corner

Quest for the Critical E-dition: An interview with Leonardo Flores

Islandora's Open Source Ecosystem and Digital Preservation: An Interview with Mark Leggott

This is the newsletter of the National Digital Stewardship Alliance, the Digital Preservation Outreach and Education initiative and the National Digital Information Infrastructure Program.