

Moving Beyond Preservation Week:

Digital Preservation Workshops in Public Libraries

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How are our patrons currently backing up their media?

- ❑ Accidentally, e.g. through email communication
- ❑ On proprietary systems and formats
- ❑ ...Or not at all.

What are we currently doing to help?

The short answer is not much.

Digital Preservation Week is one seven-day stretch in the spring when some libraries pay attention to preservation education.

We need to do better. And we can.

My proposal is a consistent, tiered system of workshops that bring up the problem and solve it in one day.

Introductory Workshop

- ❑ Teaches every student the general ideas and language of digital preservation.
- ❑ Then students break into groups organized by the type of medium they want to preserve.
- ❑ Consultations on larger products, sales of common supplies on site.

Advanced Workshop

- ❑ More advanced or specific techniques taught.
- ❑ More hands-on work for the students.
- ❑ Less instruction necessary.
- ❑ Once certified, can pay for access to tools a la carte and connect more directly with instructors.

What tools would be needed?

I propose a collaboration between public libraries and their local network of non-profit preservation organizations.

- ❑ Use of their machines in exchange for advertising, possible use of library space for events in the future.

What exactly are the benefits?

For patrons...

- ❑ New reason to visit the library
- ❑ Preparations for our increasingly digital future

For cultural heritage organizations...

- ❑ Exposure to new audiences
- ❑ Cultivate networking with other orgs

Resources

- ❑ ACLTS and ALA. “Preservation Week: Pass It On.” American Library Association site. 2013.
<<http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/preswk>>
- ❑ Copeland, Andrea J. “Analysis of Public Library Users' Digital Preservation Practices.” Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, 62(7):1288-1300, 2011.
- ❑ Digital Preservation Office at the University of Michigan. “How to Preserve Your Own Digital Materials.” May 2011.
<<http://www.lib.umich.edu/files/services/preservation/DigitalPresHowTo.pdf>>
- ❑ Erway, Ricky. 2012. Swatting the Long Tail of Digital Media: A Call for Collaboration. Dublin, Ohio: OCLC Research.
<<http://www.oclc.org/research/publications/library/2012/2012-08.pdf>>
- ❑ First aid training for those on the front lines: digital preservation needs survey results 2012. Jody DeRidder. Information Technology and Libraries. 32.2 (June 2013) p18.
- ❑ Groundworks Media Conversion Lab
<<http://www.dc.umich.edu/groundworks/index.htm>>
- ❑ Ashenfelder, Mike. “Librarians Helping Their Communities With Personal Digital Archiving.” The Signal: Digital Preservation blog.
<<http://blogs.loc.gov/digitalpreservation/2012/05/librarians-helping-their-communities-with-personal-digital-archiving/>>
- ❑ Signal-Return Press. Detroit, Michigan. November 7, 2013.
<<http://www.signalreturnpress.org/workshops/>>

Q&A...

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