Today’s Presenters

Monika Sengul-Jones
Wikipedian-in-Residence, OCLC

Tiffany Bailey
Fine Arts Division Manager, Dallas Public Library

Betha Gutsche
WebJunction Program Manager
Wikipedia for Libraries: Preview the Possibilities, Discover the Opportunities

3 - 4 p.m. EST
July 19, 2017

#oclcwikilib
Chihuahuita -- El Paso, Texas
Chihuahuita (or Little Chihuahua)[1] is a neighborhood in El Paso, Texas. It has also been known as the "First Ward."[2] It is considered the oldest neighborhood in the city. It has also suffered through extreme poverty in its history. It is currently on the Most Endangered Historic Places list as compiled by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.[3][4] It is located on the border of the Rio Grande at the United States-Mexico border. For most of the twentieth century, the name Chihuahuita was used to refer to all of southern El Paso, often including El Segundo Barrio.[2] In 1991, Chihuahuita was designated as a historic district by the city of El Paso.[2]
Wikipedia extends the reach of Susan Barnum’s librarianship

Librarians Who Wikipedia: Susan Barnum, El Paso Public Library

Monika Sengul-Jones, OCLC Wikipedian-in-Residence / 16 June 2017

Wikipedia + Libraries: Better Together is an OCLC project that is building bridges between public libraries and Wikipedia, featuring an online training program for US public library staff hosted by WebJunction in the fall of 2017. Librarians Who Wikipedia is a series of interviews with library staff who engage with Wikipedia.

Susan Barnum, Public Services Librarian at El Paso Public Library, taught herself to edit Wikipedia to improve the quality of information online. She also incorporates editing into her librarianship, editing Wikipedia articles in response to patron requests. Barnum has made more than 24,000 edits and created nearly 300 articles, giving special attention to Wikipedia’s coverage of Texas, biographies of women and women’s history. We spoke with Barnum about why she edits.

How did you get started editing Wikipedia?

I had stumbled across a biography of a prominent atheist in Texas, Seth

Sources [edit]


Citations include 11 sources and 3 external links.
586 pageviews (8/day) in < 3 months
Strengthening ties between public libraries and Wikipedia
Project phases

1. Research public library connections to Wikipedia
   - Build awareness of the possibilities

2. Discover the opportunities through 10-week online training program for U.S. public library staff

3. Collect and publish case studies and resources
   - Evaluate learning
About you, our participants

Your experience editing Wikipedia

- 79% never edited or tried once
- 3% edit regularly

90% “Wikipedia is useful to my work”
Why Wikipedia for public libraries?

- Mission alignment
- Meet patrons where they are
- Engage with community
Wikipedia for public libraries ...

- Mission alignment
- Meet patrons where they are
- Engage with community
Vision
Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge. That's our commitment.

Mission
The mission of the Wikimedia Foundation is to empower and engage people around the world to collect and develop educational content under a free license or in the public domain, and to disseminate it effectively and globally.
“The mission of Wikipedia is the same as that of libraries: get information freely to people who need it. It behooves librarians to be a part of this project—and to help shape it.”

János, Saint Paul Public Library

“Editing Wikipedia and outreach events—both are beneficial. It’s critical to do free programs that connect the public to reliable sources of information.”

Christina, San Francisco Public Library
What are public libraries doing?

- Engaging as maker space
- Pointing to collections

Mission alignment
Meet patrons where they are
Engage with community

Credit: Bryan Conley © Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh
“Use Wikipedia articles as a jumping off point in information literacy!”

Credit: Courtesy Allison Frick
As educators worldwide grapple with how to teach information literacy in the digital age, Wikipedia has emerged as one answer to the post-truth era. New research results confirm that writing Wikipedia articles as a class assignment can be a key part of teaching students critical information literacy skills.

96% of higher education instructors consider Wikipedia more valuable for teaching digital literacy than traditional assignments.
Wikipedia for public libraries

Mission alignment
Meet patrons where they are
Engage with community
Yeah, I'm writing a paper and need help finding a set of books... can't remember what they're called... sounds like 'Wikipedia'...
Top most visited websites

- Wikipedia:
  - #7 in the U.S.
  - #5 globally

- Library of Congress:
  - #1,596 in U.S.
  - #4,881 globally

- Boston Public Library:
  - #24,576 in U.S.
  - #122,502 globally

What are public libraries doing?

- “Librarian on Wikipedia”

- Mission alignment
- Meet patrons where they are
- Engage with community
“I’m a librarian on Wikipedia”
Wikipedia for public libraries

- Mission alignment
- Meet patrons where they are
- Engage with community
What are public libraries doing?

- Fostering community (online and offline) by addressing imbalances
There are gaps, this is our opportunity.
Welcome to WikiProject Women in Red (WiR), a WikiProject whose objective is to turn within the project scope: women's biographies and works by women.

We recognized a need for this work as, in November 2014, only about 15% of the English were about women. Founded in July 2015, WiR strives to improve the figure which has June. But that means, according to WHGI, only 250,234 of our 1,472,810 biographies: "Content gender gap" is a form of systemic bias, and WiR addresses it in a positive wa
“I’ve written articles about women you can’t Google.”
What are public libraries doing?

- Fostering community (online and offline) by addressing imbalances
- Partnering to do community enrichment and skill shares
“...for example, editing Wikipedia as a part of a cultural walking tour.”
Tiffany Bailey, Fine Arts Manager
“We felt Wikipedia editing on the topic of art and feminism was timely and important. It was a great fit: we endeavor to teach new skills and promote literacy—to empower people to do things with technology.”

- Tiffany Bailey
• Art+Feminism training and editing event
• Staff learned to edit Wikipedia
• 20+ participants
• 5 volunteers
• 2 library departments
• 2 community partners

Credit: Courtesy Tiffany Bailey
Successes!

Outreach; Expand access to knowledge

- Reach patrons who usually don’t come into the library
- Get to know patrons on a first name basis
- Empower patrons to develop internet skills and tech literacies
- Improve information about Dallas, Texas, and women in the arts on Wikipedia

Credit: Courtesy Tiffany Bailey
Successes!

Raise the visibility of the library

- Highlight art collections during event to participants
- Point Wikipedia readers to Dallas Public Library’s art collections
- Build bridges between community organizations
Successes!

Library staff development

- Train library staff on an important web resource
- Encourage best practices in project management skills
- Bundle programming across departments

Contact Tiffany Bailey: tiffany.bailey@dallascityhall.com

Credit: Courtesy Tiffany Bailey
Questions?
How can you get started?

Enroll in the WebJunction online training program!

Better together: Invite colleagues to join you!

Credit: Courtesy Allison Frick
You’ll learn to …

Build your Wikipedia know-how:
- Learn the **inner workings** of Wikipedia; **meet and join** others in the Wikipedia **community**

So you can:
- **Assess quality and reliability** with a critical eye
- **Help others** experience Wikipedia
- Discover how Wikipedia is great for **teaching digital information literacy**

Credit: “high five” Lucas Dino Nolte, The Noun Project CC BY-2.0
So you can …

• **Understand and enhance** this quality tertiary information resource and community

• **Develop a plan for Wikipedia-centered programming to build skills and literacies**

• **Address issues and stories that your community cares about** with Wikipedia

Credit: “high five” Lucas Dino Nolte, The Noun Project CC BY-2.0
Learning the WebJunction way

- Learn with a community of your peers
- Hear from practitioner guest speakers, librarian-Wikipedians
- Interweave your own library work with Wikipedia
- Share and network with colleagues and new Wikipedian connections
Six live online sessions in 10 weeks

*Free* registration opens today!

When is it happening?

September 13 – November 15, 2017

Andrea Davis and Christina Moretta, SFPL. Credit: Pax Ahimsa Gethen, CC BY-4.0
What do you need for the course?

• Curiosity!
• *No prior experience with Wikipedia*
• No $$ — the program is free

and:

• Computer with internet connection
• Library reference materials
• 3 - 5 hours a week
Wikipedia + Libraries Training Program

Enroll now

Questions about the training answered on project FAQ

and invite your friends to join you!

#oclcwikilib