

# The Digital Liberal Arts

***Greetings and a warm welcome to the DLA mailing list!***

Through this mailing list, we will share news of upcoming events and workshops related to or hosted by the DLA in addition to useful information about the larger worlds of the digital liberal arts and digital humanities. Much of the information listed in this email is also available on the DLA's website at [go/dla](http://go/dla).

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**"Connecting the Dots: Synthesizing Key Topics in the Evolution of E-Content"**

Join Mike Roy and Alicia Peaker on **February 10th, 1-2 PM**, for the webinar "Connecting the Dots: Synthesizing Key Topics in the Evolution of E-Content"—a fast-paced and interactive salon that brings together the EDUCAUSE Review 2015 E-Content columnists to discuss their ideas and how these ideas connect to the broader library and digital publishing environments. We'll be discussing crowdsourcing, social reading, cyberinfrastructure for networked publishing, long-term preservation of the born digital, and open access. Registration is free but limited and can be completed [here](#).

## **Dan Cohen Public Lecture & Roundtable**

Dan Cohen, founding Executive Director of the Digital Public Library of America ([DPLA](#)), will be visiting Middlebury on **Friday, February 19th** for two events:

- **"How the Digital Public Library of America is Changing Historical Research," Friday, February 19th, 3:30 P.M., Hillcrest 103**

In this public lecture Dan Cohen will discuss how new large-scale digital collections such as the Digital Public Library of America bring together millions of items from libraries, archives, and museums, and can form the basis for new kinds of research. Understanding how these collections are assembled, and how their data is structured and made available, is essential for envisioning such new uses and the scholarship that might now be possible.

- **"Teaching with Digital Public History," Friday, February 19th, 12:30 P.M., CTLR Lounge**

In this informal conversation, Dan Cohen, founding Executive Director of the Digital Public Library of American (DPLA) and former Professor of History at George Mason University, will share his experiences with incorporating public digital history into classrooms across the U.S. and lead a discussion around the opportunities and challenges of using digital objects in the classroom. There are no required readings for this session, but you may find this [brief introduction to the DPLA](#) useful. Lunch will be

served, so please [RSVP](#).

## **DLA Postdoc Alicia Peaker to give Carol Rifelj Lecture on Feb 24th**

Alicia Peaker will be sharing her digital work in progress as part of the Carol Rifelj lecture series on **February 24th at 4:30 P.M., in Hillcrest 103**. Her talk, "Digital Readings and 'Ferny, Mossy Discoveries': Visualizing the Natural Worlds of Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* and Mary Webb's *Gone to Earth*," emerges at the intersections of environmental humanities, digital humanities, and ecocriticism, and considers alternative ways of engaging the fictional natural worlds of novels through digital forms.

## **Behind the Scenes of "The Real Work," March 1st**

In our first DLA Behind the Scenes luncheon of the semester, DLA Faculty Fellow Jamie McCallum (SOAN) will screen his short film "The Real Work," created during his DLA fellowship, and featuring the work of current and past Middlebury students. He will then discuss the challenges of conveying sociological ideas through film and the tension between creating a documentary and constructing a scripted narrative through which those sociological ideas emerge. The screening will take place in **Axinn 232, beginning at 12:15 P.M. on March 1st** Lunch will be served. RSVP at [go/DLAscenes](#).

## **Working with Students over the Summer**

Through a generous grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the DLA is able to provide funding for a number of summer student research assistants working on faculty directed digital projects and research as part of the Undergraduate Research Office's Summer Research Program. If you intend to apply for DLA funding to work with a student this summer, or have questions about the program, please contact Alicia Peaker as soon as possible. The deadline for DLA summer research assistant proposals is **March 1st**. To apply, visit [go/DLApply](#).

## Grow your project at ILiADS this summer

The Institute for Liberal Arts Digital Scholarship (ILiADS) is a five day intensive summer institute designed to help move new or existing digital projects forward through focused support. At ILiADS, small teams from institutions across the U.S. spend significant time working on their projects while ILiADS coaches connect teams to experts in the digital methods and the technologies necessary for the teams to develop their project goals, process, and outcomes. Projects with student collaborators are particularly encouraged. The DLA can help you create a proposal and populate your team. If you are interested, please contact Alicia Peaker as soon as possible. The deadline for proposals is **February 22nd**. More information is available on their website [iliads.org](http://iliads.org).

## Intro to Visualizing Data with Plot.ly

Are you new to working with data? Ryan Clement, Data Services Librarian, will lead a workshop on how to create effective and informative visualizations with data on **March 18th, from 1:30-3:00 P.M. in the Wilson Media Lab (220 LIB)**. He'll cover some of the basic theory of visual communication, including how to choose the best visual representation for your data, and best practices for preparing visualizations for print, the web, or presentations. You'll then work with a web application called Plot.ly to design your own visualizations. Space is limited, so reserve your spot today by signing up [here](#).

## Scalar Announces Spring Webinar Schedule

The folks at the Alliance for Networking Visual Culture (USC) have rolled out a brand new version of [Scalar](#) with a much-improved visual layout. They will be hosting a number of free webinars this fall to introduce users to the new layout. You can sign up [here](#).

- Introduction to Scalar: February 18, 10am-12pm (PST)
- Intermediate Scalar: March 10, 10am-12pm (PST)
- Introduction to Scalar: March 31, 4pm-6pm (PST)
- Intermediate Scalar: April 21, 4pm-6pm (PST)

The "Introduction to Scalar" webinars will cover basic features of the platform: a review of existing Scalar books and a hands-on introduction to paths, tags, annotations and importing media. The "Intermediate Scalar" webinars will delve into more advanced topics including the effective use of visualizations, annotating with media and a primer on customizing appearances in Scalar. *Scalar is an open-source, authoring and publishing platform that's designed to make it easy for authors to write long-form, born-digital scholarship online.*

## **Apply for DLA Funding**

The DLA is currently accepting applications for the Digital Enhancement Fund, which is intended to support faculty projects, in research or teaching, based on digital methods. Unlike some other DLA programs, the Digital Enhancement Fund is available to all faculty, whatever their home department, program, or disciplinary background. The general purpose of this funding program is to encourage faculty to try new methods, learn new skills, or master advanced skills that will enhance their research or teaching. Proposals for under \$3000 may be submitted at any time and will be considered on a rolling basis. The next deadline for proposals over \$3000 is **March 1st**. For more information, and to apply, go to the [funding tab](#) on the DLA website.

## **Project Spotlight: Archnet, an open archive of art and architecture related to the Muslim world**

According to their website, [Archnet](#) offers "open access to a very unique set of resources related to the built environment of the Muslim world. These archives, images, drawings, publications, seminar proceedings, articles, serials and project documentation comprise an unparalleled resource and research tool for the study of Islamic art and architecture. They bring together donated photo collections, journals published around the world, monographs and architect's archives that are linked to sites, people, publications and other related materials. These resources are updated on a regular basis and new materials are always in the pipeline." Explore the collections [here](#).

## **How to unsubscribe**

You have been signed up for this list because you have expressed interest in the DLA. We hope that you will find the contents of our emails useful, but if you would like to unsubscribe from this list:

1. Go to <http://go.middlebury.edu/lists>
2. Type your email address into the **Member ID Finder**
3. Follow the instructions that were sent to your email address

*If you have any questions about the DLA mailing list, or if you would like to add an event, please contact Alicia Peaker at [apeaker@middlebury.edu](mailto:apeaker@middlebury.edu). For general questions about the DLA, contact Jason Mittell ([jmittell@middlebury.edu](mailto:jmittell@middlebury.edu)) or Alicia Peaker.*

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