Wikimedia Working Group

Rationale

Since 2020, DPLA's Wikimedia project has developed from a pilot initiative to a regular offering that is being increasingly operationalized within DPLA's technical workflows. In 2021 and beyond, DPLA would like to grow this effort from a single service to a network-wide Wikimedia engagement program, with the network sharing ownership of the program and its vision. This approach aligns with other DPLA projects, such as rights statements, where technical services (aggregation, UI, etc.) are handled by DPLA, but the network, led by the WG, also shares responsibility for outreach, documentation, and fostering a shared community of implementers.

The Wikimedia WG, for the first time, would bring together the DPLA's Wikimedia practitioners to think about what the program should look like for the network as a whole, and not just for each institution. This could take a more expansive view of the program than just about uploads and page views, thinking about equity and Wikipedia content gaps, Wikidata and linked data, open access/copyright issues, building skills/capacity, and public programs. It would also be an opportunity for DPLA staff to interface more directly with the network on network-level considerations, rather than always 1x1 meetings with individual hubs/institutions on their individual activities.

Potential membership

A diversity of backgrounds for members would be ideal. Example profiles of members who could contribute to this working group effectively:

1. Hub reps who have been actively engaged in Wikimedia project implementation
2. Staff at institutions involved in DPLA Wikimedia project in any capacity
3. Any staff within the DPLA network or broader professional community doing Wikimedia/GLAM-Wiki work that is not (yet) under the DPLA umbrella
4. External stakeholder reps, such as Wikimedia Foundation, Wikimedia chapter, or community members

Scope

There are many potential activities for the WG's scope, depending also, on where the members would like to take it. Some initial ideas for inclusion in the WG's charge:

- Visioning for program: defining priorities, setting goals for DPLA's efforts, surveying the network
- Building a community of practice and support network for participants of the program
- Defining success metrics and input on Analytics Dashboard
- Conducting peer outreach to new partners/institutions to expand the program to new DPLA partners and institutions
- Increasing Wikimedia capacity of DPLA partners through skill building
- Assistance to network on technical implementation of data requirements
- Developing/leading campaigns or other network-wide efforts (e.g. DPLA 1lib1ref participation, or content-focused campaign)
- Coordinating external outreach to Wikimedia community from institutions
- Organizing external professional network communications (conferences, professional associations, etc.)