Wikipedia and Libraries; Revolution Through Collaboration

TERI EMBREY, PRITZKER MILITARY MUSEUM & LIBRARY
ERIC WILLEY & ANGELA YON, ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
BE REVOLUTIONARY: WIKI AND LIBRARIES 2018

Teri Embrey
AN INTRODUCTION TO WIKIPEDIA & WIKIDATA
About Wikipedia

- One of the largest websites in the world
- English Wikipedia includes 5,731,468 articles (as of 10/10/2018)
Did you know that…

• There is an official user group with useful resources: https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wikimedia_and_Libraries_User_Group

• There is a Facebook Group for Wikipedia & Libraries: https://www.facebook.com/groups/WikiLibrary/
OCLC Is Here to Help

Merrilee Proffitt, Senior Manager, OCLC Research

- [https://www.oclc.org/research/people/proffitt-merrilee.html](https://www.oclc.org/research/people/proffitt-merrilee.html)
- [https://www.oclc.org/research/publications/all/leveraging-wikipedia.html](https://www.oclc.org/research/publications/all/leveraging-wikipedia.html)
OCLC’s Distinguished Seminar Series

“Wikipedia’s gender gap, and what would Hari Seldon do about it?”

Rosie Stephenson-Goodknight

On November 14, 2018

Wikipedia + Libraries: Better Together

- 18 month OCLC project which ended in May 2018
- Built connections between public libraries & Wikipedia
- Training curriculum is available online
- See: https://www.webjunction.org/explore-topics/wikipedia-libraries.html
AT PMML
World War One Music at PMML

- PMML has approximately 400 music scores.
- Many of the scores have been scanned.
- A fellow Wikipedian added the songs bibliographic data including OCLC numbers to Wikidata.
- PMML staff, volunteers, and interns created articles for the songs in Wikipedia.
World War One Music at PMML

Goodbye Alexander, Goodbye Honey Boy

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

“Goodbye Alexander, Goodbye Honey Boy” is a World War I song describing an African American soldier going off to war and his girlfriend’s reaction in his military service. The song is credited to Henry Creamer and Turner Layton, the writers of “Sweet Emiline, My Gai and After You’ve Gone.”

Contents

1 Themes
2 Lyrics
3 Recordings
4 References
5 External links

Themes

The song mostly focuses on the words, actions, and feelings of Dinah Lee, girlfriend of the eponymous soldier Alexander Cooper, as he marches to a troop ship to embark for France to fight in the war. Written by famous African-American songwriters Henry Creamer and Turner Layton, the song bucks the contemporary popular trend of minstrel songs andcoon songs. Instead black soldiers are portrayed similarly to white ones, as heroes going off to war and leaving loved ones behind. Several lines echo themes common to many World War I popular songs: the longing of those at home for the return of the soldiers (“I’ll be waiting like Poor Butterfly”); pride in the soldiers’ service (“Dressed up in that uniform you fill my heart with joy”); and certainly in eventual victory (“So get busy with that gun and don’t come back till you’ve won”). There’s also tongue-in-cheek wordplay common to popular songs of the era (“You left that window open and they got you in the draft”).

Lyrics

The song starts off by setting a patriotic scene as a black regiment marches off to war, referencing emancipation to highlight the significance of the troops being African-American.

Alexander Cooper was a colored trooper
With his regiment he marched away
Bands were gayly playing, colored folies were straying
On Emancipation Day.

The two verses describe Dinah Lee’s reaction to her boyfriend’s presence among the troops, with the chorus being sung in her voice.

Goodbye Alexander, goodbye honey boy
Dressed up in that uniform, you fill my heart with joy
Alexander Cooper was a colored trooper
You ain’t born for tropin’, boy you sure can laugh
But you left that window open and they got you in the draft.
Alexander, I’ll save my tourniquet
I’ll be waiting like Poor Butterfly.

Sheet music cover for a patriotic Creamer & Layton song, 1918
PMML interns have been adding articles on World War I generals to Wikipedia.
PMML interns and staff have been matching Cullum numbers of graduates of the United States Military Academy to their Wikidata entries and creating new Wikidata entries.
PMML interns and staff have been matching Cullum numbers of graduates of the United States Military Academy to their Wikidata entries and creating new Wikidata entries.
### Pritzker Military Library-related articles by quality and importance

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WikiWork factors:

\[ \omega = 12,935 \]

\[ \Omega = 4.94 \]
Wikipedia referrals to PMML’s website

June 2018 referrals:

- Desktop 18.53%
- Mobile 4.11%
Wikipedia and Libraries: Improving Metadata Through Collaboration

ANGELA YON AND ERIC WILLEY, ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
FUNDING PROVIDED BY AN ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH GRANT
Goals

• Build a catalog that will enable users to identify authors that share the ethnicity African American

• To examine the feasibility using Wikipedia sources to identify author characteristics

• Case study to learn what resources (skills, time, tools, workflow) are necessary
Issue

• Catalog records are intended to describe the resource (book, DVD, article, sound recording, etc.)

• **NOT** to describe the characteristics of the creator

• Researchers sometimes select materials based on the life experiences of the creators rather than author/title/subject
The Library of Congress
Demographic Group Terms
(LCDGT)

Library of Congress Demographic Group Terms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation/Field of Activity</th>
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<td>[national/regional]</td>
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<td>UF Editor, Newspaper</td>
<td>Koreans, North</td>
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<tr>
<td>BT Journalist</td>
<td>Pukchoson inmindul</td>
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<tr>
<td>USE Newscaster</td>
<td>Pukhan saramdul</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newsmen</td>
<td>BT Asians</td>
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<td>Northern Chinese speakers</td>
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<td>News writers</td>
<td>USE Chinese speakers</td>
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<td>USE Zulu speakers</td>
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<td>USE Zulu speakers</td>
<td>Irish (Northern Ireland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USE Zulu speakers</td>
<td>BT Britons</td>
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Cartoonists
[occupation/field of activity]
UF Caricaturists
Catalogue librarians
BT Artists
Catalogers
[occupation/field of activity]
UF Cataloging librarians
Catalogue librarians
USE Spanish speakers
BT Spains
Catalog librarians
USE Catalans
BT Spaniards

Catalans
[national/regional]
UF Catalans
Catalan speakers
USE Catalan speakers

Catalan speakers
[language]
UE Catalan speakers
Catalan-Valencian-Balear speakers
Catalonian speakers
Valencian speakers
Catalan-Valencian-Balear speakers
USE Catalan speakers
Wikipedia has lots of lists...

Natural and physical sciences

**Biology**
- Lists of animals
  - Lists of amphibians by region
  - Lists of birds by region
  - Lists of cats
  - Lists of dogs
  - Lists of elephants
  - Lists of extinct animals
    - Lists of extinct animals of the British Isles
  - Lists of horses
  - Lists of insects of Great Britain
  - Lists of mammals by population
  - Lists of mammals by region
  - Lists of reptiles by region

**History and events**
- Lists of disasters
- Lists of incidents of unrest and violence in the United States by city
- Lists of occupations
- Lists of tenants in the World Trade Center (1968–2001)
- Lists of years by topic

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Settlements

**Lists of cities**
- Lists of cities by country
  - Lists of municipalities
  - Lists of neighborhoods by city
  - Lists of places
  - Lists of places by eponym
- Lists of cities by region
- Lists of places in Wales
- Lists of populated places in the United States
  - Lists of places in Kansas
  - Lists of Los Angeles topics
  - Lists of New York City Landmarks
  - Lists of New York City topics
  - Lists of Omaha topics
  - Lists of San Francisco topics
  - Lists of U.S. cities with large ethnic identity populations
  - Lists of U.S. cities with non-white majority populations

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People

**Lists of people**
- Lists of people by belief
  - Lists of atheists
  - Lists of Christians
    - Lists of former Christians
  - Lists of bisexual people
  - Lists of celebrities
  - Lists of centenarians
  - Lists of deaths by year
  - Lists of ethnic groups
    - Lists of black people
      - Lists of African Americans
      - Lists of Celts
      - Lists of Britons
    - Lists of heroes
    - Lists of libertarians
    - Lists of Nobel Prizes
  - Lists of people by cause of death
    - Lists of people executed in the United States
    - Lists of people executed in Texas
  - Lists of people by nationality
    - Lists of people from African Union states
    - Lists of Americans
      - Lists of African Americans
      - Lists of people from Kansas
<table>
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<td><strong>African Methodist Episcopal Church</strong></td>
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<td><strong>African American writers</strong></td>
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</table>

**Sources**
- Merriam Webster online, May 1, 2015: African-American (an American of African and especially of black African descent)
- OED online, Oct. 27, 2015: African American (An American (esp. a North American) of African origin; a black American)
- LCSH, Oct. 29, 2015: African Americans (SN: Here are entered works on citizens of the United States of black African descent)
LCDGT in Name Authority Records (NARs): Why we didn’t do that

• Demographic terms are about an item’s creator, not creators themselves

• Difficulty in assigning terms that apply to some of an author’s works to their NAR

• No field in NARs for demographic terms (except gender)
Considerations

• Ethical and moral issues on author characteristics

• Ethnicity - very high standard of proof needed for this demographic category
Process

• Compared Wikipedia list of African American writers to our library holdings

• Researched entries for evidence of self-identification as African American and created citations

• Created name-title records

• Linked LCCN's/Wikipedia pages
Bland, Eleanor Taylor. ǂt Done wrong

010  no2017162601
040  INS ǂb eng ǂe rda ǂc INS-SF ǂd INS-SF
046  ǂk 1996 ǂ2 edtf
1001 Bland, Eleanor Taylor. ǂt Done wrong
386  ǂn eth ǂa African Americans ǂ2 lcdgt
386  ǂn nat ǂa Americans ǂ2 lcdgt
670  Brown, W. Dale. Conversations with American writers, 2008: ǂb page 7 (Eleanor Taylor Bland, "Busy Lady" interview; in the black community we're finally starting)
“Link your data to other data to provide context”

Tim Berners-Lee’s “5 ★ Open Data,”

- LCCN in the authority data box on Wikipedia page
- 024 Wikidata identifier in the Name authority record

![Authority control](attachment:authority-control.png)

![Wikidata](attachment:wikidata.png)
Findings - List of African-American Writers

• 387 names on list

• 25% writers with no link to name authority records

• 4% names do not have name authority records

• 70% writers in our catalog

• 91% in catalog self-identified as an African American
Next steps

• Extract bibliographic records of titles from catalog

• Add the demographic term African Americans to the bib

• Load the enhanced records in our catalog VuFind and discovery platform, EBSCO Discovery Service (EDS)

• Track the OCLC#s of enhanced records

• Repeat the process for these records in OCLC
<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>Americans</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Trombone Shorty by Troy Andrews

- New York: Abrams Books for Young Readers, c 2015
- 1 volume (unpaged): b color illustrations; c 27 x 27 cm
- Text: txt 2 rdacontent
- Still image: sti 2 rdacontent
- Unmediated: n 2 rdamedia
- Volume: nc 2 rdacarrier
- Text file: rda

[Image of book cover]
25% inclusion of links to Name Authority Records
70% Wikidata identifier added to Name Authority Records
70% writers holding in the catalog, 91% self-identification as an African American
$6 per self-identification research and citation
2500 bibliographic records in catalog and OCLC
Enhancement to OCLC records offer opportunities for use by other libraries and faceted navigation
What we will do...

• On the Wikipedia page, we only will add titles if the author is the sole creator (not editor, or any work in anthologies, etc.).

• Only name-title records for works entirely created by the author, not pieces in anthologies.

• With the caveat that we might find the time to do solely authored works found in anthologies or other types of compilations.
Challenges

• Using Wikipedia Lists or Categories compiled from Wikidata?
Zora Neale Hurston (Q2204800)

American folklorist, novelist, short story writer

Language | Label                          | Description
---------|--------------------------------|-------------
English  | Zora Neale Hurston             | American folklorist, novelist, short story writer
Spanish  | Zora Neale Hurston             | No description defined
Traditional Chinese | No label defined | No description defined
Chinese  | 塔拉·厄尔赫斯特      | No description defined

All entered languages

Statements

instance of | human

image

ethnic group

African American

anthropologist

1 reference

historian

0 references

novelist

2 references

writer

1 reference

journalist

0 references

folklorist

1 reference
Challenges

• Defining demographics

• Wikipedia is not necessarily complete
Brawley, Benjamin Griffith. **Benjamin Griffith Brawley** (April 22, 1882 - February 1, 1939) was a prominent African-American author and educator. Several of his books were considered standard college texts, including *The Negro in Literature and Art in the United States* (1918) and *New Survey of English Literature* (1925).¹

¹ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benjamin_Griffith_Brawley#cite_note-Valade-1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benjamin_Griffith_Brawley#cite_note-Valade-1)

Phillip Hayes Dean, an African American playwright best known for his biographical portrait of entertainer and activist Paul Robeson. [2]

- Wikipedia page and Wikidata
- Not on the List and not in the Category
- Our catalog includes records for his works

Potential outcomes and future opportunity

• LCDGT Information displays in our catalog and faceted search results

• Grow our documentation and research

• Build on the relationship between Wikipedia and libraries
Impact - search

• With our new VuFind 4.1 interface for our catalog, the Wikipedia page will appear on an author search

• New browsing features for subjects and authors that utilize Authority record data (Authority records are updated weekly)

https://i-share.carli.illinois.edu/vf-isu/Author/Home?author=Hughes%2C+Langston%2C+1902-1967
Impact – full circle linking

- 024 wikidata in the NAR
- LCCN in the authority data box
Resources

• “5 ★ Open Data.”
• “List of African-American writers.”
• Watch for more information in our IR, ISU ReD.
Thank you!

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Milner Library at Illinois State University
ayon@ilstu.edu

Eric Willey
Interim Head of Cataloging and Acquisitions
Milner Library at Illinois State University
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