

2026 Fall DLC: Exhibiting Democracy:
Creative Strategies for Government Information Outreach
Chat Log

Charlie Amiot:
George!

Emm Coats:
You beat me to it Charlie

Amy Fitch:
LOL

Charlie Amiot:
I'm just here to annoy Elissa. ;D

Rebecca Holm:
Where can I get founding father cardboard standups?!

Elissa Lawrence:
x10, Charlie L O L

Christina Rines:
George is looking very dapper.

Amy Ruhe:
Yeah, where did you get those!

Christy McCall:
Looks like there's an Abe, too

Susanne Caro:
There is a lady in the back too. I also want to know where the standups are from

Becki White:
I found the Founding Fathers cardboard stands when I was looking for a Harriet Tubman.
Companies sell them.

Emm Coats:
You can find anyone on cardboard on the internet

Bobby Griffith:
Susan B. Anthony--we had her at our library.

Laura Baker:
Links to the cardboard people are at the end of the presentation.

Jenny Groome:

The dark square is back - is that a bingo square?

Jade Hornback:

that's the free Bingo space

Ashley Dahlen:

The gray/black square is a Zoom quirk. Abby will be sharing a reel in a bit, and after she does, we will disable the setting that is causing the box.

Jenny Groome:

+1 Jade

Jessica Robinson:

Will the square show up on recordings?

Ashley Dahlen:

Unfortunately, yes, the box will be in the recording. The slides will be there also though.

Jenny Groome:

I was joking around - but forgot others might not have seen it yesterday

Marina Bacchetti:

Does Rice University have an Exhibitions Team to provide installation assistance?

Kris Abery:

Love the life size figure

Matthew Thorenz:

"I do declare, history is fun kids!" (George Washington probably) :-)

Kris Abery:

+1 Matthew

Lori Driver:

+1 MATthew

Cassandra Wenzel:

What do you use to make the large wall signs?

Sinai Wood:

It does. The wall signs sub for windows.

Brent Abercrombie:

Did you partner with a class or just announce the exhibit in advance and encouraged student input?

Mary Elizabeth Schiavone:

ahhh, the perennial library display space with no windows experience lol

Susanne Caro:

Ooooh, did you use binder clips? Love problem solving with office supplies :)

Nancy Stanwood:

lol I noticed that too. We use them all the time for posters. office supplies for the win.

Jonathan Underwood:

They DID use binder clips! Once again the day is saved thanks to binder clips!

Kris Abery:

Did you create everything with the free Canva version?

Cassandra Wenzel:

We use them to straighten tablecloths sometimes! Binder clips are really multiuse.

Jade Hornback:

i hang up posters at home using binder clips, didn't ever consider that maybe this was a common practice haha

Abageal Jacobs:

I have used binder clips on a board so I could attach a collections poster with magnets- I didn't want to damage it, and it worked pretty well!

Becki White:

Note about Canva, particularly for public libraries: you can apply to get free Premium access if you are a registered non-profit.

Matthew Thorenz:

We use Canva for everything. We just did our Hispanic Heritage Month display with ours and they scaled well to the foamcore we printed them on!

Kris Abery:

Thanks Becki and Matthew

Nancy Stanwood:

yes! if they can find your non profit...too small or not in some list then they refuse to give you non profit status/access. Some schools (uni or public) pay for it so see if yours is listed for the business ones.

Cassandra Wenzel:

We've been using Publisher and have started a transition to PowerPoint and now InDesign with the end of Publisher support.

Mary Elizabeth Schiavone:

+1 on the War of Rebellion docs being a hidden gem

Nancy Stanwood:

yes, publisher access goes way oct 1st

Kris Abery:

Did you create or purchase the life size historical figures?

Becki White:

@Cassandra - look into LibreOffice Draw, I found it can do some things we used to do with Publisher.

Cassandra Wenzel:

@Becki, are there any security concerns? That might be the big issue for our IT. It's open source from what I recall, unless I am thinking of OpenOffice.

Cassandra Wenzel:

Also, thank you!

Jenny Groome:

With Canva, do you add the text outside of image when online version? I'm thinking of accessibility issues some people had with Canva images

Becki White:

@Cassandra - it's installed on your PC like Publisher is. Security issues, no clue. It's related to but not the same as Open Office.

Cassandra Wenzel:

@Becki, thank you! I will bring it up to my supervisor for consideration and then hopefully IT can consider. The chat here is always full of great suggestions!

Jenny Groome:

Great ideas for exhibits

Cassandra Wenzel:

I love the questions for visitors to consider!

Kris Abery:

+1 Cassandra

Nancy Stanwood:

@jenny--what do you mean? are you using it as a website? you can add a textbox to the side of an image. You can also download it a certain way to make it screen readable if you are uploading it to a website. You might need to use Adobe to add accessibility captions.

Jenny Groome:

Hopefully NARA will consider adding to Milestone Docs collection

Jenny Groome:

@Nancy - yes - exactly. Doing accessibility tests showed design issues when web page had only Canva image.

Kris Abery:
Wonderful exhibit. Congrats to you all

Cassandra Wenzel:
@Jenny, If I remember correctly, you can download various filetypes from Canva and then depending upon how you upload the image, and maybe your WMS, you have various options for alt-text. PDF is a different issue.

Becki White:
Love the last panel of the exhibit.

Cassandra Wenzel:
@Jenny, that's really interesting, I'll look into that. We don't use Canva here, but I've used it before.

Laura Stellrecht:
ben

Bernadette Johnson:
Ben!

Amy Turnbull:
ben1

Nykia Eaddy:
Ben

Tiffany Panzarella:
Ben

Jenny Groome:
Thanks Cassandra - I didn't make the content - only tested it. Infographics are great - until accessibility testing

Brent Abercrombie:
Ben-jamin!

Hallie Pritchett:
Ben!

Kelly Seifert:
Laura Stellrecht is the winner! i'll be in touch, Laura!

Laura Stellrecht:
Yay! Thank you

Cassandra Wenzel:
@Jenny, accessibility testing really shows us all where we can improve I think!

Nancy Stanwood:

@Jenny-yes, you would need to use Adobe or something like that to remit the PDF or infographic

Andrea Stelljes:

Very nice work!

Andie Craley:

This is so impressive!

Kris Abery:

+1 Andie

Tiffany Panzarella:

How long did this take from planning stages to installation? Apologies if you shared this...

Matthew Thorenz:

Great use of space!

Bernadette Johnson:

Ben!

Katie Salis:

ben

Amy Turnbull:

Ben

MONICA DORAME:

Ben

Kris Abery:

Exhibit looks great. Very impressed with all the work that went into it

Jenny Groome:

How you did the posters may address a concept my library's IDEA committee has for having exhibit move up the floors across 3 reference units.

Kelly Seifert:

Bernadette! Winner! i will be in touch

Bernadette Johnson:

GREAT! Thanks, Kelly!! 😊

Jenny Groome:

Love this slide

Kris Abery:

So helpful to have a price list of all that went into the exhibit

Laura Baker:

Did you have to pay for inhouse printing?

Jenny Groome:

Isn't there a regulation where Fed Docs have to be in a basement - or space that looks like a basement?

Brent Abercrombie:

Yep, it's in Title 44 :)

Jenny Groome:

I was going to ask about student selfies - thanks for mentioning that

Scott Briggs:

Did you have any issues setting up the display in regard to fire hazard concerns? Our library has rules in place where we can't really hang anything due to fire code issues.

did you keep your display up?

Kris Abery:

Good question Scott

Jenny Groome:

+1 Scott - yes fire code and hazard concerns

Rebecca Holm:

Ben

Susanne Caro:

BEN

MONICA DORAME:

BeN

Amanda Franz:

you have such a nice space :)

Jessica Robinson:

Abby was right about the Backrooms feel. Maybe we should all be capitalizing on our basements collections in these "liminal" spaces while the movie is still so popular. Just in time for Halloween!

Jenny Groome:

sorry - typos - home without a keyboard, only laptop

Nancy Stanwood:

as one of them is photographed using a chair for a ladder. ha.

Bernadette Johnson:
These exhibit are truly awesome!!

Bernadette Johnson:
exhibits*

Cassandra Wenzel:
@Nancy Some things are universal!

Nancy Stanwood:
ohh cool! I love the maps set up!! idea!

Sara Winger:
Very cool

Kristina Womack:
How do you evaluate the success of the exhibit?

Abby McDermott:
So thoughtful!

Kris Abery:
+1 Kristina

Becki White:
How does the use of QR codes impact the life span of the archived copies of the project?

L Westbrook:
How prepared are you for water (unexpected sprinklers going off).

Jenny Groome:
Are other states archiving their America 250 content? I'd love to link to it on our GODORT LibGuide

Erika Westhoff:
Something neat I have seen this year is libraries sharing their exhibits. Where it will be displayed at its home library and then travel to other libraries either within the state or beyond - for free (with the exception of postage).

Jenny Groome:
+1 Erika

Jade Hornback:
bouncing off of Kristina, in what ways did you measure direct engagement? for instance, was there a way to measure how many scans each QR code got?

Netta Cox:
I really loved your curated govdoc project!!!

Bernadette Johnson:

Thanks, Abby! This was an excellent presentation!

Susanne Caro:

+1 Erica, we did an exhibit that also traveled

William Sudduth:

Good use of a visually dead space.

Susanne Caro:

Did you use accessibility guidelines for the panels?

Netta Cox:

Where did you get the historical cut-outs? Were they from FDLP?

Cassandra Wenzel:

Thank you!

Nancy Stanwood:

@netta if you go to resources here in this zoom and download the slides there is a clickable link to get to the cut outs

Nancy Stanwood:

<https://www.amazon.com/Wet-Paint-Printing-Design-H79127/dp/B006RKHEQA>

Nancy Stanwood:

slide 25

Netta Cox:

Great! Thanks!

Cynthia Etkin:

All your planning and efforts resulted in an excellent exhibit. Hats off to you, Abby, and Anna, and the rest of your team! Thanks for sharing your experience with the depository community!

Natalie Villegas:

thank you!

Min Shaheen:

Thank you.