FindingGLAMs

Collecting information about the world’s Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums (GLAMs) and their collections on Wikipedia – available for free, for everyone, to use and improve

JOHN ANDERSSON, ANDRÉ COSTA, AXEL PETTERSSON, ALICIA FAGERVING (WIKIMEDIA SVENIGE)
JOHN CUMMINGS (UNESCO)

INTRODUCTION

We present the project FindingGLAMs. Through this initiative, Wikimedia Sverige, UNESCO and the Wikimedia Foundation aim to bring online as much freely licensed information about the world’s cultural heritage institutions as possible.

We are working to collate a truly worldwide database of cultural heritage institutions and their collections on Wikipedia. We will empower cultural organisations to share their knowledge and content with the world through collaboration, training, documentation and case studies. The project will lay the groundwork for long term and sustainable collaboration between cultural organisations and the Wikimedia movement.

The data made available will be structured, queryable and under open licenses to give it the widest possible audience and allow users to explore it in many ways. The data can be used by apps and websites including being integrated with Wikipedia and used by search services including Google, Siri and others.

A worldwide database of GLAM institutions

There is currently no worldwide database of the world’s museums, archives and libraries and their collections. We are building one – on Wikidata.

Lots of lists and datasets exist in different countries. We are collecting data about them and their copyright status in order to learn and share what already has been done.

Whenever possible, we import that data to Wikidata!

Crowdsourcing data from GLAM professionals

We are developing a crowdsourcing campaign to encourage GLAM professionals around the world to contribute data about their institutions.

With Monumental (toolswmflabs.org/monumental-glams), a user-friendly remote Wikidata editor, we are making editing Wikidata easy and approachable to newcomers.

We are both filling in gaps in existing data and making Wikidata more accessible to new contributors.

Expand our network and develop new relationships

We are working with Wikimedia organizations and other partners to expand our network and foster partnerships with GLAMs, experts, universities and others.

Our goal is to facilitate long-term partnerships that continue to bear fruit beyond the length of this project. We want to demonstrate to a wide audience how the Wikimedia projects can enrich their work and help them reach their goals.

Support for GLAMs to share their content on Wikimedia projects

We are helping GLAMs share their content on Wikimedia projects so that it reaches a worldwide audience and increases the public awareness of the institutions and their collections.

We are collecting our experiences in a number of case studies, best practice and practical guides that will build capacity in GLAM institutions and the worldwide network of Wikimedia chapters and user groups.

We will use the knowledge and experience from this project to develop better tools and technical solutions for facilitating GLAM partnerships.

https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/FindingGLAMs  john.andersson@wikimedia.se