



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Los Angeles Public Library's Digital Collections Accessible via the Digital Public Library of America

LOS ANGELES, May 8, 2015 – Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) is proud to announce more than 90,000 images from its digital collections are now accessible through what is considered the nation's digital library, the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). This endeavor is the result of LAPL's yearlong collaboration with the California Digital Library (CDL) to share digital collections.

The DPLA currently provides access to more than 10 million items contributed by 1,600 institutions nationwide. Many universities, public libraries, and other civic organizations have digitized materials, but these digital collections often exist in exclusive, proprietary databases. The DPLA's mission is to bring these different viewpoints, experiences, and collections together in a single platform and portal, providing open and coherent access to our society's digitized cultural heritage.

"It's critically important that libraries not only preserve and protect special collections but also make them widely accessible," said City Librarian John F. Szabo. "We are thrilled that more than 90,000 images from the Los Angeles Public Library's collections are now accessible to the world. It's all about access, and DPLA is an amazing partner in accomplishing that."

The California Digital Library (CDL) initiated this pilot project in partnership with the San Francisco Public Library and LAPL as part of the University of California's public service mission. As a DPLA Content Hub, the CDL has shared hundreds of thousands of records with the DPLA. As a result, visitors to the DPLA website will now be able to discover important digital collections from across California.

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Peter Persic, Public Relations & Marketing Director

The digital images that have been made available are from our Photo Collection. More of the LAPL's Digital Collections will be shared as we grow our participation with the DPLA. And with every click on an LAPL image on the DPLA site, visitors are redirected to www.lapl.org, thus increasing visibility and access to our growing digital collections.

The LAPL is working toward being a Content and potential Service Hub in Southern California, so this is just the beginning of an exciting partnership with the DPLA. In the meantime, the LAPL will be adding more records to the DPLA website (<http://dp.la>) incrementally.

Website access is free and available to the public.

The Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse population of any library in the nation. Its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, more than 6 million books, and state-of-the-art technology accessible at www.lapl.org, provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.

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