

Poster

Extending Library Collections Using Web 2.0 and Flickr.com

Michael A. Zarro
PhD Student and IMLS Fellow
Drexel University

The Library of Congress and other cultural institutions are hosting images on the website Flickr.com that have attracted significant comments and annotations from patrons. These comments include hyperlinks connecting library images to related digital resources, such as personal Flickr images and Wikipedia articles. This poster describes the creation of "extended" library collections. Using Web 2.0 technologies, we parse the user-contributed comment stream and create user interfaces displaying library and linked resources. Examples of extended collections can be seen in places-in-time, or "now and then" image collections.

This work demonstrates the use of patron comments to enhance library resources posted on the Web. As the use of Web 2.0 websites like Flickr.com increases, the need to manage and utilize user-contributions will grow. This is an early step towards building systems that incorporate public knowledge to expand and enhance the library collection.