

DIGITIZING DIVERSITY FOR THE WEB

SXSW Interactive Proposal, March 2021

AUDIENCE Students, Teachers, Researchers and Readers, Technologists and University and College Professors, Librarians, People interested in digitizing culture, diversity, the humanities and history

FORMAT Presentation

LEVEL Beginning to Intermediate, Some background preferred but not required.

THEME Cultural Resilience in the Arts

TAGS Media Technology, Connection & Culture

DESCRIPTION & TAKEAWAYS

Cultural heritage materials arrive at memory institutions through a digitally diverse spectrum of media formats. Over the last five years, Texas State University Libraries has built an inspiring ecosystem to create culturally diverse digital scholarship online integrating text, data, video, audio, images and maps. Many cultural heritage projects involve marginalized or historically underrepresented groups. In Texas, our projects focus on our Mexican American and Hispanic populations. This presentation overviews how to build innovative cultural heritage digital infrastructures focusing upon leading edge open source software and hardware solutions. Progressive technological benchmarks. Ideas of inclusivity and inspiring avenues for creating such infrastructures will be emphasized.

Outcomes

Attendants will learn:

- 1) About key open source software to enable inclusive digital scholarship projects online
- 2) How to create diverse cultural heritage technology projects through digital scholarship teams
- 3) About IT project management and inclusive design principals for cutting edge cultural heritage projects

BIO Dr. Ray Uzwyshyn is currently Director of Collections and Digital Services for Texas State University Libraries. Previously, he served as Director of Online Libraries for American Public University System, Head of Digital and Learning Technologies for the University of West Florida and Web Services Librarian for the University of Miami. Ray's specialties include information systems and online education, information visualization, multimedia possibilities for digital libraries and new IT infrastructure implementation.

QUALIFICATIONS Ray possesses a Ph.D. (NYU, Media Studies), MBA (IT Management) and MLIS from the University of Western Ontario. He has chaired the American Society of Information Science & Technology, Special Interest Group in Visualization, Images and Sound and served as a reviewer for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Global Access to Learning Technology Awards, Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), Educause and Campus Technology.