

Upcoming Events

[International Internet Preservation Consortium General Assembly](#)
May 19-23, 2014,
Paris, France

[Aligning Data and Research Infrastructure](#) June 3-6, 2014
Toronto, Canada

NDSA News

[Digital Stewardship Innovation Challenge](#)

[Teaching and Learning about Digital Stewardship](#)

[File Fixity and Data Integrity](#)

Digital Preservation Bits

[A Special Episode about Digital Preservation](#)

[Distant Reading and Web Archiving](#)

[Public Service Libraries and Personal Digital Archiving](#)

[New Workflow for Viewshare](#)

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Speaking of Formats

Shaking the Email Format Family Tree

Recently, we've started to add email formats to the [Sustainability of Digital Formats](#) website. Eventually, when we get a more robust collection, we'd like to split them out into a separate content category but for now, they (mostly) are categorized with their closest cousin, the Textual Content family.

As explained in the [Preserving Email report](#) (PDF) from the Digital Preservation Coalition, the exchange of email messages is reliant on sustained interoperability so standardization is essential. Now, let's explore what we've documented so far of the [email file format family tree](#).



[Family tree](#). Photo from the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division.

Interview with Jonathan Sterne: The Meaning of the MP3 Format

What does the history of the MP3 format mean for long-term access to digital cultural heritage?

In this installment of the NDSA's Insights interview series we talk with historian Jonathan Sterne about his book *MP3: The Meaning of a Format*.



Example of viewing the waveform of an audio recording in Audacity.

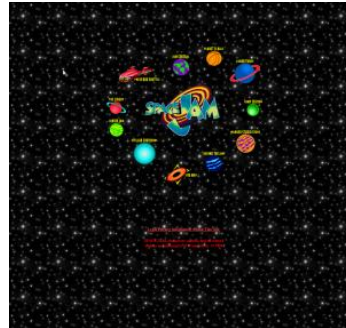
Question: The audience here tends to be folks working in and around digital preservation (curators, librarians, archivists, digital asset managers, etc.). Given that audience, what do you think is relevant to folks working to ensure long term access to digital information?

[Read the full post](#) for the answer to this and other questions.

The Why and What of Web Archives

If you think about web archiving almost every day it can be hard to explain to people outside the digital library community why archiving web sites is an activity worth doing. "They archive themselves," some say. "Why would you want to save what's on the Internet?" they wonder. Instead of launching into explanations about cultural heritage, dynamic publishing streams and comprehensive collection policies, we can now point to recent and fun examples of why we should be archiving the web and what it looks like to archive the web.

[Read on](#) for the "why" and the "what" of web archiving.



Space Jam website

Protect Your Data: Information Security

[The NDSA Levels of Digital Preservation](#) are useful in providing a high-level, at-a-glance overview of tiered guidance for planning for digital preservation. A common request received by the NDSA is to provide more in-depth information on the issues discussed for these levels. To that end, we continue our series of posts, set up to help any organization work through the guidance contained there.

For some background, previous blog posts address the various "cells" of information ([row one cell one](#), and [row one cell two](#)). For an overall explanation, take a look at [The NDSA Levels of Digital Preservation: An Explanation and Uses](#). Meanwhile, we continue with guidance on information security and storage systems in the post, [row three cell one Protect Your Data: Information Security](#).

A Defining Experience: The Residency Class of 2014

The residents are nearing the end of the inaugural term of the [National Digital Stewardship Residency](#) program, and are busy putting the finishing touches on projects, participating in closing program events and planning future endeavors. Since arriving in Washington DC last September, residents have thoughtfully and tirelessly contributed to the host institutions and to developing NDSR into a sustainable, enriching program we hope will serve as a model for postgraduate residencies. When asked recently if they would do it all again, the answer was a resounding "Yes!"

[Read more about this life changing experience.](#)



Residents pose with the James Madison statue at the Library of Congress. Photo credit: Ali Fazal

Digital Preservation Outreach and Education

[Calendar of Events](#): Access training and educational offerings in the practice of digital preservation.

Residency Program

[A Residency Update: Working with Digital Media Art at the Smithsonian](#)

Conference Reports

[Personal Digital Archiving 2014 Conference](#)

[NDSR Symposium: Pushing the Digital Envelope](#)

[Hacking Digital Stewardship at CIL 2014](#)

Conversation Corner

[Exploring Computational Categorization](#): An interview with Meg Phillips of NARA

[Eyes of the World](#): An interview with George Jungbluth of NOAA

[At the Museum](#): An interview with Marla Misunas of SFMOMA

This is the newsletter of the **National Digital Stewardship Alliance, the Digital Preservation Outreach and Education initiative and the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program.**
