In FY 2017 (Oct. 2016-Sept. 2017) the Digital Library Department continued to advance knowledge at home and around the world by digitizing art, historical, and scientific literature from the Libraries’ collections and making it openly available online.

Fiscal 2017 digitization

3,801 items  612,612 pages

Total volumes available online: 34,883

Project highlights

Completed
Cultivating America’s Gardens: (20)
The Great War Collection: (51)
Japanese Illustrated Books: (1142)
Landauer Aeronautical Sheet Music: (241)

Ongoing
Exploration of Africa: +94 (160)
Heralds of Science : +4 (118)
Native American Language Bibles: +12 (12)
Dibner Library Manuscripts: +24 (96)
EABL (Expanding Access to Biodiversity Literature): +1,065
Digital Library Visits

- 121,903 unique visitors
- 158,879 sessions (visits)
- 394,192 pageviews

Most downloaded volumes

- America: being the latest, and most accurate description of the New World
- Insects, their ways and means of living
- Bijutsukai vol. 1
- Handbook of marks on pottery and porcelain
- Smithsonian miscellaneous collections v. 120

Most viewed titles

- Bijutsukai
- The Electrical Experimenter
- The new English Canaan of Thomas Morton
- A list of early American silversmiths and their marks
- The architecture of A. Palladio, in four books

Sharing and Open Access

SIL makes material openly available on more than just our website. All completely scanned volumes are available in the Internet Archive and Open Library. Titles are also findable in OCLC’s WorldCat and in the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). More than 5,000 volumes on art, design, art history and related subjects can be found in the Getty Research Portal, and over 27,000 volumes from SIL’s collections are in the Biodiversity Heritage Library.

FY17 Downloads

- 1,320,446 from Internet Archive
Exhibition Support

The digitization program supports both online and physical exhibitions. This year was no exception with the opening of *Cultivating America’s Gardens* and *Dazzling Diversity*. *Cultivating America’s Gardens* online exhibition features images and full text items from both the Libraries’ and Smithsonian Gardens’ collections, digitized at the SIL Imaging Center as well as some of the Libraries’ seed and nursery catalogs. *Dazzling Diversity* includes rare book illustrations scanned for the Biodiversity Heritage Library.

Visit the online exhibitions and image collections

**Cultivating America’s Gardens**

[https://library.si.edu/exhibition/cultivating-americas-gardens](https://library.si.edu/exhibition/cultivating-americas-gardens)
[https://library.si.edu/digital-library/collection/cultivating-americas-gardens](https://library.si.edu/digital-library/collection/cultivating-americas-gardens)
[https://library.si.edu/image-gallery/collection/cultivating-americas-gardens](https://library.si.edu/image-gallery/collection/cultivating-americas-gardens)

**Dazzling Diversity**

[http://s.si.edu/BHLDazzlingDiversity](http://s.si.edu/BHLDazzlingDiversity)

Illustrations of natural history...Drury (1770)
111 Requests fulfilled

Contributions to BHL Of the 2,011 volumes digitized for the Biodiversity Heritage Library in FY17 1,065 were in copyright titles that publishers granted us permission to make freely available online.

Selected in Copyright Titles

- Animal Keepers’ Forum
- CBC Newsletter
- The Chat
- The Florida field naturalist
- The Journal of arachnology
- South African field archaeology (SAFA)

Plate 30 Platycercus Ignitus, Leadb. from Gould’s The birds of Australia v.5 (1848).

“” I just wanted to…say Thank You so much for taking the time out to digitize the SAFA journals. It is open access so everyone can access the journals. I am looking forward to letting the archaeological community know they can now access the journals online.

– Celeste Booth, Albany Museum, Grahamstown, South Africa

Fulfilling Requests Whether an SI curator, a visiting researcher, or an external scholar, requests from our users inform selection for digitization. We work with staff across the Libraries to elicit and fulfill researcher requests that support biodiversity research and scholarly inquiry, providing global access to materials that are both rare and useful.
The Freer|Sackler Library's collection of illustrated Japanese rare books includes over 1,142 volumes, some previously owned by Charles Lang Freer. These beautiful woodblock printed works of art, some with mica-embellished pages or illustrations by famous artists such as Andō Hiroshige and Katsushika Hokusai, were published during the Edo and Meiji periods (1600-1912). With funding from the Anne van Biema Endowment Fund, they were digitized by outside vendor Pixel Acuity, then processed and put online by digital library staff in a record three months!

This project was truly a team effort — coordinated by Kathryn Phillips and Monique Libby, the volumes were paginated by Donny Proctor and then added to an online collection by Keri Thompson. None of it could have been done, however, without cooperation from F|S curators and staff, and heroic rare book cataloging from Reiko Yoshimura, head of the F|S library.
Staff on the move This year we had two promotions, Jacqueline Chapman and Daniel Euphrat, and were able to hire on Stefaan Hurts as a full-time permanent employee. Sadly, at the end of the year we bid a fond farewell to Monique Libby, who left SI for a wonderful professional librarian position. Congratulations to everyone!