LIBRARY AS PLATFORM

Yeah I stole the idea,
and so should you …

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Old Guy Joke

• Librarian walks into a bar …
• Two old guys sitting on stools
• “”Hey I need someone to talk technology to librarians, how about you two
• Guys look at each other and say: “yah, what’s it pay”
• Ta Da Dum

• Next year: get some youngsters
What is Library as Platform?

• David Weinberger
  • Technology consultant and internet philosopher, currently serves as a fellow at Harvard’s Berkman Center for Internet and Society
  • http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/annual-conference/david-weinberger-envisions-libraries-platforms

• Regarding libraries, he challenged the audience to look at them as platforms. “A platform provides resources that lets other people build things,” Weinberger said. In a library, users are the developers. “Libraries host content, metadata, relationships, user-derived content, expertise, and local data,” he added. “In addition, they provide services (preservation, access, publication) as a gateway to knowledge.” Libraries do not draw distinctions between physical and virtual spaces, and their philosophy is to maximize their use. “The full value to any and all users is the goal of a platform.”
Steal This Idea?

• Every chance we get
• We are the platform for ideas
• Use them
“atta boy” Bob

- The great work Bob, and many others, does helps libraries establish a basis to become a platform to gather and to disseminate the needs and the wisdom of the community across the community and out to the world.
Some Definitions of Approaches

• Meme
  • A unit of cultural information, such as a cultural practice or idea, that is transmitted verbally or by repeated action from one mind to another.

• Paradigm
  • One that serves as a pattern or model.

• Context
  • The circumstances in which an event occurs; a setting.

• Attitude
  • A manner of thinking, feeling, or behaving that reflects a state of mind or disposition

• No matter how you define it …
Books, magazines, newspapers

• In the beginning
• We thought we were a repository
• But What If:
  • We are a delivery platform
• Point of view
  • Is it new
  • Is it old
  • Is it evolution

• Regardless of content or services, the library can become a nexus for the community conversations
Denver Public Library Legend
Shanachies

• Jaap van de Geer
• Erik Boekesteijn
• Geert van den Boogaard

• What's Your Story?: Dutch Library DOK's (Delft, the Netherlands) New Cutting-edge Community Tech Projects
  • http://www.libraryjournal.com/lj/home/886170-264/whats_your_story_dutch_library.html.cs

• Think of it as NPR's StoryCorps exploded. We aim to conjure up memories and stories in library users that they can leave behind at DOK
WHO

- Wisconsin Heritage Online
  - Gathering and knitting
Eli Neiburger

- Lake Superior Libraries Symposium
  - [https://sites.google.com/site/lakesuperiorlibrariesymposium/home/keynote](https://sites.google.com/site/lakesuperiorlibrariesymposium/home/keynote)
  - Coming soon to WLA
- Access, Schmaccess: libraries in the Age of Information
  - Ubiquity
  - While the challenges of providing content, space and environment for the modern age are numerous, libraries are adaptive spaces and capable of going beyond the walls of the building.
The Bookless Library

• Article in the New Republic

• Half gloom and doom
• Half call to action

• New York Public Library for examples
  • Somewhat paradoxically, by drawing millions more people into serious reading and learning, the digital revolution has in fact created the need for more spaces of physical interaction.
David Lankes

- Library as **Platform**
  - [http://quartz.syr.edu/blog/?p=1692](http://quartz.syr.edu/blog/?p=1692)
  - Abstract: We must start thinking about digital libraries not as collections online, but as **platforms** for learning and sharing.

- Change the Goal
  - A **Platform** for community learning and innovation
David Lankes

- Beyond the Bullet Points: It is Time to Stop Trying to Save Libraries
  - http://quartz.syr.edu/blog/?p=1697
- Close the crisis center. Take down the picket signs. Please proceed to un-occupy the library. It is time to stop trying to save libraries.
- I define the library as a **platform** of a librarian – a **platform** for community learning and innovation.
- I don’t need to save libraries, I need to help transform them. The test of that transformation is not in a building, or a collection, or a service, or even the librarians; it is in the achievements of the community.
Bookless,

• Madison Public Library celebration
• Part of the process of what's going to be done at the new central.
  • About 5000 folks total attended.
  • $28,700 raised.
  • Lines around the corner, all night
• The library as a social community **platform** in a playful way?
Marshall Breeding at WiLSWorld

• The Ideal UI is a single standard search box that serves as a **platform** to deliver results from all the libraries resources ordered in sensible and contextual ranking.

• This creates yet another potential area where the library acts as a **platform** for it's community of users.
Maker Space

• ALA Virtual Conference
  • http://www.learningtimes.net/ala12/

• And a TekVenture article on BoingBoing
  • http://boingboing.net/2012/07/11/maker-station-in-library-parki.html
TekVenture

• Making Our Future:
  • The ACPL-TekVenture Maker Station Community Collaboration

• Allen County Public Library
  • http://www.acpl.lib.in.us

• TekVenture
  • http://tekventure.org

• Chain Reaction Challenge
  • http://tekventure.org/CRC/

• Fort Wayne Wayne Regional Maker Faire®
  • http://makerfairefortwayne.com/
TekVenture

- Natril Gear
  - http://natrilgear.com

- TekVenture Summer Programs
  - http://tekventure.eventbrite.com/

- Make Zine
  - http://makezine.com/

- Studio D
  - http://acplteen.wordpress.com/2012/06/19/studio-d-main-library/

- Is it Time to Retool & Rebuild Libraries and Make “TechShops”?
Sum up a bit

• A couple of usable quotes from Carson Block:
  • "I became a librarian because I like organizing stuff, playing with computers and being a know it all"
  • "I do all human knowledge”
  • [http://www.carsonblock.com/](http://www.carsonblock.com/)

• Previous OCLC surveys have shown "books" to be the library brand,
  • The brand can evolve to "access"
Redux

• Weinberger said:
  • “A **platform** provides resources that lets other people build things”

• Beatty added:
  • “In the broadest possible contexts”
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