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**Jesse White Announces State Library Selected as Service Hub
for the Digital Public Library of America**

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White announced that the Illinois State Library has been selected as a Service Hub for the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). As a Service Hub, the State Library will gather digital collections from around the state for contribution to DPLA. DPLA is a single free virtual library comprised of digitized collections created by libraries, archives and museums across the nation.

“Throughout my tenure as Secretary of State and State Librarian, I have made it a priority to use technology in a way that improves customer service as well as public access to information,” said White. “I am proud that we can further increase providing the public free access to collections that hold Illinois’ historical and cultural legacy through computers, tablets or smartphones. Digitization makes it easy for libraries to share documents and build upon content that is otherwise difficult for the public to access. By preserving these items and making them electronically accessible, future generations will have more convenient access to Illinois’ rich history.”

The Service Hub responsibilities will be shared by the State Library, the Chicago Public Library, the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries of Illinois (CARLI) and the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. Collections from the [Illinois Digital Archives](#) and the [CARLI Digital Collections](#) will be the first items represented in the DPLA in early 2016. Other collections from around the state will be added afterwards. The State Library was selected as a DPLA Service Hub following its application for inclusion.

DPLA launched in April 2013 with nearly 11 million books, images, historic records and audiovisual materials available through the platform. Visit the online digital library at <http://dp.la/>.

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