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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | WINTER 2017

Member news, project updates, collection highlights, and more! See what's new at BHL!

Support BHL

Inspiring Discovery through Free Access to Biodiversity Knowledge.

The [Biodiversity Heritage Library](#) (BHL) improves research methodology by collaboratively making biodiversity literature openly available to the world as part of a global biodiversity community.

Shop for Valentine's Day in BHL-Style!

Get your valentine the perfect card or gift with the new [Valentine's Day Collection](#) in the [BHL Store](#)!

The collection includes products featuring vintage botanical art from BHL. 100% of the proceeds will be used to digitize more books for our library. How does this help support biodiversity research? [Click here to find out.](#)

[Start shopping today!](#)



The product art in the collection comes from [Annales de la Société royale d'agriculture et de botanique de Gand, T.3 \(1847\)](#), which was digitized in BHL by Harvard University Botany Libraries.

New Members

BHL is pleased to welcome two new Members: Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN) and University of Toronto Libraries . [The BHL consortium](#) now consists of 18 Members and 15 Affiliates.



MUSÉUM
NATIONAL D'HISTOIRE NATURELLE

The Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN) is the national natural history museum of France. MNHN will enhance BHL's collection by contributing rare and unique material from the Muséum's library, including the entire collection of MNHN scientific publications from 1802 to 2000. The library will also contribute to the expansion of global collection development strategies and facilitate partnerships with other institutions in France and throughout Europe. [Learn more](#) .



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
LIBRARIES

The University of Toronto Libraries (UTL) is the first Canadian library to join the BHL as a Member. The UTL system is the largest academic library in Canada. As the host

of an Internet Archive (IA) scanning center, the Libraries has already digitized a large portion of its collection. Over 3.3 million pages of natural history literature from UTL are currently available in BHL. [Learn more](#) .

#1Lib1Ref: Enhancing Wikipedia with BHL Resources



From 15 January - 3 February, BHL is joining the [#1Lib1Ref campaign](#) by encouraging people to enhance Wikipedia with references to primary sources. BHL's collection contains a wealth of literature that can provide citations for Wikipedia articles.

You can help enhance Wikipedia by joining the #1Lib1Ref campaign, which is supported by The Wikipedia Library. To get started, [read this blog post](#) from BHL citizen scientist [Siobhan Leachman](#) on how to update Wikipedia articles with BHL references.

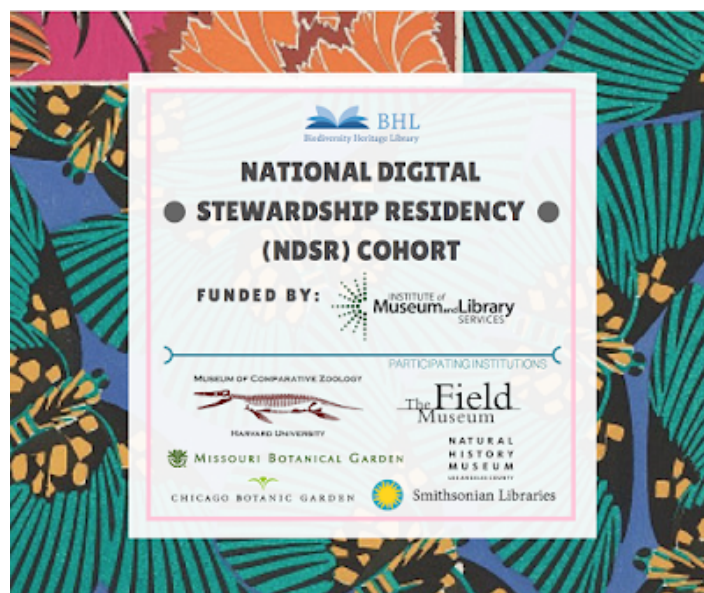
The BHL Field Notes Project



In 2015, the Council on Library and Information Resources awarded the Biodiversity Heritage Library a grant to fund the BHL Field Notes Project. Through the collaborative efforts of eleven participating institutions, the project will provide open

access to over 450,000 pages of natural history field research material, including diaries, journals, correspondence, and photographs. [Learn more](#) .

BHL NDSR Cohort Gets to Work!



The five residents of the BHL National Digital Stewardship Residency (NDSR) cohort have been selected and began work at their respective host institutions in early January. As part of the "Foundations to Actions" program, the residents, who are stationed at five geographically-dispersed BHL partner institutions, will work with their mentors to plan and develop a next generation digital library using BHL as a test-bed.

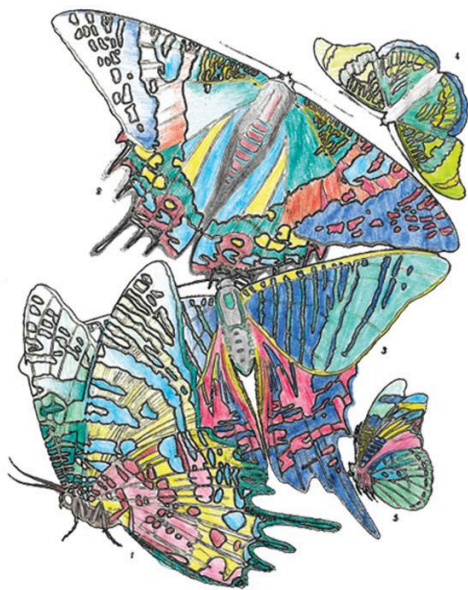
The residents and their respective host institutions are: Alicia Esquivel (Chicago Botanic Garden); Marissa Kings (Los Angeles County Natural History Museum); Pamela McClanahan (Smithsonian Libraries); Katie Mika (Harvard University: MCZ); and Ariadne Rehbein (Missouri Botanical Garden). The program is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

[Learn more](#).

Color Our Collections

Get ready to color!

From 6-10 February, BHL will participate in the second annual Color Our Collections event, a week-long coloring fest on social media organized by libraries, archives, and other cultural institutions around the world. Using materials from their collections, participating institutions are sharing free coloring content with the hashtag #ColorOurCollections and inviting their followers to color and get creative with their collections.



BHL will have two coloring books and a collection of over 1,000 black-and-white images for the event. [Learn more.](#)

BHL Joins ICSTI

BHL has joined the [International Council for Scientific and Technical Information](#) (ICSTI) as an Associate Member. ICSTI, an affiliate of the International Council for Science (ICSU), facilitates cooperation among all stakeholders engaged in the scientific communication process with the aim of improving the effectiveness of scientific research. Supporting innovation in scholarly communication, ICSTI provides a forum for the exchange of experience, expertise and understanding, creating the opportunity for organizational networking and collaboration across the scientific and technical information (STI) communities.

Collection Highlights

Explore our Book of the Month features from the past quarter in these highlights. [Check out the whole series on our blog](#) .



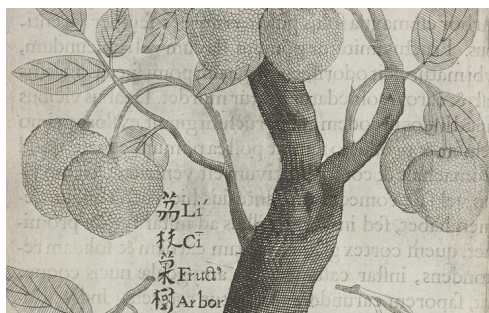
Orchidelirium Takes Printed Form

In the 19th century, Europe was gripped with "Orchidelirium." Publications like Émile de Puydt's [Les orchidées](#) (1880) capitalized on this orchid craze. This title includes 50 full-page chromolithographs of cultured orchids. It was digitized by

Harvard University Botany Libraries.

[Learn more](#) .

Article by Diane M. Rielinger. Digital Projects Librarian, Botany Libraries, Harvard University Herbaria.



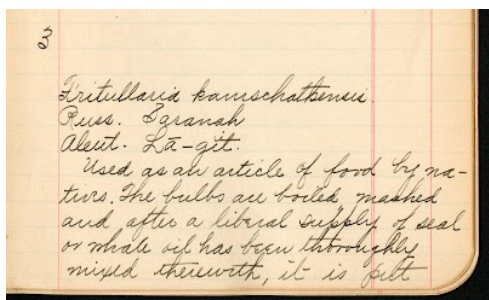
Flora and Fauna of China

Flora sinensis (1656) is one of the first natural history books on China written by a European. The work, by Michał Piotr Boym, contains 48 pages of text and 23 black and white woodcut illustrations - 17 of plants, 5 of animals and one of a Nestorian Stele. This rare title was

digitized by Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Library, Art & Archives.

[Learn more](#) .

Post by Anne Griffin. Head of Cataloguing, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Library, Art & Archives.



Documenting Native American Knowledge of Natural Resources

William J. Fisher's [1899 field book](#) documents the Alutiiq people's knowledge of medicinal and food uses for 48 plant specimens. Entries document the Russian

and Sugpiat/Alutiiq names of plants, how the plants were used, and plant distribution. This field book was digitized by Smithsonian Institution Archives.

[Learn more](#) .

Post by Lesley Parilla. Cataloger, Smithsonian Libraries.

BHL User Testimonials

Learn how BHL supports research around the world in our [BHL User series](#) .

Supporting Classroom Education

Students in South Carolina are using Mark Catesby's illustrations to learn more about the connection between art and science. As part of a collaboration between the College of Charleston and the Catesby Commemorative Trust, Dr. Tracey Hunter-Doniger created lesson plans utilizing Catesby's publications in



BHL User Quote

BHL, digitized by Smithsonian Libraries. These lessons allow students to appreciate the role of observation in science and the part that Mark Catesby played in the history of natural history.

[Learn more](#) .

Presentations about BHL!

Explore some of the presentations that staff have given about BHL over the past few months.

- Jacqueline E. Chapman. [*On Their Terms: Leveraging Biological Taxonomy for a User-Centric Collection Analysis of a Consortial Digital Library*](#). Poster at the Library Assessment Conference. October 2016.
 - Nicole Kearney. [*Museums Have Archives? Using Digitisation and Transcription to Reunite Archives and Collections*](#). National Conference of the Australian Society of Archivists. October 2016.
 - Kelli Trei. [*The Impact of the Biodiversity Heritage Library on Scientific Research*](#). DLF Forum. November 2016.
 - Martin R. Kalfatovic, Constance Rinaldo, Henrique Rodrigues, and Dmitry Schigel. [*BHL: 10 Years of Innovation and Growth*](#). Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG). December 2016.
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Get Involved with BHL!

There are many ways to get involved in BHL, from becoming a Member or Affiliate and contributing content to [donating to support BHL](#) or participating in one of our many citizen science activities. Currently, BHL's volunteer opportunities include [Flickr image tagging](#), transcribing field books as part of [The Field Book Project](#), correcting OCR via our [two crowdsourcing games](#), or describing illustrations via [Science Gossip on Zooniverse](#). [Learn more about how you can get involved today!](#)

Support BHL

Providing researchers with free access to biodiversity knowledge is critical to saving life on Earth. Help us accomplish this goal by [donating to BHL today!](#)

[Get all the latest project news in the BHL Quarterly and Annual Reports.](#)

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