

COLLAB

Digital collaboration across
South Australia's cultural institutions



DIGITAL CULTURAL FELLOWSHIP 2021 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

COLLAB IS POWERED BY

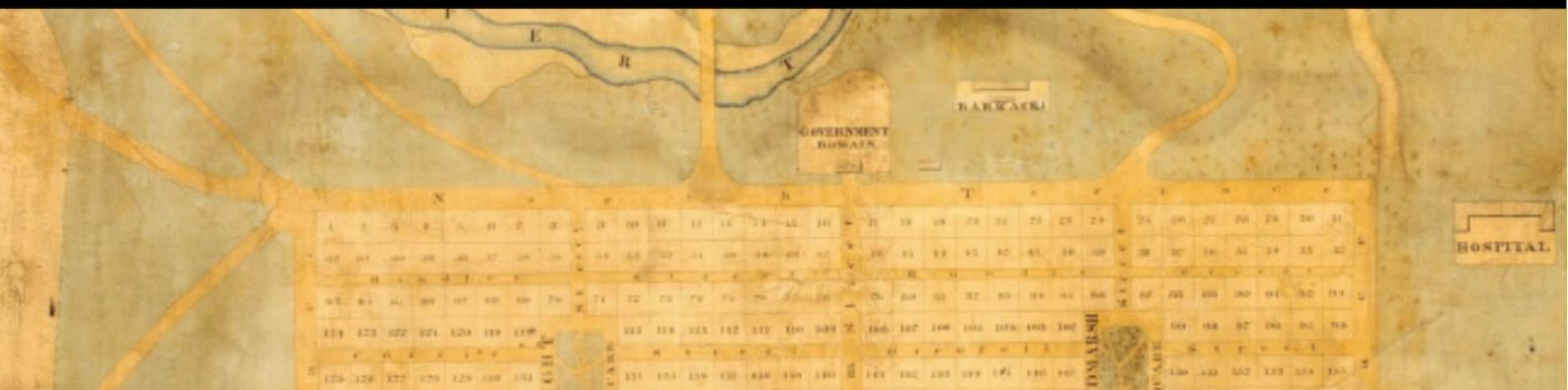


AGSA



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DIGITAL CULTURAL FELLOWSHIP



COLLAB DIGITAL CULTURAL FELLOWSHIP 2021 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS COLLAB?

Collab is a cooperative and multiparty venture between the South Australian Museum, the History Trust of South Australia, the State Library of South Australia and the Art Gallery of South Australia.

The simple ethos behind Collab is to promote and drive the dynamic unearthing of and experimentation with South Australia's vast and extensive digital collections.

Collab has been unleashed to encourage and support digital innovation, discovery of new knowledge and entrepreneurship across Adelaide's cultural precinct and the creative industries and to showcase our collections and expertise to the world.

WHAT IS THE COLLAB DIGITAL CULTURAL FELLOWSHIP?

The Collab Digital Cultural Fellowship is intended to encourage the interrogation by creative and technical digital specialists of the rich and expansive collections of South Australia's core cultural institutions in order to create and bring forth new and exciting projects into the public realm.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A COLLAB DIGITAL CULTURAL FELLOWSHIP?

The Collab Digital Cultural Fellowship is open to technologists and developers of digital solutions to explore, unpack and repurpose data to solve problems, design systems and innovative products, and to promote deeper discovery in and around South Australia's cultural heritage collections.

The processes involved will include investigating and defining; generating and designing; producing and implementing; and collaborating with South Australia's cultural community to create extraordinary outcomes.

WHAT TYPE OF DATA AND INFORMATION CAN I ACCESS?

South Australia's expansive digital collections are irreplaceable records that shape our knowledge of history and the natural and cultural world. Collectively they tell the story of South Australia.

Collab's cultural institutions are committed to ensuring these collections are available as accessible and useable datasets that help to expand human knowledge.

Collab, as part of the GLAM Labs (Galleries Libraries Archives Museums) global movement,

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will enable broad use of South Australia's digital collections and datasets for creative endeavour, entrepreneurship, research, interpretation and new digital experiences.

South Australian Museum

For more than 150 years the South Australian Museum has been collecting, researching and sharing the stories of Australia's unique natural and cultural heritage, and is today one of the most highly visited museums in the country. It cares for collections of national and international significance including the Australian Polar Collections, the Australian Biological Tissue Collection, and the Australian Helminthological Collection.

The South Australian Museum is responsible for the most comprehensive collection of Australian Aboriginal cultural material in the world, and also has a strong reputation for research collections in the fields of Mineralogy and Palaeontology.

The Museum's archive is a national collection that documents the Museum's history, research interest and exhibitions since 1800s and contributes to an understanding of Australian Aboriginal & world's cultures, earth and biological sciences.

Over 500,000 records from the South Australian Museum's biological collections can be accessed via the [Atlas of Living Australia](#). A number of other collections can be accessed via the South Australian Government data.sa.gov.au website, these include the [Australian Helminthological \(Parasitic worms\) Collection](#), the [mineralogical collection](#) and the [meteorite collection](#).

The Museum's Archives catalogue can be viewed on the [Museum's website](#).

Note: At this time the catalogues for the Australian Aboriginal Cultures Collection, World

Cultures Collection and Palaeontological Collection are not available online.

History Trust of South Australia

The History Trust of South Australia is a history and museums organisation that operates three museums – the Migration Museum, the National Motor Museum and the South Australian Maritime Museum and the Centre of Democracy in collaboration with the State Library of South Australia.

The History Trust is caretaker of the State History Collection and ensures current and future generations can enjoy their state's rich and fascinating past in ways that are relevant today.

The History Trust supports South Australia's state-wide history network of committed community museums, local history organisations and volunteer associations to make South Australia's history and large distributed collections more accessible both locally and globally.

History Trust collections are available to search and browse via a number of [digital collections and exhibitions sites](#).

History Trust datasets can be viewed and accessed via the State Government [data portal](#).

State Library of South Australia

The State Library of South Australia (SLSA) is the largest public reference library in the State. Its collection has a strong focus on information pertaining to South Australia as well as general reference material for research purposes. The Library actively collects, preserves and gives access to the State's historical and contemporary documentary heritage, as well as providing public programs that enhance South Australia's cultural life.

It also supports the South Australian public libraries network and cooperates with other

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State and interstate agencies to enhance economic, educational and social benefits for South Australia. The State Library's digital collections are available to browser via their [digital collections site](#). The State Library's datasets can be viewed via the State Government [data portal](#).

Art Gallery of South Australia

With more than 45,000 works of art, The Art Gallery of South Australia's collection is one of the largest in the country and one of the most exceptional in depth and quality as a result of strategic vision, astute connoisseurship, and purposeful philanthropic partnerships. Works of art span 2,000 years, a breadth of expressive art forms, and vast geographical reach. AGSA's collection includes paintings, sculpture, prints and drawings, photographs and videos, textiles and clothing, glass, metalwork, jewellery and furniture. With this internationally regarded collection, and record-breaking exhibition program, AGSA engages with more than 1 million visitors per year through the gallery and external sites.

AGSA's online collection is available to browse via the [AGSA website](#).

WHAT ARE SOME SOUTH AUSTRALIAN EXAMPLES OF COLLABORATIVE AND TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT IN THIS SPACE?

South Australian cultural institutions have a long history of collaboration and innovation in making collections engaging and accessible to audiences. Collab ensures that this success extends to our digital collections and collaborations. Below are a few examples of our institutions working with researchers, creatives, technologists and developers to reimagine, repurpose and improve digital access to South Australian collections.

1. Research into Machine Learning

NEURAL NETWORKS AND AI

European PhD candidate Afonso Lima developed artificial intelligence programs, specifically neural networks involving computational vision. Amongst others, he used SLSA datasets to train neural networks to computationally analyse and identify Art Deco buildings in historical image collections.

Dataset: [Art Deco Adelaide](#)

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MACHINE LEARNING

Researchers from the Australian Institute of Machine Learning trained two machine learning models that leveraged SLSA and HTSA datasets to enable audiences to submit contemporary images of themselves and find their closest historical match. This facial similarity detection used a neural network trained to find the most similar face in our historical photographic archives. A video of the prototype is viewable on YouTube.

Datasets: [South Australian Government Photographic Collection](#) [Old Colonist Photographic Collection](#)

2. Reuse/Public Programs/Tourism

CITY OF ADELAIDE

This project used a SLSA dataset to develop [Lost Pubs of Adelaide](#) which plots the lost pubs of Adelaide on a map. The project uses both the asset and its associated metadata.

Dataset: [Departed Spirits - Lost Pubs of Adelaide](#)

MINECRAFT ADELAIDE

This GovHack 2015 project involved the creation of a Minecraft Adelaide mod using the Adelaide City Council's 3D city dataset combined with the HTSA's SA History Hub geo-located dataset to produce an Adelaide instance of Minecraft with hidden 'history Easter eggs'.

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Datasets: [SA History Hub](#) [Adelaide 3D model](#)

3. Discovery

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU

<https://sarcib.wv1.collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/>

From 1916 until 1919, the South Australian Red Cross Information Bureau performed the service of undertaking research into over 8,000 enquiries from family and friends of missing Australian Imperial Force personnel fighting in World War 1. Documentation produced and received in the process of making these enquiries are included in the 'packets' of records that can be searched and viewed on this website.

This website extracts data from the packets containing the enquiries to present a database that increased the access point to the information contained from one name on a card on microfiche to three names (soldier enquired upon; graphic and detailed statements from the eye witness; letters from the home front.

The site enables customers to add photographs from their collections; stories and additional information

4. Data is discoverable on multiple platforms

TROVE

Search Trove to explore amazing collections from Australian libraries, universities, museums, galleries and archives. It's free and available online all day, every day. Everything you would find on a visit to a library or museum can be found in Trove. It brings together billions of pieces of information.

Trove harvests data that has been enabled to present a uniform search facility across institutions.

[Trove](#) is the extension of the Australian Bibliographic Network which SLSA has been participating in sharing our bibliographic data since 1981 as a network of State Libraries.

A growing number of community museums digitise and publish their collections via Trove.

TROVE NEWSPAPERS

SLSA supplies newspapers to the Trove newspaper service which increases access to newspapers; enables transcription and then the use of API's to undertake deeper research in to South Australia's history.

[Example of Trove Newspapers](#)

WIKIMEDIA

HTSA has uploaded over 13,000 public domain images documenting the development of the state between 1890-1957 to Wikimedia to experiment with how communities use historical images to illustrate Wikipedia articles. The images form part of the State Government Photographic Collection dataset and can be accessed via the [Data Portal](#) or in [Wikimedia](#).

ONLINE COLLECTIONS PORTALS

All Collab institutions have a range of digital collections portals for users to access their collections. These are available on the [Collab website](#).

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WHAT DOES THE FELLOWSHIP OFFER?

Collab Digital Cultural Fellowship provides:

- A \$10,000 honorarium
- Access to collections and staff including collection specialists, curators, scientists and educators across Collab partner institutions
- Access to office space, high speed internet, and cloud data storage via Collab
- Access to precinct wide events, activities and behind the scenes experiences for the duration of the Fellowship.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

In order for your application to be considered you need to be:

- 18 years of age or older and can be at any stage of their career and from any discipline.
- Available to take up the Fellowship between March-December 2021

WHAT IS THE SUCCESS CRITERIA FOR THE COLLAB DIGITAL CULTURAL FELLOWSHIP AND HOW ARE PROJECTS SELECTED?

In order for your application to be considered you should demonstrate:

- Ability to use digital cultural collections to address a problem or create a benefit
- Innovative thinking or application of digital tools and methods
- Relevance of the proposal to the Cultural Precinct or South Australian audiences
- Proven ability to deliver a digital product online.

Judges will also consider:

- Quality of the applicant's research or creative bodies of work, relative to opportunity
- Strength of the concept and outcomes

- Clear articulation of the relevance to South Australian audiences
- Potential benefit to the Cultural Precinct and wider digital cultural heritage practice
- Capacity of the applicant to communicate processes and outcomes to a wider public audience.

The external judging panel for the 2021 Collab Fellowship will be:

- Geoff Rohrsheim, Chairman, Smart City Solutions, Adelaide, SA.
- Eva Balan-Vnuk, Executive Director, ICT and Digital Government, Adelaide, SA.
- Mahendra Mahey, Manager British Library Labs, British Library, London, UK.

WHAT ARE THE KEY DATES?

Friday 13 November 2020 Fellowship launched

Monday 5pm 15 February 2021 Fellowship applications close

Tuesday 16 February 2021 Judging commences

Tuesday 30 March 2021 Fellowship announced

WHAT GUIDELINES ARE AVAILABLE?

Fellowship guidelines are available on the [Collab website](#).

WHO OWNS THE FELLOWSHIP'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY?

Fellows will retain Intellectual Property (IP) in any work produced as a result of the Fellowship and are strongly encouraged to release their final output under an appropriate open licence.

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WHAT ARE THE FELLOWSHIP DELIVERABLES?

In exchange for the benefits provided by the Collab Digital Cultural Fellowship each awarded Fellowship is expected to deliver (at a minimum) the following activities.

1. Collab workshops

Deliver two internal workshops / demonstrations (format to be determined by the nature of the Fellowship itself) to North Terrace Cultural Precinct and Collab collaborators on an aspect of their project.

This presentation can be conceptual or a demonstration of digital tools and methods used. Other options are welcome but will be at the discretion of and following discussions with the nominated Precinct lead.

The aim of these two workshops is to deliver value to internal staff and raise awareness of unexplored and innovative ways of working with digital collections.

2. Public lecture, workshop or other engagement activities

It is expected that Fellows will present at least one public lecture/workshop/demo of the work undertaken and achievements in the Collab Digital Cultural Fellowship program.

Fellows are encouraged to demonstrate their progress through a variety of other channels and engagements including presentations, social media, blogs and other activities.

3. Blog posts

Fellows are expected to publish at least one blog post to the Collab website about their Collab Digital Cultural Fellowship as part of the final delivery of the Fellowship.

4. Promotional activities

It is an expectation that Fellows will participate in various scheduled and ad hoc print, radio and social media promotional activities (as

deemed necessary) throughout the duration of the Fellowship.

5. Collab acknowledgement and participation

Fellows will endeavour to acknowledge the support of Collab and the Digital Cultural Fellowship in any further forums, presentations and publications resulting from the Fellowship.

Collab and the North Terrace Cultural Precinct also commits to actively show-case outcomes of the Fellowship through appropriate avenues wherever possible.

HOW CAN YOU DEFINE AN EXTRAORDINARY OUTCOME?

Strategies to transform data to meet a need or opportunity are not new. What the Fellowship offers that is different is the depth and breadth of the data and internal institutional knowledge opened for discovery in South Australia's Collab environment.

Below Collab have outlined national and international examples of collaborative outcomes recognised as extraordinary or transformative:

Unstacked

Unstacked is an initiative developed by DX Lab at the State Library of New South Wales (SLNSW) by Fellows Elisa Lee and Adam Hinshaw.

Unstacked is a dynamic and arresting time-based visualisation of items people are accessing from SLNSW's library catalogues. Created by the people who are using library resources, this responsive, high-impact visual display format captures the diversity and richness of cultural and heritage collections.

[DX Lab Experimentation](#)

[Live at SLQ](#)

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Painting By Numbers

Curated by Professor David J Mabberley AM, Painting by Numbers is a digital experiment, designed and built by the SLNSW's DX Lab. It brings together, for the first time online, nearly 300 original works by botanical artist Ferdinand Bauer from cultural institutions across Europe, the United Kingdom and Australia.

International cultural organisation partners in the Painting By Numbers project include Natural History Museum London, Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien, Bodleian Libraries University of Oxford, The Linnean Society of London and Royal Botanic Gardens Kew.

[Painting by Numbers](#)

Corley Explorer

The Corley Explorer by Geoff Hinchcliffe and Mitchell Whitelaw transformed a State Library of Queensland photographic collection into an online crowdsourced description and tagging project. From the 1960s to the 1970s, Frank and Eunice Corley drove the suburban streets of Queensland in their pink Cadillac, taking photographs of houses and selling them to homeowners. They are thought to have taken over a quarter of a million photographs of houses. Around two-thirds of the photographs were sold to householders, and the remaining 61,000 images were donated to State Library in 1995.

The Corley Explorer enables users to explore the Frank and Eunice Corley Collection, tag and describe photos, collect favourites, and share personal stories and images of the history of these houses and streets.

[Corley Explorer](#)

Off The Shelf

Developed by the SLNSW's DX Lab team, Off the Shelf is DX Lab exhibition that encourages

readers to digitally browse a Library's book collection and uncover many intriguing, perplexing and playful volumes waiting to be read.

From bodice rippers to banksia trees, cats to catafalques, turnips to teleology — whatever you're into, there's a book in Off the Shelf that's got it.

[Off The Shelf](#)

Online Sheet Orchestra

Another initiative developed in the DX Lab is VirtuOSO. This innovative application plays transcribed sheet music from the Library's collection, renders it in your browser, then delivers it to an audio engine for you to hear it played back.

[Virtuoso](#)

80HZ: Sound Lab

This architectural sound lab created by DX Lab fellow Thomas Wing-Evans, in collaboration with the DX Lab, is a sonification of 44 mesmerising artworks featured in the Paintings from the Collection exhibition.

The multi-channel, outdoor soundscape works by identifying different tones, complexities and colours in the paintings, as well as metadata such as location and date.

[80HZ: SOUND LAB](#)

By the People

The Library of Congress launched By the People in the autumn of 2018. The application invites you to transcribe, review, and tag digitized images of manuscripts and typed materials from the Library's collections.

[By the People](#)

Notable exponents in this dynamic and collaborative space include:

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Ruth Byrne

Collaborative PhD project with British Library and the University of Lancaster

Ruth used the British Library's digitised newspaper collection to explore attitudes towards immigration in nineteenth century Britain. She used corpus linguistic methodology to research the circa 30 billion words of digitised text that make up the Library's Nineteenth Century Newspaper Collection

[Ruth Byrne](#)

Mauricio Giraldo

Interaction design and development in digital humanities

Mauricio recently completed a DX Lab Fellowship where he built Aereo, processing and classifying 2 million SLNSW digital collection images and visualising them – offering an experimental browsing experience that goes beyond a search box. The code to power this is freely provided to the community as an open source repository.

[Building Aereo](#)

Mitchell Whitelaw and Geoff Hinchcliffe (ANU)

Associate Professor Mitchell Whitelaw and Dr Geoff Hinchcliffe produce internationally recognised research and experiments in reimagining cultural collections in the digital age.

Experimental collection interfaces

Dr Hinchcliffe's research and production focuses on new forms and practices in data visualisation, computational design, and interaction design. His research results in both theoretical and creative outputs, from the highly practical, to the experimental, playful and occasionally provocative.

[Interface portfolio](#)

Mitchell Whitelaw works with institutional partners, academic collaborators and students to develop “generous interfaces”, working with cultural data to create inviting, explorable websites for cultural collections.

Drifter is a good example of reimagining, in this case a visualisation of the Murrumbidgee river system using cultural collections data, scientific data, historical images and geospatial sources with links off to Atlas of Living Australia records.

[Drifter](#)

Tim Sherratt

Developing the GLAM Workbench

Tim Sherratt is an historian and hacker developing tools and finding disparate and innovative pathways into cultural data. His Galleries Libraries Archives and Museum sector (GLAM) workbench is growing internationally. Tim is currently developing some tools in his GLAM workbench using South Australia's Collab collections.

[GLAM Workbench](#)

Jer Thorp

Library of Congress (LoC) Innovator in Residence

Jer Thorp is an artist, writer and teacher living in New York City. He is best known for designing the algorithm to place the nearly 3,000 names on the 9/11 Memorial in Manhattan. Jer was the New York Times' first Data Artist in Residence, is a National Geographic Explorer, and in 2017 and 2018 served as the Innovator in Residence at the Library of Congress. Jer is one of the world's foremost data artists, and is a leading voice for the ethical use of big data.

[About Jer Thorpe](#)

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WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES FROM DIGITAL CULTURAL LABS AROUND THE WORLD?

Around the globe there are designers, technologists, researchers, academics and citizens from a raft of different fields accessing collection data and repurposing it to produce extraordinary outcomes. Here is a small sample for your inspiration.

Library of Congress: *Political Cartoon Visualiser*
Data Visualisation of political cartoons held in Library of Congress collections.

[Political Cartoon Visualiser](#)

Library of Congress: *Southern Mosaic*
This project visualises the journey and collection of folk songs across southern USA for Library of Congress in 1939. It tells the story of their journey, the folk artists and the resulting LoC collection.

[Southern Mosaic](#)

Library of Congress: *Citizen DJ*
The Citizen DJ tool was developed to remix LoC collections in hip hop music (excellent example of contemporary uses for digital collections / data in ways a Library would never imagine they could provide relevance).

[Citizen DJ Project](#)

British Library Labs: *Imaginary Cities*
Imaginary Cities is an art installation and VR experience turning historic maps into fictional city scapes for the digital age.

[Imaginary Cities](#)

British Library Labs: *Sound installation*
Another Intelligence Sings using artificial intelligence and British Library sound archives to create an immersive audio-tactile sound installation/experience.

[Sound Installation](#)

British Library Labs: *The memory archivist*

Created during an AHRC Innovation Placement on Emerging Formats at the British Library, this piece of interactive fiction aims to show some of the difficulties associated with and benefits arising from collecting complex digital works.

[The Memory Archivist](#)

National Library of Scotland's Data Foundry:
Artist in Residence

Artist in Residence, using artificial intelligence to create new artworks based on the Nat Library of Scotland's collections.

[Artist in Residence](#)

[Data Foundry](#)

National Library of New Zealand: *Digitised Newspapers Project*

This project enabled open data access for digitised newspapers.

[Newspaper Open Data Pilot](#)

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Webinars

Monthly Q&A style webinars will be scheduled between December 2020 – February 2021 to provide applicants with access to Collab collections and data experts to assist with the formation of Fellowship applications. Please sign up to the Collab mailing list via the website for advance notice of webinar dates.

Website

More information about the Fellowship, Collab digital collections, datasets, news and events can be found on the [Collab website](#).

Contact us

Please contact us via the [Collab website](#) if you have any questions or would like to explore a Fellowship idea in more detail with our collections teams.

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Images

Page 1 Photo Saul Steed, *Chromatopia Installation*, Art Gallery of South Australia

Page 2 Robert George Thomas, *Colonel William Light's Plan of Adelaide*, 1837, watercolour and ink, History Trust of South Australia, State History Collection