A Guide to SHARP News
E-Resource Reviews

Thank you for reviewing for SHARP News, the digital newsletter for the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing! Here are some details about the book review process, as well as possibilities with our social media platforms.

The Basics
- SHARP News is an entirely online publication and can be found here: https://www.sharpweb.org/sharpnews/.
- Reviews make up a large amount of our content, and currently include books, exhibitions, and e-resources. Reviews are posted on a quarterly basis: June, August, November, and February.
- We welcome a very wide range of chronological, geographic, thematic, and material approaches to book history and publishing studies. These reviews can be requested (i.e. we reach out to potential reviewers of all career stages and approaches) or recommended to the SHARP News team. SHARP News especially encourages submissions from graduate students, early career researchers, book trade professionals, and independent scholars, as well as those who identify as BIPOC, LGBTQ, women, and other minorities. If you are interested in a particular review, or have a specific e-resource you’d like to bring to our attention, please see our contact information.
- SHARP News encourages reviewers to be fair and nuanced in their reviews and expects all reviewers to be respectful to the creators of the work they review. All reviews will be carefully read and edited by review editors, and discussed with the reviewer. Because SHARP News seeks to facilitate a diverse, inclusive, equitable, and accessible online space, its editors reserve the right to withhold from publication any review with discriminatory content in regards to sex, gender, age, race, origin, or religion, or that the editors deem offensive or uncollegial.

Scope
“E-Resources” includes web-hosted, open-access, multimedia items of cultural heritage or expression arranged for the purpose of applied research, teaching, and learning. Included in this category are project websites, or the public face of the ongoing research of an individual, group, or organization. Cultural heritage websites that showcase collections for appreciation should refer to the Guide to SHARP News Exhibits Reviews document.

E-Resource Reviews Should Consider

Creators
- Who are the creators of this e-resource?
- Does this resource note any grant funding or support?

Use
- What are the stated uses of this e-resource? What kinds of researchers would find this e-resource useful?
- How do viewers locate data or items of interest? Is there a search interface? How are items indexed? Does the metadata for each item use a standard schema?
- Is this e-resource connected with other, similar resources (such as 18thConnect/Collex family: https://18thconnect.org/about/what-is-18thconnect/#community)?

Contribution
- What is the unique contribution of this e-resource?

Reuse/Repurpose
- Is there a clear statement of how materials may be reused and repurposed by subsequent users?
- How can users interact with the materials?
- What are the output/download options? Can images of pages be downloaded, data downloaded, etc?

Audience
- What is the intended audience for this e-resource?
- To whom will this e-resource be of interest?
● How often is this e-resource updated? Is there clear contact information or social media presence for corresponding with its creators?

**Attribution**
● Are the items’ descriptions detailed and correct?
● How does the e-resource credit the labor of its creators, including those involved with its design, research, writing, digitization, and ongoing maintenance?

**Accessibility**
● Is there alternative text to describe images? Does it sufficiently describe the image being depicted? If there are videos, do they include captions?
● Is the e-resource ADA Compliant? (you can generate a compliance report using [https://wave.webaim.org](https://wave.webaim.org))

**Potential**
● How could this e-resource be improved with additional funding/resources?

**The Process**
● **Format:** We ask that reviews are between 500 and 1,000 words for exhibits; they may be submitted as .docx, .doc, .rtf, .txt, or .odt files.
● The review should contain the full title/citation in Chicago format at the top of the page, followed by the author’s name. An image of relevant content from the e-resource will accompany the review. Please note that SHARP News does not publish anonymous reviews. Please also note that all SHARP News content is published under a creative commons license (CC BY-NC-SA).
● **Keywords:** When submitting your review, we’d appreciate it if you could provide two to three keywords or terms that we can tag your review with on the SHARP News website. Please see the list of tags we currently use. If there are terms not listed there that you think best describe the review, please let us know!
● **Timeline:** We fully understand how many demands are on everyone’s time, and are extremely grateful to reviewers for their tremendous contributions to SHARP News, SHARP, and the wider book history and publishing studies communities. We appreciate that this is a service, and that these things take time. Our requested turnaround is three months so that we keep up with our publishing schedule, but should you require more time, please keep in touch!
● **Social media:** A big part of the new direction of SHARP News involves social media outreach and engagement. When you accept or suggest a review, please let us know your comfort level with social and digital media promotion, i.e., if you would like us to mention your twitter handle or not, and/or any other accommodations. You can follow us @sharporgnews alongside the other SHARP channels, and also look for updates via the SHARP-L list-serv. Please feel free to also reach out to Leah Hendrickson at communication@sharpweb.org for social media related queries.
● **Submission:** please submit your review, along with contact information, to reviews@sharpweb.org

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