

October NMRT Discussion Summary for

No Money Down! : Open Source and Free Software for Your Users

Note: This discussion included the differences between open source, freeware, and free software. Some resources about these:

- Free Software Foundation <http://www.gnu.org/philosophy/free-sw.html>
- Open Source Initiative: <http://opensource.org>

- Open Office Suite : <https://www.openoffice.org>
 - Lagging in development so great alternative is Libre Office (see below)
 - Think of it as Microsoft Office Suite for \$0!
 - Available for Mac and Windows OS
 - Import, edit, and export formats like doc, docx, ppt, xlsx, csv, and more!
- Audacity: <http://web.audacityteam.org>
 - Edit and record audio files with ease
 - Available for Mac and Windows OS
 - Exports to mp3, wav, flac, and more!
- VLC Player: <http://www.videolan.org/vlc/index.html>
 - Plays all sort of media files (even the oldies)
 - Available for Mac and Windows OS
 - Can do some media conversion but limited success
- Piktochart: <http://piktochart.com>
 - Tool to make infographics (maybe about your organization!) with no experience required
 - Requires free account signup
 - Exports to png and jpg formats
- Wordle: <http://www.wordle.net>
 - Make a word cloud for adverts, presentations, etc.
 - Save as png or export for printing
- Tagxedo: <http://www.tagxedo.com/>
 - Word cloud generator
 - Example: <http://library.fontbonne.edu/polisci>
- Picmonkey: <http://www.picmonkey.com/>
 - General image editing in browser
- **Open Science Framework (OSF)** <https://osf.io/getting-started/#structure> There's a OSF101 Webinar recording Google Hangout
<https://plus.google.com/u/1/b/104751442909573665859/events/c1hn89ind3drhkamvg5u7nq01fo>
 - Keep all your files, data, and protocols in one centralized location.
 - Control which parts are public or private

- OSF Add-ons to integrate with Dropbox, Google Drive, Mendeley, GitHub, Amazon Simple Storage Service (Amazon S3), figshare, Box, and others
- I would actually recommend shifting away from OpenOffice. As I understand it, development has stagnated recently due to a number of factors. I prefer LibreOffice, a different fork of OpenOffice.org. It has a much more robust and lively update schedule, so I feel more comfortable using it. There's also NeoOffice, for OSX, but since I haven't used an Apple product in 20 years, I can't really comment on it.
- I can also second the VLC recommendation. I refer to it as the "Swiss Army knife of media players", due to its ability to play just about any kind of file out of the box. For more regular use, I also have Media Player Classic - Home Cinema.
- For my meager budget and finances, I use GnuCash. It's probably a bit overpowered for what I need, but it seems to have a robust selection of tools for small businesses, and I bet it could be used similarly for smaller libraries as well.
- GNU Image Manipulation Program, or GIMP, is the *de facto* open-source Photoshop analogue. It's got a bit of a steeper learning curve, but it's quite a powerful piece of software, and it's got plenty of support from its user community.
- If you want to try your hand at vector art, I would recommend Inkscape. It definitely has a different feel from more traditional digital art techniques, which does take some getting used to. But I got into it because vector art is much easier to make with just a mouse — no tablet and pen required — which made it less intimidating to me, oddly enough. Again, there are plenty of tutorials floating around the Internet if you look around a bit.
- Jing: <https://www.techsmith.com/jing.html>
- Snagit: <https://www.techsmith.com/snagit.html>
- Screencast-O-Matic: <http://www.screencast-o-matic.com>
- Vimeo for tablets and phones: <https://vimeo.com>
- Timeline JS: <https://timeline.knightlab.com/>
- Omeka.net: <http://www.omeka.net/>
- iPiccy: <http://ipiccy.com/>
- Lunapic: <http://www122.lunapic.com/editor/>
- Evernote: <https://evernote.com/>
- SlideBean: <https://slidebean.com/>
- Text2MindMap: <https://www.text2mindmap.com/>
- And I'm currently playing around with Odyssey.js to see if that's useful for teaching and learning or course projects on our campus: <https://cartodb.github.io/odyssey.js/>
- Website with 50 different technology tools broken up by librarian "hat" or duty. Most of the tools reviewed are free. Please take a look at findyourhat.com and let us know if you have any suggestions of tools to add. Some of those already discussed are highlighted on our website.
- Interactive tutorials guide: : <http://researchguides.csuohio.edu/interactivetutorials>
 - Featured tools include:
 - Hapyak: <http://corp.hapyak.com/>

- Guide on the Side: <http://code.library.arizona.edu/gots>
- Vialogues: <https://vialogues.com/>
- Office Mix: <https://mix.office.com/>
- Zaption: <https://www.zaption.com/>
- TED-ed: <http://ed.ted.com/>
- Iorad: <https://www.iorad.com/server/>
- eduCanon: <https://www.educanon.com/>
- Edpuzzle: <https://edpuzzle.com/>
- Kahoot!: <https://getkahoot.com/>
- Blubbr: <https://www.blubbr.tv/>
- Bibme, citation maker: <http://www.bibme.org>
- Son of Citation Machine: <http://www.citationmachine.net>
- Opera internet browser: <http://www.opera.com>
- FOG server for mass updates and installs: <https://www.fogproject.org>