Agenda

1. Overview of Palace Project (Micah May, DPLA)
2. Overview of Palace Marketplace (Micah May, DPLA)
3. Palace in Practice & Research on Models (Carmi Parker, WCLS)
4. State library perspective (Mike Buschman, WSL)
1. Overview of Palace (Micah May, DPLA)
The Palace Project is a division of LYRASIS and strategic partner of DPLA, made possible by an investment from Knight Foundation.
Vision

We are committed to building a digital future for and with libraries.

- We support maximizing access to all e-content, increasing literacy and reducing the equity gap.
Our Goals

- Available to any and all U.S. libraries
- Access to all your digital content through a single platform and app
- Broad and diverse collection of ebooks and audio, with multiple lending models
- Community driven, community owned
What is the Palace Project?

- Palace app
- Palace Manager
- Palace Marketplace
- Palace Bookshelf

The Palace project team provides hosting, tech support, training and promotion.
There are three components of the Palace Platform:

**Backend**
Marketplace and host for e-content

**Middleware**
Management portal for library staff

**Frontend**
Mobile apps and web pages on which patrons find and read content
BACKEND + MIDDLEWARE + FRONTEND

Back End

Middleware

Front end

Palace Manager

Palace Marketplace

Other source

Other source

Palace App

Catalog

Library

OPAC
Why the Palace Project?

- All major ebooks and audio in single app
- All analytics through one portal
- Integrated with the Statewide collection of over 10k titles
- Be part of a larger community of librarians

The Palace project team provides hosting, tech support, training and promotion
The Palace Project statewide implementations

- California
  www.library.ca.gov/services/to-libraries/ebooks-for-all
- Connecticut
- Maryland (consortia)
- Montana
- New Jersey
- Vermont
- Washington
2. Overview of Palace Marketplace (Micah May, DPLA)

Live browser demo
3. Palace in Practice & Research on Models
(Carmi Parker, Whatcom County Library System and Washington Digital Library Consortium)
Challenges I see with digital books

- Publishers can refuse to license to libraries
  - No E.B. White, no Andy Weir eAudio (yet)
- Prohibitively high prices on Big Five metered access licenses
  - Poor taxpayer stewardship
  - Broad, diverse collection development is difficult
- Publisher pattern of increasing prices and decreasing access
  - Between 2011-2020, the average price of a Big Five eBook license tripled
  - In that time period, all five companies chose metered access licenses for eBooks and two (S&S and Hachette) also chose metered access for eAudio

Several states are pursuing legislation to address these challenges and Washington directors are watching carefully. If you are interested in following those legislative efforts, you can sign up for email updates on readersfirst.org or follow its Twitter feed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>eBook price</th>
<th>Print list price</th>
<th>Library print price</th>
<th>eBook markup over list</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Lincoln Highway</td>
<td>Amor Towles</td>
<td>Penguin Random House</td>
<td>$55.00</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>$21.90</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verity</td>
<td>Colleen Hoover</td>
<td>Hachette</td>
<td>$65.00</td>
<td>$16.99</td>
<td>$10.94</td>
<td>283%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloud Cuckoo Land</td>
<td>Anthony Doerr</td>
<td>Simon &amp; Schuster</td>
<td>$59.99</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>$21.90</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beautiful World, Where Are You</td>
<td>Sally Rooney</td>
<td>Macmillan</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
<td>$28.00</td>
<td>$20.44</td>
<td>114%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Lightning Thief (26 ckos)</td>
<td>Rick Riordan</td>
<td>Disney</td>
<td>$17.99</td>
<td>$7.99</td>
<td>$5.96</td>
<td>125%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Publisher</td>
<td>Publication date</td>
<td>2-year license cost</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pillars of the Earth</td>
<td>Ken Follett</td>
<td>Penguin Random House</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdays with Morrie</td>
<td>Mitch Albom</td>
<td>Penguin Random House</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>$55.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fahrenheit 451</td>
<td>Ray Bradbury</td>
<td>Simon &amp; Schuster</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td>$51.99</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

My library’s print copy of *Fahrenheit 451* was purchased 12 years ago and had a list price of $23.99. Enabling a digital copy for 12 years costs taxpayers $311.94, an effective markup of 1200%. 
So, we have to license the bestsellers and we have to re-license the classics. How much money does that leave us for making our digital collections as broad and diverse as our physical collections?

Pew Research found that 42% of adults surveyed in 2021 had read a digital book in the prior year. So, we can no longer treat digital collections like they serve only early adopters.

https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2022/01/06/three-in-ten-americans-now-read-e-books/
Why I am interested in Palace for my consortium

- It’s a non-profit
- It will have Amazon & Audible books offered on reasonably priced licenses
- They tell me the Palace app will be as user-friendly as Libby
- They are willing to work with libraries on specific requests like packages of diverse books
- It allows us to add content from a range of sources if we choose, or to use shared content such as the WSL collections
4. State library perspective (Mike Buschman, WSL)
Palace Project WA

- All libraries have access to the Palace project platform and app at no cost
- Over 10,000 titles, are being provided by the State
- Connects to your local content providers, ILS, and library card
- Dedicated support team for implementation, training, Patron awareness
How to get started

- Email us at support@thepalaceproject.org
- Join your WA library colleagues in the Palace Community hub
State Library Program Vision

• Make it easy for libraries in the state to test and try out Palace Project
• Use budget power to reward publishers with more liberal licensing terms
• Help small libraries have more power in the marketplace than they otherwise would have.
• Provide statewide ebook collections that libraries can add to their Palace Project implementations
• Facilitate communication between Palace Project member libraries as well as with LYRASIS account and development teams
• Part of a larger national strategic direction for libraries and ebooks
Washington State Library - Palace Project timeline

- October 2019 – Washington State Library (WSL) released RFP for SimplyE implementation and hosting.

- March 2020 – LYRASIS contracted as technology partner in March 2020.

- WSL (using LSTA funding) provides for the implementation and hosting of SimplyE for any library or library system in the state for 3 years (March 2020 – March 2023).

- 2020 – 7 libraries and systems implemented.

- 2021 – Knight Foundation grant to LYRASIS to take SimplyE to the next level
State Library Collection

- Over 10,000 titles
- Most available as simultaneous, multi-user licenses
- Amazon Publishing titles
- Available to all participating Palace Project libraries in Washington
Thank you for attending!

For more information:

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