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Women of the Founding Era: Crowdsourcing a Digital Edition

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Introduction

Women of the Founding Era: is the first born-digital edition of the leading women of the Founding Era, 1750-1820.

3,000 documents (letters, diaries, and writings) will be transcribed using crowdsourced labor.

Platform

The project archive will be built in Omeka which is a free, flexible, and open source web-publishing platform.

Omeka is widely adopted and has a growing user community, including:

THE ALBERT M. GREENFIELD DIGITAL CENTER FOR THE HISTORY OF WOMEN'S EDUCATION

The Civil War in Art
TEACHING & LEARNING THROUGH CHICAGO COLLECTIONS

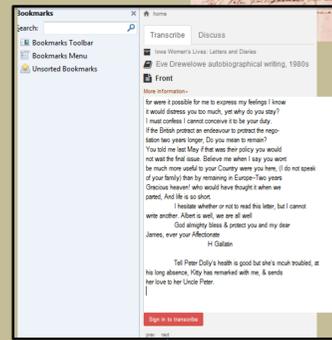Dear Bird: The 1934 Courtship Letters

This project will bring together the dispersed writings of each person in the cohort to form a single "virtual" collection highlighting connections between them.

TRANSCRIPTION PANE

Transcribers create an account and select documents for transcription using Scripto, an open source plug-in In Omeka

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Manuscript image
Hannah Gallatin to
Albert Gallatin, 1 Dec. 1814

WYSIWYG editor and
Transcription guidelines

ENGAGEMENT PANE

Transcribers will select the topic that best describes the subject of this document, These might include

- War of 1812
- Treaty of Ghent
- Albert Gallatin
- Letters between husband and wife

Who else is mentioned in this document?
Are there other letters from this person
not included in Women of the Founding Era?

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Each document will be vetted and reviewed by editors and resulting in an official version that will be locked to further changes but returned for use in the archive.

CORRESPONDENCE   EVENTS

GEOGRAPHICAL   PEOPLE

VISUALIZING THE NETWORKS

Future women to be included are Anne Willing Bingham, Angelica Schuyler Church, Sarah Bowdoin Dearborn, Esther DeBerdt Reed, and Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton
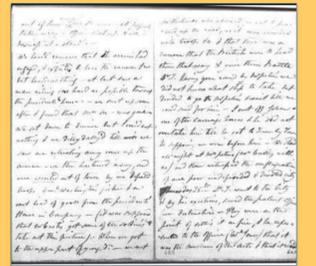
Project Outcomes:

Engage a new audience in women of the period and their writings

3,000 documents made available in the first two years—more to be added as the project expands

White Paper on crowdsourcing

Cost benefit analysis of using the crowd to create first pass transcriptions for a scholarly edition

Project Participants
Susan Perdue, Documents Compass
Sharon Leon, CCHNM
Cassandra Good, Editor,
Papers of James Monroe

vfh Virginia Foundation for the Humanities

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Documents COMPASS

scripto
Scripto is a free, open source tool for enabling community transcriptions of document and multimedia files.

omeka

Are you Interested in being part of *Women of the Founding Era*?

Go to
www.DocumentsCompass.org
and sign up!