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A substantial portion of our cultural heritage from the 20th century is recorded in enormous collections of spoken-word materials. Yet much of it may be lost or remain hidden away in archives and private collections, making the voices inaccessible to students, teachers, scholars, and the general public. The purpose of Historical Voices is to create a significant, fully searchable online database of spoken word collections spanning the 20th century - the first large-scale repository of its kind. Historical Voices will both provide storage for these digital holdings and display public galleries that cover a variety of interests and topics.

The primary goals of Historical Voices are to develop both a rich set of exhibits and educational curricula that fully incorporate sound files. To accomplish these goals, Historical Voices will

- Determine Best Practices in Digital Sound Digitization;
- Develop a Digital Archive Structure for Multimedia Materials;
- Work with Key Institutions to develop a Robust Metadata Format;
- Research Aural Perception to Maximize Student Comprehension;
- Develop Tools to Create and Deliver Multimedia Presentations (linked sound and transcripts);

## Featured Galleries

### The Flint Sit-Down Strike

<http://www.historicalvoices.org/flint>

The Flint Sit-Down Strike website is a multimedia rich resource devoted to several purposes:

1. To provide an introduction to the sit-down strike for those students or members of the general public who are unaware of the history of this momentous event in American history.
2. To provide an immediacy and personal touch to this historical knowledge through the use of digitized audio files, which contain the actual voices of former sit-downers reminiscing about their experiences.
3. To make a site that was usable on several levels of interactivity, with information and sound files accessible through several different galleries, a Flash-generated map, a timeline, and various search functions.
4. To preserve the interviews done by



## New and Featured



**Studs Terkel:  
Conversations with  
America**  
[www.studsterkel.org](http://www.studsterkel.org)

A collection of interviews conducted by Studs Terkel for his books and for his radio program, this gallery showcases the remarkable depth and diversity of Studs Terkel's talents and provides an excellent model for those interested in the methodology underlying oral history.

## Coming Soon

- Develop Alternative Delivery Web Interfaces to Facilitate Diverse Users and Needs;
- Build Federated Archives and Trans-Institutional Resources.

Designed as an expansive repository of aural resources, Historical Voices will grow to include many more collections from partnering institutions around the country.

Leighton et al. in a form that was relatively permanent and easily accessible.

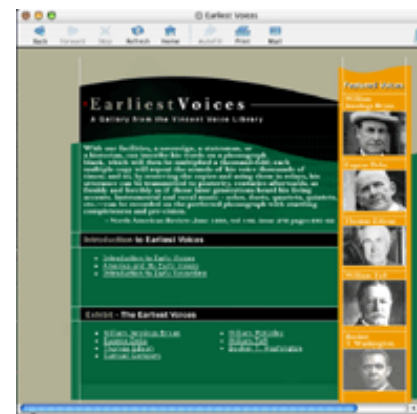
### The OYEZ Project <http://www.oyez.org>

The OYEZ Project is a vast multimedia relational database on the U.S. Supreme Court, contains abstracts for all leading constitutional decisions of the Court, authoritative oral arguments in streamed media format, a virtual reality tour of the Supreme Court building . . .



### Earliest Voices: A Gallery from the Vincent Voice Library [http://www.historicalvoices.org/earliest\\_voices](http://www.historicalvoices.org/earliest_voices)

Earliest Voices: A Gallery of the Vincent Voice Library, is a multimedia site presenting some of the most significant voices captured during the first fifty years of sound recording, 1877-1927. . .

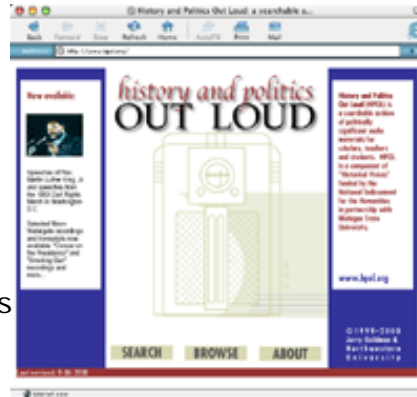


### American Voices

The recorded voices of prominent Americans from every area of culture: politics, science, business, and the arts - spanning the entire sound recording era. This site will be useful for bringing the immediacy of the spoken voice to any course on American culture and history.

**History and Politics Out Loud**  
<http://www.hpol.org>

History and Politics Out Loud is a diverse collection of audio -- speeches and private communications -- relating to U.S. history and politics.



**The African Digital Library**  
<http://www.aodl.org>

Matrix and research teams at the Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire (IFAN) and the West African Research Center (WARC), both in Dakar, Senegal, are working together to develop a multi-media digital library of West African sources in multiple languages.



## Michigan Writers Network <http://www.michigan-writers.org>

The Michigan Writers Network is an online interactive community where all Michigan writers can share ideas, discuss their craft, and learn about the interests and current work of fellow authors. Whether writing by profession or for pleasure, this site encourages all people interested in the craft of writing to join one or more of their listserv discussions.



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