

Remix Culture: Biographies & Abstracts

Group: Alan Chorney, Megan Clark, Chantal de Medeiros, Danielle Hubbard, Emily LeGrand, and Sarah Nicholson

Biographies:

Megan:

Megan Clark is nearly a librarian, a nostalgic Albertan, and an excitable proponent of alternative copyright models. She likes zines, creative Djs, and bicycles. She loves radio, gardening, and knitted socks. Mash-up videos often give her a headache but she supports them in theory.

Alan:

Alan Chorney is a remix of the genes of his mother and father. He hails from Winnipeg, Manitoba and believes that if he can live there, he can live anywhere. Always looking to consume a good story, he doesn't care about the form, whether it be book, movie, videogame or cake.

Danielle:

More than anything else in the world, Lee Danielle Hubbard loves to create; stories, paintings, and good, old-fashioned rambles down Imagination Lane all thrill her eccentric soul. Born in Victoria, BC, Danielle's other interests include biking to places she's never been before, and reading in the bath. She also likes libraries.

Emily:

Emily is excited about any opportunity for people to self-organize and learn from each other, like makerspaces for example! She thinks schools should become more like libraries, where people can go to be supported in learning what they are curious about, and hopes to start such a school for teens someday. Some of Emily's favorite things include exploratory bike riding, botanizing, chocolate anything, and browsing the science non-fiction sections of libraries.

Sarah:

Sarah Nicholson is a lover of accessible information, a proponent of internet literacy training, and a friend of all those who use ketchup with turkey dinners (the ultimate remix, according to some). Hailing from the majestic island paradise that is Cape Breton, her favourite things to do are nap on her back deck with a book, watch episodes of 48 Hours Mystery, and sing in the car until her voice becomes hoarse. She frequently listens to "SwiftStep" remixes, which is as embarrassing a hobby as it sounds.

Chantal:

Chantal's alter ego is stealthily running around as a vampire and zombie hunter. Okay, not really, but she enjoys dabbling in special effects make-up and learning the art of making vampires, zombies, and all things scary. Close enough. She also enjoys swing dancing with the

Dalhousie Swing Dance Society. Hey, wouldn't that be something: a swing dancing vampire or zombie! Hmmm...prepping for next Halloween's costume....

Abstracts:

Crash Course: What is Remix Culture?

Remix culture refers to the practice of taking one or more pre-existing artistic works and combining or re-inventing the material into something new. Artistic works could be music, movies, books, or visual art. In today's increasingly digital world, creating remixes and mashups is becoming more and more popular, especially in teen culture.

Creative Commons: the Big CC

Current copyright laws are increasingly at odds with the ways in which technology is changing how we interact with cultural works. The new Creative Commons licenses are a means around some of these issues. Creative Commons licenses work in conjunction with standard copyright, and are fundamentally important to the legal advancement of remix culture.

Remix Culture in the Land of the Canucks

This article introduces and profiles several Canadians who are involved in the public discussion about the role of copyright in the modern era of the internet and the collaborative creation of art. Daniel Gervais is a law professor who specializes in the changing copyright needs of authors and other creators. Cory Doctorow is a YA novelist who has published all of his novels under Creative Commons.

Interview with Cory Doctorow

Cory Doctorow is a popular and acclaimed YA novelist, as well as a passionate advocate of Creative Commons licensing. In this interview, Doctorow shares with us his thoughts on copyright, open access, and remix culture as it pertains to teens and libraries.

Makerspaces: The Future of Public Libraries?

Makerspaces are places where people can come together, learn from each other, build and create new things (as well as fixing old things), and ultimately shift role from consumer to producer. Makerspaces are on the rise all over Canada and North America. Public libraries are getting on board with makerspaces, as libraries shift from a focus on books to a focus on providing access to participating in culture. Makerspaces have much to offer teens in the way of community, empowerment, learning, and fun.

Zines!

Zines are self-published creations (like little magazines) made for the purpose of sharing ideas, rather than making a profit. By creating and / or collecting zines, libraries can increase the diversity of their collections and strengthen community relationships.

Teen Mashup Night: Poetry, Pizza, and Phun!

This teen library program provides teens with a fun and safe Friday night activity. Teens will have the option to try making poetry, short stories, maps, or collage mashups. They will then have the opportunity to present their work at the end of the evening in an open-mic format. Juice and home-made pizza will also be provided to encourage healthy eating.

Some Useful Resources for Librarians

In this section, we offer a list of ten useful resources for librarians, all relevant to teens and remix culture. Most of the sources are websites, and each link is accompanied by a brief description.

Interview with Steven Sanders

Steven Sanders is the creator of *Symbiosis*, a steampunk world that he has designed and illustrated specifically for people to interact with and use as a jumping-off point for creating their own stories and art. In this interview, Sanders shares with us his views of Creative Commons licensing and collaborate art production.

Reviews

This section offers reviews of books, movies, music, and even a mobile app that pertain to remix culture. The books reviewed, such as *Splintered*, by A.G. Howard, are mashups themselves. Most of the movies are documentaries about remix culture and copyright.