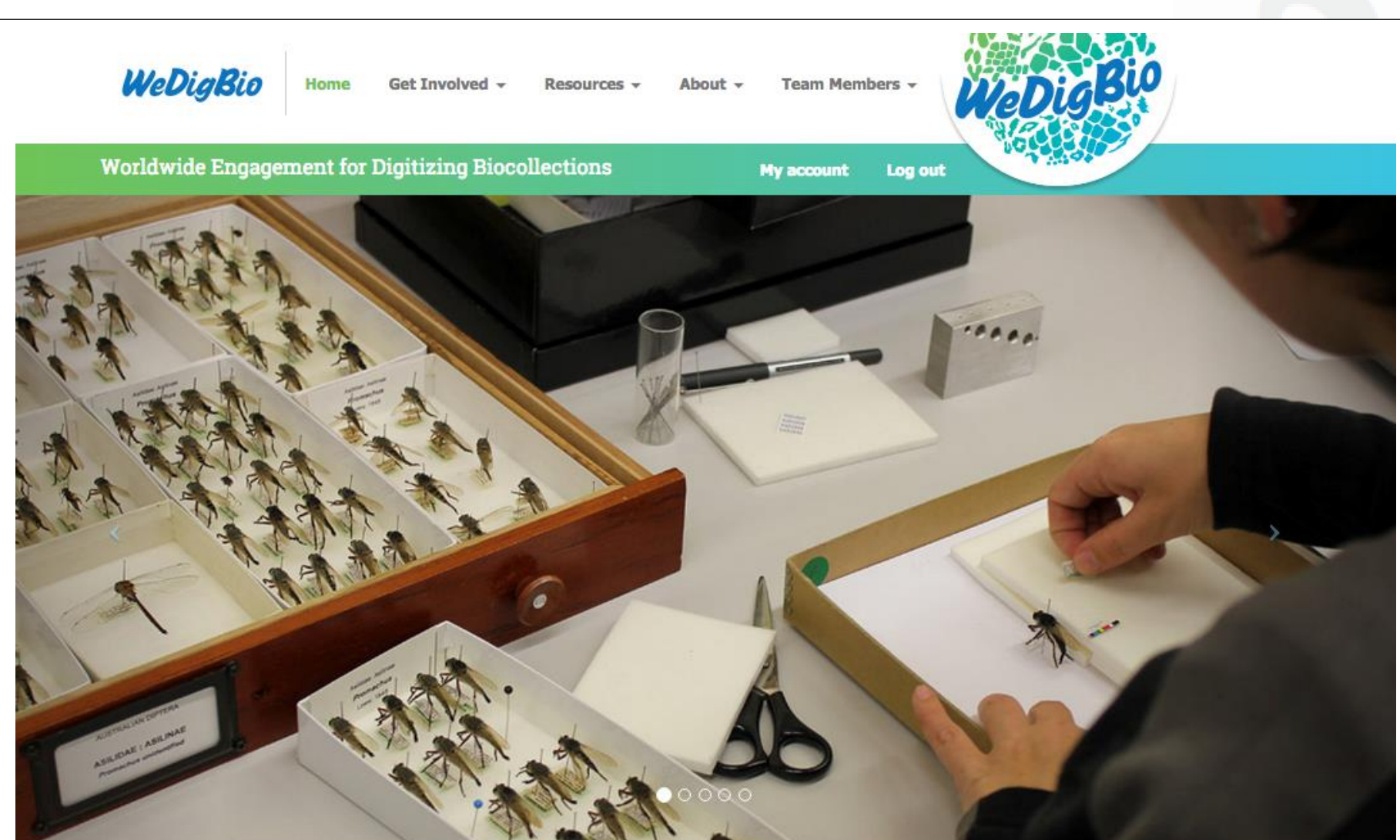




# Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections

## WeDigBio 2016

### A call for the *Flora Malesiana* community to participate!



#### Start Transcribing Now

WeDigBio, Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections, is a four-day global event, from October 22-25, 2015, that will engage participants in transcribing biodiversity research collections. We need your help in this massive digitization project! Join WeDigBio and scientists around the world to transform biodiversity collections data into a worldwide resource that will enhance the span of biodiversity research across time, taxon, and geography. If you'd like to get involved go to our [Find a Project](#) page and select the transcription center of your choice and enjoy making a difference in this global effort.

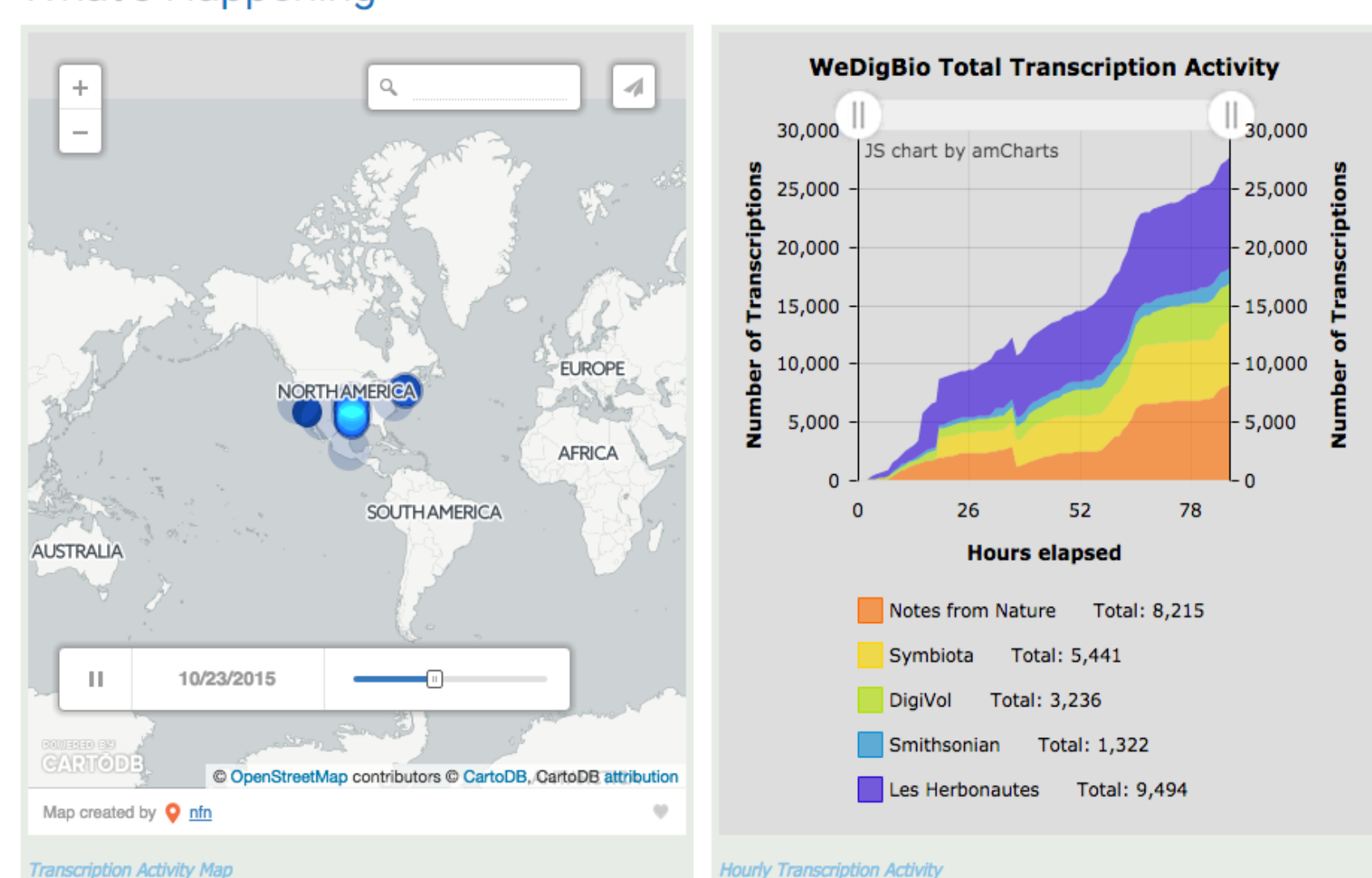
Check back often as we update this page with relevant details and updates from participating transcription centers such as the Smithsonian Institution, Notes from Nature, Les Herbonautes, Symbiota, and DigiVol.

#### Related Links

- Onsite participant event survey
- Event images

Follow the WeDigBio event's progress on the dynamic map and chart below.

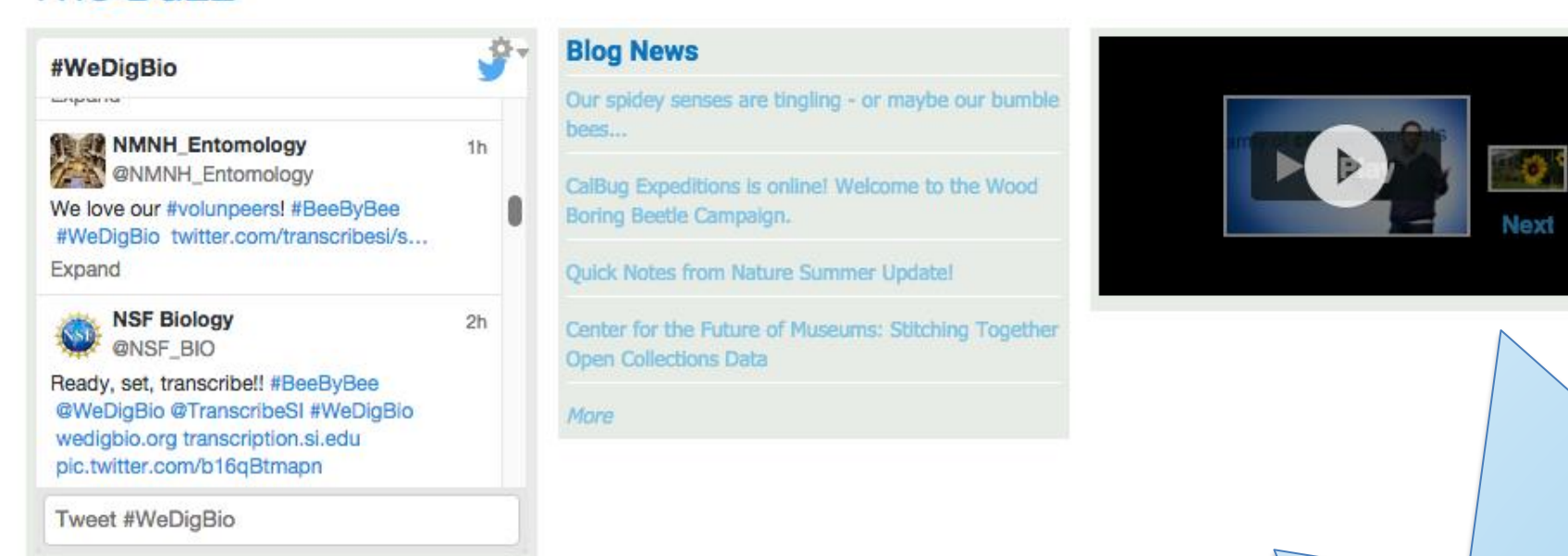
#### What's Happening



#### Get Involved

National Museum of Natural History's Bio Blitz	Saturday, October 24, 2015 - 01:00, Sunday, October 25, 2015 - 01:00 Smithsonian Institution's Transcription Center onsite transcription event at the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. National Museum of Natural History Washington, District of Columbia United States	
The Field Museum: Unlocking Biological Collections	Thursday, October 22, 2015 - 08:30 to Sunday, October 25, 2015 - 16:30 Please register here for this event: <a href="http://goo.gl/forms/2nvE5se4Co">http://goo.gl/forms/2nvE5se4Co</a> The Field Museum Chicago, Illinois United States	
University of South Florida online blitz: DigiVol Online	Thursday, October 22, 2015 - 00:00 to Sunday, October 25, 2015 - 23:00 As one of the participating transcription centers, DigiVol will be holding an online blitz for the duration of the WeDigBio 4 day global event. <a href="#">DigiVol.org</a>	

#### The Buzz



The *WeDigBio.org* homepage and dashboard.



Locations on a map on *WeDigBio.org* light up as transcriptions come in from around the world. In 2016, let's see the Malesian region light up with activity!



Tattoos and stickers for participants.

**Sign up!**  
Be a part of  
**WeDigBio 2016!**  
October 20-23, 2016  
**WeDigBio.org**

During the inaugural Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections (WeDigBio) event in October 2015, participants transcribed labels of biodiversity research specimens using the online transcription platforms at DigiVol, Les Herbonautes, Notes from Nature, Smithsonian Institution's Transcription Center, and Symbiota. Hundreds of volunteers at more than 20 onsite events at museums and universities and thousands of volunteers in over 100 countries completed over 50,000 transcription tasks (more than twice our goal of 25,000!).

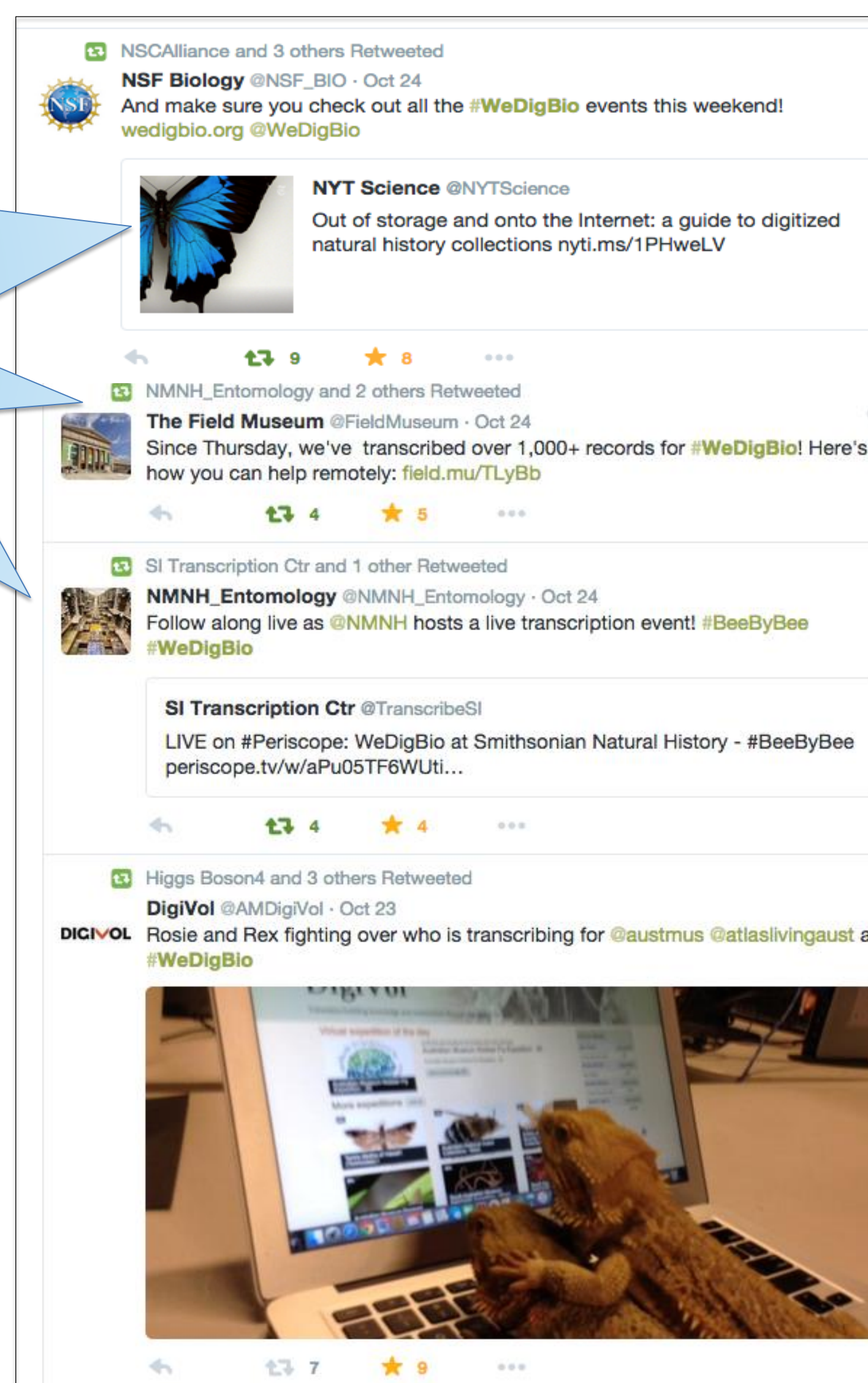
**Become a participant or engage citizen scientists in transcribing biological specimen data as a part of WeDigBio 2016!**

We are building upon the success of WeDigBio 2015 by improving the resources created last year to help make the 2016 event even more engaging, productive, and successful, and we encourage members of the *Flora Malesiana* community to take part.

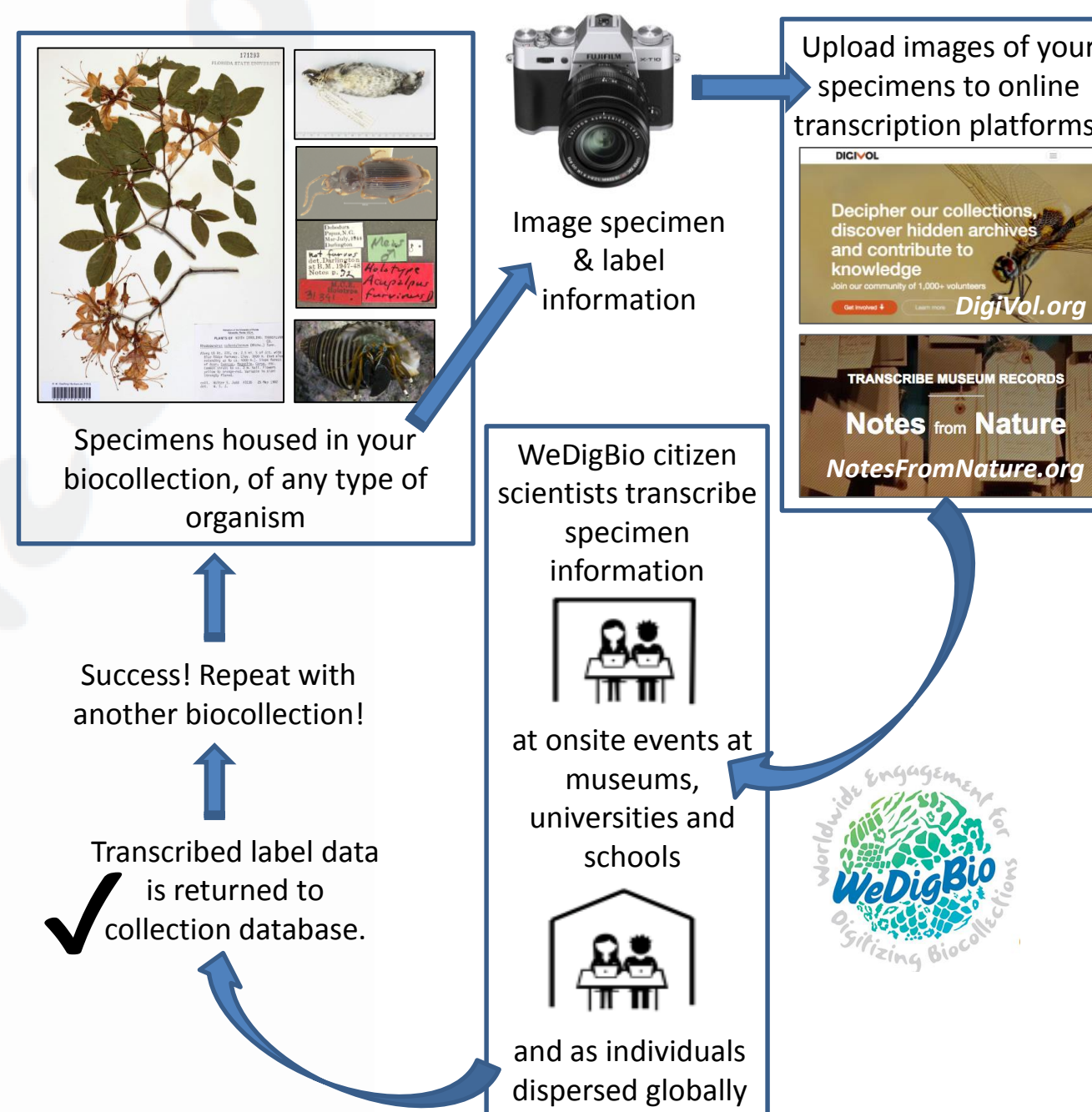
- Resources for event hosts such as games, planning documents, and checklists to help them prepare for the event are being updated and we are designing new materials such as undergraduate lesson plans.
- Social media for WeDigBio have maintained a buzz about the event throughout the year. This year, we are expanding our outreach to include 24-hour social media coverage and posts in numerous languages.
- Protocols by which transcription platforms could communicate data about transcription activity to the event dashboard at *WeDigBio.org* are being expanded to include additional transcription platforms.
- Improvements are continually being made to the transcription platforms to accommodate new, innovative transcription projects of all taxa, from all over the world – how about your collection?

**WeDigBio 2016 is a way to increase the visibility of your biological collection, engage with local citizen scientists, and expedite digitization, all while being a part of a well-publicized global event.**

To learn more, or find updates, visit **WeDigBio.org**, on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter @WeDigBio



Social media allows participants to share updates and photos.



Blog posts promote the event.



Onsite events, like this one at the Natural History Museum of LA County, are a great way to promote natural history collections.



Organizers for WeDigBio2016: Libby Ellwood (Florida State University), Paul Kimberly (Smithsonian Institution), Austin Mast (Florida State University), Rob Guralnick (University of Florida), Paul Flemons (Australian Museum), Kevin Love (iDigBio), Michael Denslow (SERNEC), Betty Dunkel (Florida Museum of Natural History), Shari Ellis (Florida Museum of Natural History), Meghan Ferriter (Smithsonian Institution), Rafe LaFrance (University of Florida), Deb Paul (iDigBio), and Rhannon Stephens (Australian Museum).

The success of the event would not have been possible without the participation of volunteers around the world and onsite event hosts: Jason Best (Botanical Research Institute of Texas), Robert Costello (Smithsonian Institution), Heather Dungey (Hancock County Library, Mississippi), Alan Franck (University of South Florida), Chris Goforth (North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences), Quentin Groom (Botanic Garden Meise, Belgium), Erica Kimmel (Chicago Academy of Sciences Blitz), Tom Nash (University of Wisconsin), Marl Roberts (New York Botanical Garden), Jamie Minnaert-Grote (Illinois Natural History Survey), Peter Obayshi (UC Berkeley), Pam Solits and Doug Solits (University of Florida), Patrick Sweeney (Yale University Herbarium), Matt von Konrat (The Field Museum), Rachel Webster (Manchester Museum, UK), and Regina Welter & Dean Pentcheff (Natural History Museum of LA County).

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