

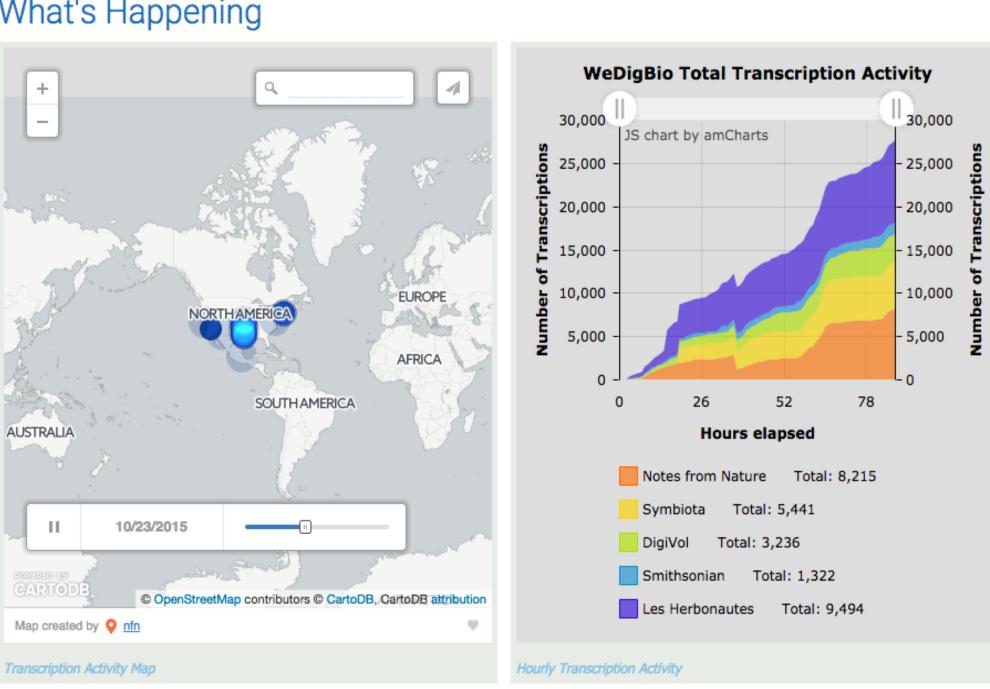
Check back often as we update this page with relevant details and updates from participating transcription centers such as the Smithsonian Institution, Notes from Nature, Les

#### Related Links

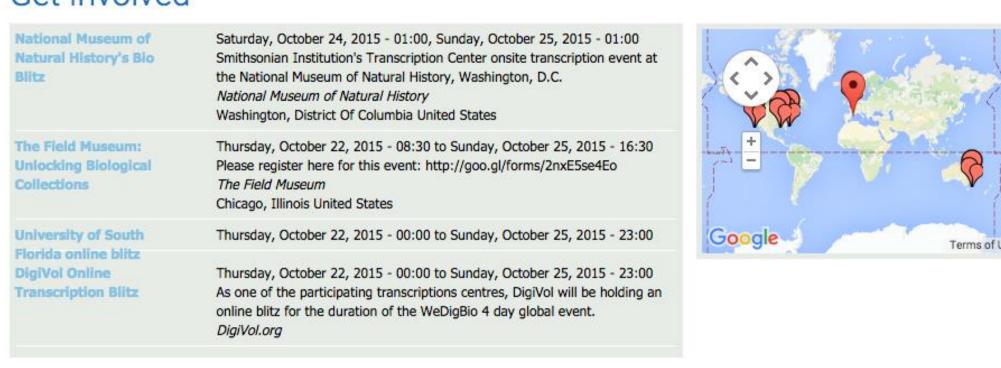
 Onsite participant event survey Event images

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

### What's Happening



## Get Involved

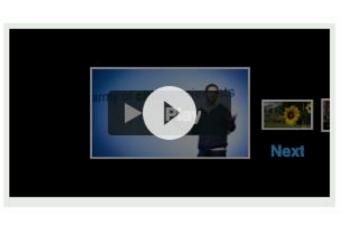


# The Buzz





Wedigbio.org, on the last day of the event.



# Worldwide Engagement For Digitizing Biocollections

The inaugural Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections (WeDigBio) event took place October 22-25, 2015. During these four days, participants transcribed labels of biodiversity research specimens using the online transcription platforms at DigiVol, Herbaria@Home, Les Herbonautes, Notes from Nature, Smithsonian Institution's Transcription Center, and Symbiota. Hundreds of volunteers at >20 onsite events at museums and universities and distributed individually throughout the world completed over 30,000 transcriptions (considerably more than our goal of 25,000!).

Extensive preparations made the event engaging, productive, and successful and built a firm foundation for future WeDigBio events. For example, we did the following:

- Created resources for event hosts such as games, planning documents, and checklists to help them prepare.
- Set up social media accounts for WeDigBio and maintained buzz on Twitter and Facebook immediately preceding and during the event.
- Established protocols by which transcription centers could communicate data about transcription activity to the event dashboard at WeDigBio.org.
- Made improvements to the transcription platforms to accommodate new, innovative transcription projects.

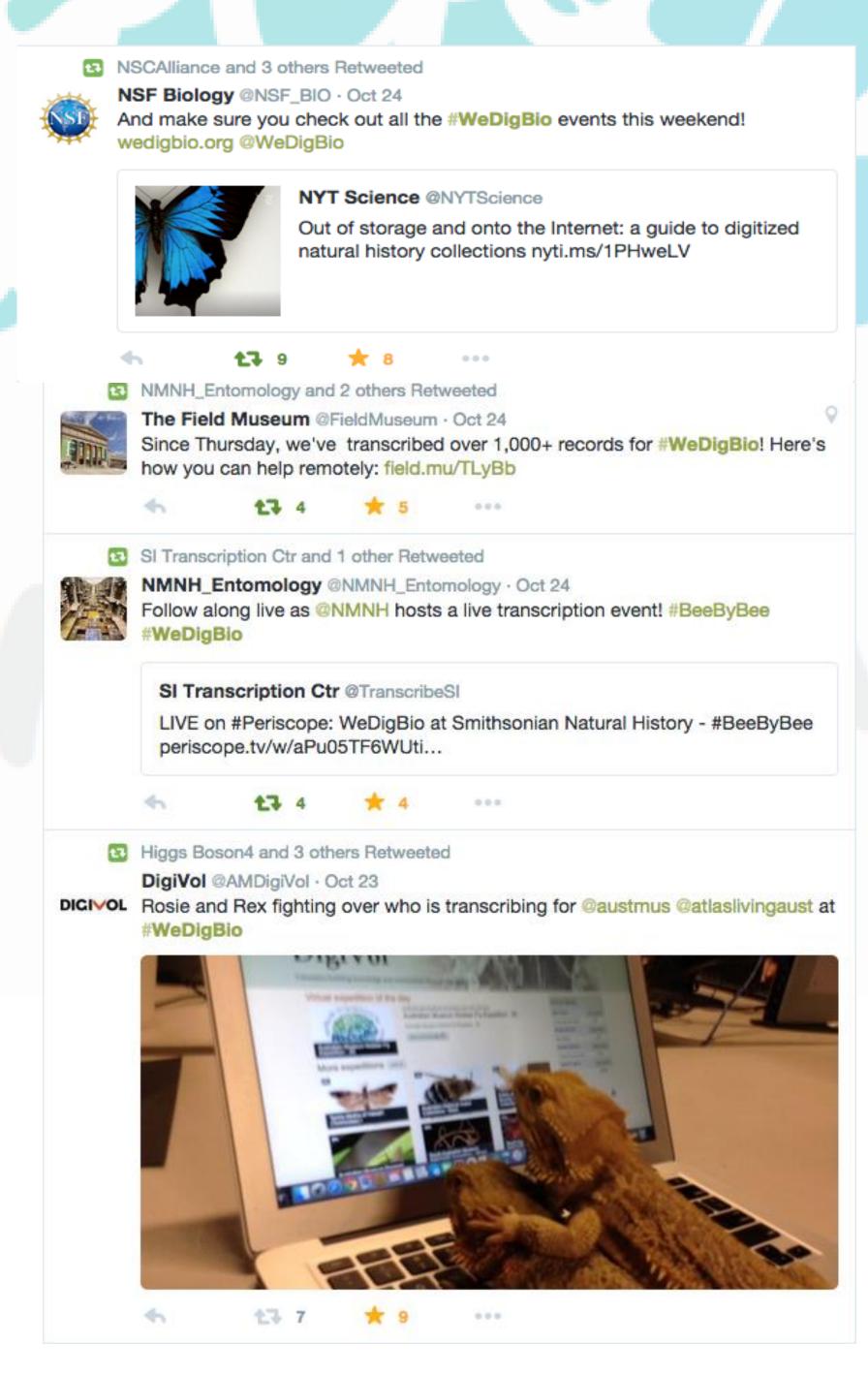
WeDigBio has become the major focus of iDigBio's Interoperability for Public Participation in Digitization and User Engagement for Public Participation in Digitization Working Groups. To learn more, visit wedigbio.org, like us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter. That's also where you'll find updates about WeDigBio 2016.



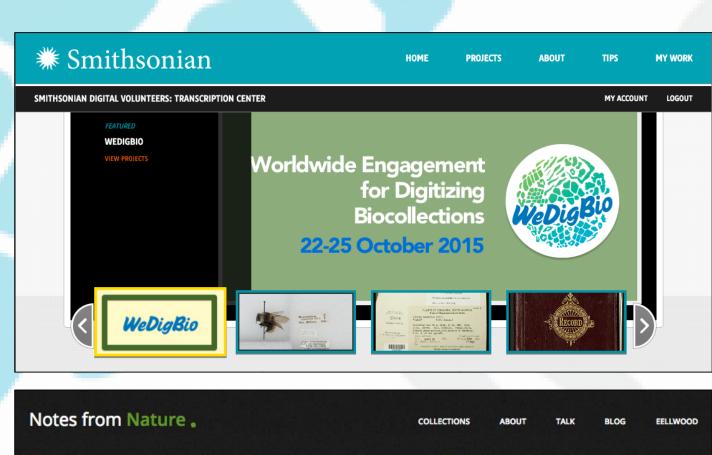
Onsite event at Natural History Museum of LA County.



Locations on a map on wedigbio.org lit up as transcriptions came in from around the world.



Social media allowed us to share updates and photos.



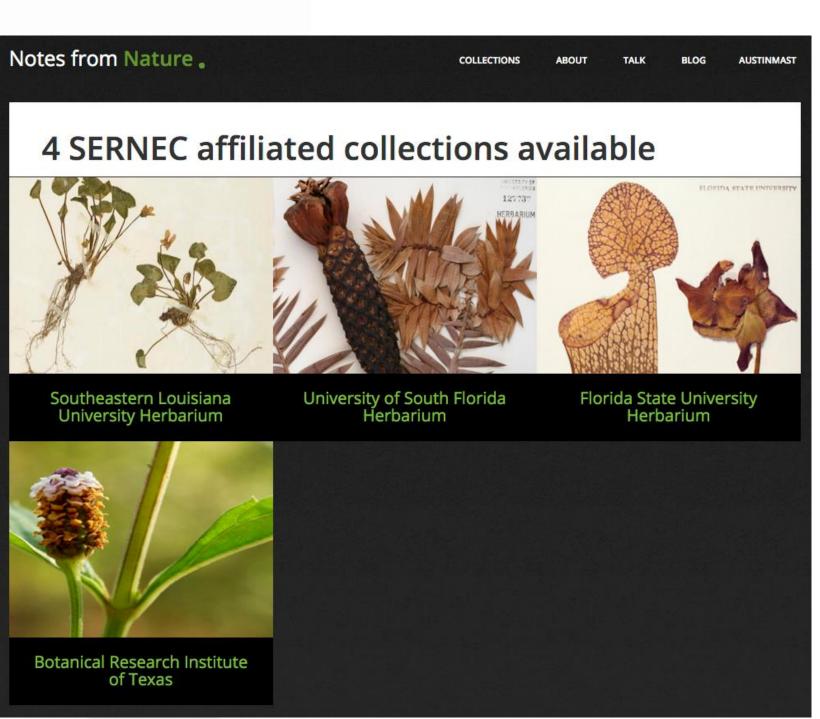


Transcription centers promoted the event on their homepages.

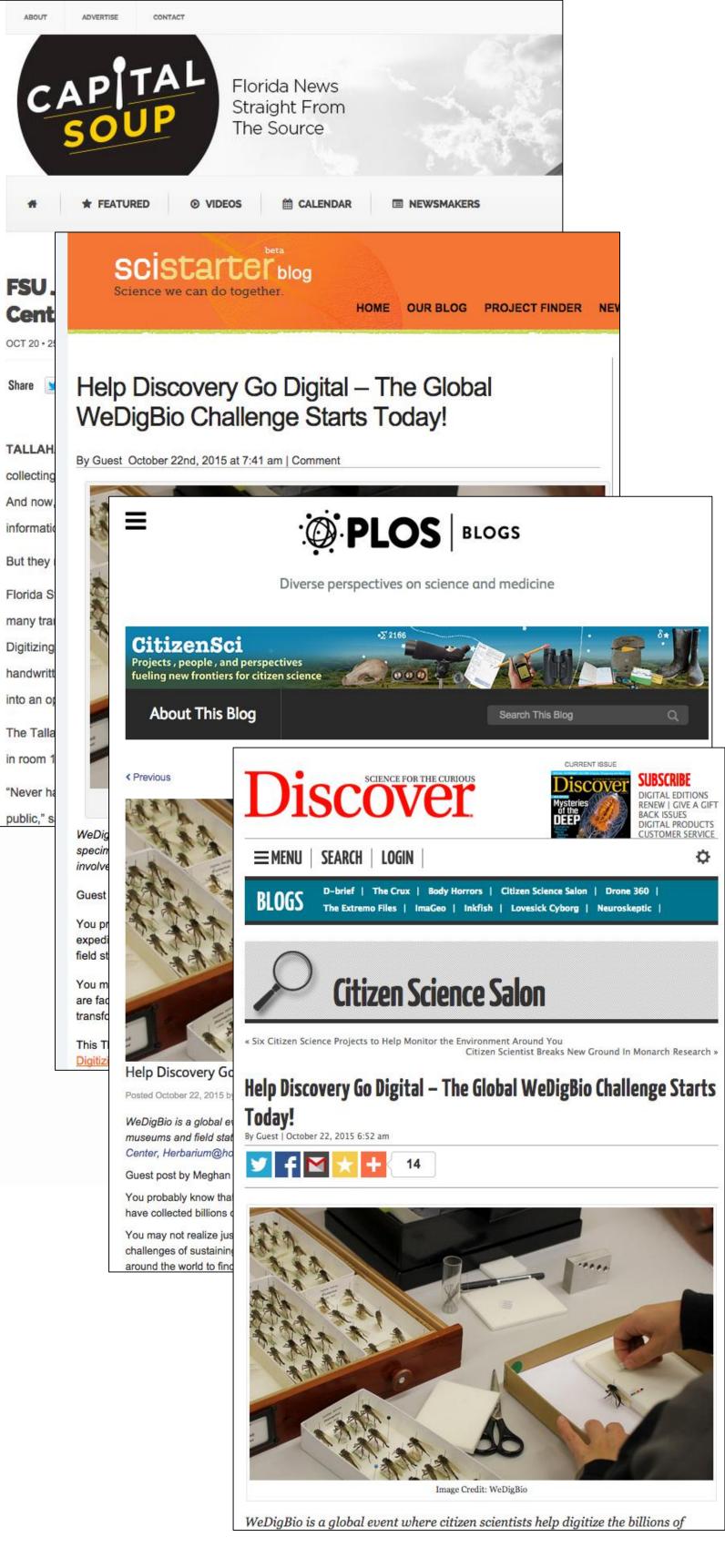


Participants received WeDigBio tattoos and stickers.





Thematic collections networks, including SERNEC, benefited from WeDigBio.



Blog posts promoting the event.







Organizers included 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 Dunckel (Florida Museum of Natural History), Shari Ellis (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 Rhiannon 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 Krimmel (Chicago Academy of Sciences Blitz), Tom Nash (University of Sciences) of Wisconsin), Mari Roberts (New York Botanical Garden), Jamie Minnaert-Grote (Illinois Natural History Survey), Peter Oboyski (UC Berkeley), Pam Soltis and Doug Soltis (University of Florida), Patrick Sweeney (Yale University Herbarium), Matt von Konrat (The Field Museum), Rachel Webster (Manchester Museum, UK), and Regina Wetzer and Dean Pentcheff (Natural History Museum of LA County).

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