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LibraryThing Teams With The Office of American Spaces

Portland, Maine, December 14, 2017. LibraryThing, the cataloging and social networking site for book lovers, is proud to announce a partnership with US Department of State's Office of American Spaces (OAS). The new partnership will provide LibraryThing's small-library solution, TinyCat, to American Spaces around the world.

With 660 locations in 141 countries, American Spaces are often hosted outside capital cities within libraries, universities, and non-governmental organizations. These Spaces promote American values and culture by providing free access to American publications as well as opportunities to meet Americans and learn about American life, arts, and policy. Local citizens also benefit from programs that offer training in entrepreneurial skills, STEAM, social media, English, and much more.

LibraryThing has long supported the Office of American Spaces' work. With free lifetime memberships to LibraryThing, hundreds of Spaces worldwide have been able to manage their own online libraries. But LibraryThing can be overwhelming as a public catalog. TinyCat offers a simple, contained experience for each OAS library, and adds library-catalog features like faceted searching and circulation.

"Smaller libraries like those run by American Spaces, especially those with limited funding, don't have many good options," said Tim Spalding, President of LibraryThing. "TinyCat will give American Spaces an online catalog every bit as good as a big library's, but at a fraction of the cost."

Chris Zammarelli, Applied Technology Contractor, expressed the value of the partnership between LibraryThing and OAS: "Our mission is to provide information about American policy and culture, and making that information findable is just as important as making it available. LibraryThing has helped us accomplish that goal...I remember talking to Tim a few years ago and I was delighted by his enthusiasm for our mission."

TinyCat libraries for American Spaces can be found by searching LibraryThing.com or by reaching out to individual Spaces. To learn more about TinyCat, visit librarycat.org.

About LibraryThing and TinyCat: LibraryThing is a leader in social networking for readers and in software for libraries. LibraryThing.com counts over 2.2 million members who have cataloged 119 million books. In addition to TinyCat, LibraryThing also offers libraries a suite of catalog enhancements through LibraryThing for Libraries. Learn more at LibraryThing.com and LibraryThing.com/forlibraries.

About American Spaces: The Office of American Spaces provides support to the network of American Spaces (660 throughout 141 countries): U.S. government-run American Centers; Binational Centers that provide English language training and programs about American culture; and American Corners at partner libraries, universities, and other institutions around the world. The American Spaces program is part of a long-standing effort to promote mutual understanding and to promote America's values and way of life.

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