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Creative Commons: A journey

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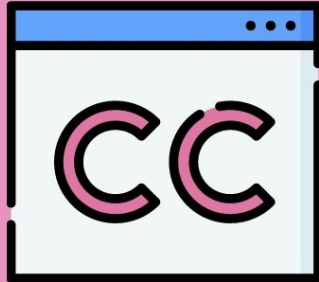
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Creative Commons



A Journey



Creative Commons was born out of the desire to use the internet as a tool to disseminate creative output

while opening up some of the harsh restrictions of traditional copyright



A catalyst in this creation came after the Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act (GTEA), 1998.



GTEA extended the copyright of works in the US from 50 to 70 years! That is an additional 20 years of locked up creativity...



Lawrence Lessig was not happy with this decision.

He represented Eric Eldred in the case Eldred v. Ashcroft. Lessig and Eldred came to the defense of open access to public domain materials. They ultimately lost the case.

But out of this loss came the spark to re-imagine copyright



Creative Commons was born through the effort of Lessig and many others.

It became many things!

A non-profit



A set of of free, public licenses



AND...

A movement!



A global community dedicated to make the world better through open sharing and collaboration

Today there are around 2 billion works that utilize these creative commons licenses and public domain tools



These tools are even integrated into user-generated content platforms, making it easy for creators to consider copyright at the publication source

The mission of CC is furthered each time a creator takes their rights into their own hands



And there are so many ways to get involved in that mission.



The CC Global Network is a place for folks globally who wish to strengthen the goal of Creative Commons and open access on an international scale.

A vital group supporting CC is Open GLAM!

The mission of GLAM institutions is to share their knowledge with the world. CC helps by giving a set of tools to achieve this goal more effectively.

Open GLAM is a network of cultural heritage stakeholders who work together to create an environment for GLAMs to...

share more works in the public domain,

make more cultural heritage works available online,

and to expand the cultural commons



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