



# WORLD LANGUAGE CATALOGING SERVICES PROGRAM

## ABOUT WORLD LANGUAGE CATALOGING SERVICES PROGRAM

- Statewide cataloging support program for Illinois library system members.
- Provides supplementary cataloging services to libraries when original cataloging or world language cataloging is needed.
- Ongoing service program.
- Service made possible by an Illinois State Library grant. There is no cost to libraries to use this program.
- Cover **all** languages that are considered part of the library's regular collection.
- Eligible formats of this service include most print and physical AV materials. Does not cover electronic resources, digital collections, or special collection materials.
- Libraries can submit physical items, photocopies, images, or PDF files of items to be cataloged.

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS SERVICE?

Illinois academic, public, school, and specialized libraries.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS (JANUARY 2022 – MARCH 2023):

- Multitype libraries participated in this service.
- 22 public libraries, 2 academic libraries, 2 school libraries, and 1 special library utilized this service.
- 364 original bibliographic records created.
- In April 2023 we received 178 items to catalog. We are working on this now.
- Cataloged items in 19 different world languages.

A few examples:

Ukrainian, Korean, Spanish, Urdu, Russian, Japanese, Gujarati, Chinese, Hindi, Lao, Malay, Bengali, Greek, Albanian, Polish, Tamil

- RAILS cataloging staff worked together with the CCS consortia cataloging staff to establish a cataloging profile that aligns with the local practices of CCS member libraries. This collaboration not only resulted in considerable time savings for the CCS catalogers but also ensured a consistent adherence to CCS local practices in our service for their libraries.
- In a fruitful collaboration with RAILS cataloging staff, the Northern Illinois University librarian worked together to create a cataloging profile that reflects the specific local practices of their library. As a result of this joint effort, the Northern Illinois University library has been able to use our service more efficiently and effectively.
- Our service has received positive feedback from members who have utilized it. The service has been instrumental in significantly reducing the backlog of titles. Moreover, the service has enabled some of our members to order titles in non-Latin scripts, a capability that has been critical in expanding library collections and making them more diverse and inclusive. By offering this capability, we have been able to make a wealth of diverse materials more accessible to our community.

A few direct quotes from our libraries:

“The RAILS World Language Cataloging Program has provided an invaluable service to NIU’s Center for Southeast Asia Studies by cataloging materials that are not widely held. We do not have the staff to catalog all of the languages we collect. Most recently, the RAILS World Language Cataloging Program began cataloging a backlog of materials in Lao. As a result, our Lao collection is available to support teaching and research around the globe.”

“The program was easy to use, and it was a huge help to receive full catalog records, especially for items we can’t read ourselves.”

“This program has been invaluable in clearing what had been an intractable backlog.”

“RAILS has been an instrumental partner in making sure we not only have an expansive collection of language materials on the shelves, but an expansive level of description for these materials as well. Our collections are more complete, more browsable, and much more accessible thanks to the service RAILS has provided us.”

## ADVANCING EDI (EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION) IN LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

The World Language Cataloging Services Program has helped Illinois libraries advance EDI in their collections. By providing access to materials in languages other than English, libraries can better serve non-native English speakers and promote inclusivity.

The service also enables libraries to acquire and organize materials that represent a broader range of cultures and perspectives, promoting equity and diversity. As libraries continue to evolve and serve diverse communities, world language cataloging will remain a critical service for advancing EDI.

## MARKETING AND PROMOTION

RAILS promoted the program extensively to Illinois libraries via RAILS, IHLS, CARLI, LLSAPs, and ILA e-newsletters and different RAILS email lists. RAILS cataloging staff also presented this service program at various RAILS networking group meetings such as the World Language Networking Group meeting, Technical Services Networking Group meeting, RSA, CCS, and Pinnacle Catalogers' Group meetings. We also promoted this service at the ILA conference and AISLE conferences.

As we ponder the path forward for our service, it becomes evident that broad-based promotion will play a pivotal role in its triumph. Our plan is to persistently promote the program by utilizing various e-newsletters and email lists. We aim to provide a comprehensive overview of the program, emphasizing key features, advantages, and the languages it covers. Additionally, we intend to spotlight the EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) elements of the program.

## CONTACT WORLD LANGUAGE CATALOGING SERVICES PROGRAM

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