

Best Free Reference Web Sites 2011

13th Annual List

RUSA MARS: Emerging Technologies in Reference Section

This is an annual series initiated under the auspices of the Machine-Assisted Reference Section (MARS) of the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) of ALA to recognize outstanding reference sites on the World Wide Web. View **selection criteria**.

"Since the Web is a changing world, readers should note that these Web sites were as annotated on the date the member reviewed the site. Reviewing previous lists is not part of the charge of the Committee (formerly the Task Force on the Best of Free Reference Web Sites). However, we will make note of updated links, or other very substantial changes (such as a conversion from free to fee-based), if they are brought to our attention."
RUSA Quarterly Fall 2001

BAMONA: Butterflies and Moths of North America (<http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/>)
BAMONA, Montana State University
[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

Biodiversity Heritage Library (<http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/>)
Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL), a consortium of 12 natural history and botanical libraries
[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

BlackPast.org (<http://www.blackpast.org/>)
BlackPast.org
[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

Cornell Lab of Ornithology (<http://www.birds.cornell.edu/>)
Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Cornell University
[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

Current Value of Old Money (<http://projects.exeter.ac.uk/RDavies/arian/current/howmuch.html>)
Roy Davies, former Librarian, St. Luke's Campus, University of Exeter
[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

Google Translate (<http://translate.google.com/#en/es>)
Google
[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

International Business Statistics Database | globalEDGE (<http://globaledge.msu.edu/resourcedesk/dibs>)
Michigan State University / Additional access with free registration
[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/>)
International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

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KIDS Count Data Center (<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>)

Annie E. Casey Foundation

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

The Mark Twain Project Online (<http://www.marktwainproject.org/>)

"MTPO is produced by the Mark Twain Papers and Project of The Bancroft Library in collaboration with the University of California Press; the site is hosted by UC Berkeley's Library Systems Office. During 2005-8 the California Digital Library collaborated in MTPO's creation and initial development."

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

morgueFile (<http://morguefile.com/>)

Kevin and Michael Connors, Johannes Seemann

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National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (<http://nccam.nih.gov/>)

National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, National Institutes of Health

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

Open CRS (<http://opencrs.com/>)

Open CRS, Center for Democracy & Technology

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

Open Library (<http://openlibrary.org/>)

Internet Archive

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

Plant Information Online (<http://plantinfo.umn.edu/>)

Richard T. Isaacson and Katherine Allen, University of Minnesota Libraries

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

ProCon.org – Pros and Cons of Controversial Issues (<http://www.procon.org/>)

ProCon.org

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

Public Library of Science (<http://www.plos.org/>)

Public Library of Science

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (<http://plato.stanford.edu/>)

Metaphysics Research Lab, CSLI, Stanford University

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

Still Tasty (<http://www.stilltasty.com/>)

StillTasty, LLC

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TED: Ideas Worth Spreading (<http://www.ted.com/>)

TED Conferences LLC

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The UNESCO Institute for Statistics (<http://www.uis.unesco.org/>)

UNESCO Institute for Statistics

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

UNT Libraries: CyberCemetery Home (<http://govinfo.library.unt.edu/>)

University of North Texas Libraries & U.S. Government Printing Office

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

WikiLeaks (<http://mirror.wikileaks.info>)

WikiLeaks

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

Wolfram|Alpha (<http://www.wolframalpha.com/>)

WolframAlpha

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)

Worldometers (<http://www.worldometers.info>)

The Real Time Statistics Project

[Reviewed: MARS Best 2011](#)