

# Opportunities for Libraries and How to Learn More

## Libraries Recommending Podcasts

There seems to be plenty of information on producing podcasts (for libraries),<sup>1</sup> and many libraries have interesting and creative podcasts that they produce for their audiences or for other librarians.<sup>2</sup> For a few samples, see the section of this report “Podcasts by Librarians.”

But another role that libraries can play is curator of podcasts, recommending the best ones as information sources to their communities. There are a number of ways this can be done, and these tips could apply to school, public, academic, corporate, or any kind of library.

1. **Create guides to recommended podcasts on our websites.** Just as we make guides to recommend all types of resources, we can also recommend podcasts. We can make guides about podcasts, focusing on the specific subject needs of our audiences. Here’s an example by Christine Beardley of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Library: <http://libguides.mskcc.org/podcasts/welcome>. We could also integrate podcasts into existing guides on specific topics. Here are a few examples:
  - Behavioral Sciences Research Guide, Princeton University Library (<http://libguides.princeton.edu/psychology/multimedia>)
  - Medical/Health Sciences: Podcasts, Georgia TechLibrary (<http://libguides.gatech.edu/c.php?g=54010&p=348935>)
  - Philosophy: Podcasts, Libraries of the University of Adelaide (<http://libguides.adelaide.edu.au/philosophy/podcasts>)

- English: Podcasts, City College of New York Libraries (<http://libguides.cuny.cuny.edu/c.php?g=346751&p=2337600>)
  - Recommended Podcasts, Orem Public Library, Orem, Utah ([www.oremlibrary.org/index.php/eresearch/legal-information/12-library/general/35-recommended-podcasts](http://www.oremlibrary.org/index.php/eresearch/legal-information/12-library/general/35-recommended-podcasts))
2. **Make printable handouts about podcasts on specific topics.** Offer PDF versions for downloading from your website and newsletters.
  3. **Recommend podcast listening apps.** Add information to your guides and handouts about how to subscribe to podcasts and recommended apps for convenient listening. See the section of this report “Recommended Tools for Podcast Listening.”
  4. **Put podcast listening apps on mobile devices that you loan out.**
  5. **Start a podcast discussion club.** Make it like a book club, but for podcasts. Here’s an example that could spark some ideas: Podcast Brunch Club, <http://podcastbrunchclub.com/about>.
  6. **Feature on your website lists of podcasts created by people in your community**—people of all ages and backgrounds.

## Summary

I hope this report will inspire you to find ways to include podcasts in your recommendations to your library users! I would love to hear from you about how you’re using this information, or for questions and comments. Contact me at <http://nicolehennig.com/contact-me>.

## Additional Resources

### A. Podcast Criticism and Reviews

In addition to the sites mentioned through this report, you may also enjoy these sites for reviews of podcasts.

The Timbre  
[www.thetimbre.com](http://www.thetimbre.com)

If you like to read reviews of podcasts, start with The Timbre. It's no longer publishing new stories, sadly, but has plenty of relevant content from previous stories.

Cultured Vultures  
<http://culturedvultures.com/?s=podcasts>

Cultured Vultures is another good site for podcast reviews. This link will show you search results for stories about podcasts.

AV Club  
[www.avclub.com/features/podmass](http://www.avclub.com/features/podmass)

This site also reviews podcasts on a regular basis.

### B. Statistics

These sources are likely to publish new studies in the future. They are a good way to keep up with the latest statistics.

The Podcast Consumer 2016  
[www.edisonresearch.com/the-podcast-consumer-2016](http://www.edisonresearch.com/the-podcast-consumer-2016)

This report from Edison Research is full of interesting data about podcasts and their listeners.

Podcasting: Fact Sheet, Pew Research, June 15, 2016  
[www.journalism.org/2016/06/15/podcasting-fact-sheet](http://www.journalism.org/2016/06/15/podcasting-fact-sheet)

Pew Research is a good source for statistics and is always publishing new survey results.

### C. The Podcasting Industry

Hot Pod  
[www.hotpod.xyz](http://www.hotpod.xyz)

A newsletter about podcasts. To keep up with industry news, sign up for this e-mail newsletter by Nick Quah. Past issues are available here: <https://www.hotpodnews.com>.

### D. Reviews of New Podcast Listening Apps

To keep up with new podcast listening apps, try these sources.

The Sweet Setup  
<http://thesweetsetup.com>

This site offers in-depth reviews of apps, and it usually chooses one top recommended app. For example,

“Our Favorite Podcast Client for iOS: Overcast,” September 8, 2016, <http://thesweetsetup.com/apps/our-favorite-podcast-client-for-ios>.

App Advice  
<http://appadvice.com>

App Advice is my favorite site for iOS app reviews. Here's a sample: “Find Your Favorites and Discover New Podcasts from Anywhere,” <http://appadvice.com/collection/best-podcast-players>.

Android Central  
[www.androidcentral.com](http://www.androidcentral.com)

This is a good site for reviews of Android apps. For example, see “The Best Podcast Apps for Android,” April 6, 2016, [www.androidcentral.com/best-podcast-apps-android](http://www.androidcentral.com/best-podcast-apps-android).

Mobile Apps News  
<http://nicolehennig.com/mobile-apps-news>.

To stay current with the best apps for educational use, sign up for my free newsletter, *Mobile Apps News*. It covers the best apps of all kinds for use in educational settings, offers links to real-world examples of creative use, and links to thought-provoking articles about emerging technologies.

## Alphabetical List of Podcasts in This Report

*Aaron's World*  
 ACLU Podcasts on Mass Incarceration  
*Alt.Latino*  
*Another Round*  
*AppleVis Podcast*  
*The Autism Show*  
*Beyond the Stacks*  
*The BiCast—Podcast for the Bisexual Community*  
*The Big Listen*  
*The Bindercast*  
*The Bipolar Family*  
*The Blind Hour Podcast*  
*Blind Living Radio*  
*The Blind Sport Podcast*  
*Bloomer Boomer*  
*Book Club for Kids*  
*Brains On!*  
*Call Your Girlfriend*  
*Changing the Face of Power*  
*Changing the World for Deaf People*  
 Chirp Radio Podcasts  
*Circulating Ideas*  
*Code Switch*  
*Coffee Break Spanish Step by Step*  
*College Info Geek*  
*Cool Blind Tech*

Cyberpunk Librarian  
 Dear Book Nerd  
 Digital Accessibility Made Simple  
 Disability Matters  
 Disability.TV  
 The Documentary  
 Documents That Changed the World  
 Don't Act Your Age  
 The Dyslexia Quest  
 Ear Snacks  
 Earning Freedom—Michael Santos  
 Economic Rockstar  
 Elder Justice Podcast Series  
 EOS 10  
 Explain Things to Me  
 500 Words  
 Freakonomics Radio  
 Getting In: A Podcast about the College Admissions  
 Process  
 #Girlboss  
 Good Job, Brain!  
 #GoodMuslimBadMuslim  
 Grapple  
 The Guilty Feminist  
 Higher Ed  
 Higher Ed Live  
 The History Chicks  
 In Black America  
 In Pod We Trust  
 International Realness  
 Invisibilia  
 Kid Friday: You're a Kid in a Digital World  
 Kids on Comics  
 Latino Rebels  
 Latino USA  
 Law School Toolbox Podcast  
 Lesbian Lounge  
 LibUX  
 Lifehacker  
 Lore  
 Loud Mute Radio  
 The Mash-up Americans  
 Math Mutation  
 The Naked Scientists  
 National Native News  
 Native America Calling  
 Native Opinion  
 Native Trailblazers  
 Nerdette  
 The New Middle  
 Nómadas  
 Note to Self  
 On Being  
 On the Media  
 One from the Vaults—Transgender History Podcast  
 Open Paren  
 Ouch: Disability Talk

Our National Conversation About Conversations About  
 Race  
 Outsports—A Voice for LGBT Athletes  
 Oxford Children's Rights Network Podcasts  
 The Pod Couple  
 The Podcast Digest  
 The Podcast History of Our World  
 Podcast Kid  
 Podcast Playlist—CBC  
 PostBourgie  
 Poverty Research & Policy Podcast  
 Queer State of Mind  
 Radio Ambulante  
 Radio Diaries Podcast  
 Radio Diaries—Prison Diaries  
 Radio Rookies  
 RadioLab  
 The Read  
 Red Town Radio  
 Re:Learning Podcast  
 Revisionist History  
 Sampler  
 Sandi Klein's Conversations with Creative Women  
 Science Friday  
 Seminars about Long-Term Thinking  
 Serial  
 Shabam!  
 She Does—Conversations with Creative Minds  
 Short & Curly  
 The Short Coat Podcast: Broadcasts from the Amazing  
 and Intense World of Medical School  
 The Show about Science  
 Slate's Double X Gabfest  
 Snap Judgment  
 Soo Many White Guys  
 Sound and Fury: The Angry Asian Podcast  
 StarTalk Radio  
 States of Incarceration  
 Still Buffering  
 Stories from the Brainreels  
 StoryCorps  
 Story Pirates  
 Storynory  
 Strange Fruit  
 The Student Caring Podcast for Professors  
 Studio 360  
 Stuff Mom Never Told You  
 Stuff to Blow Your Mind  
 Stuff You Should Know  
 TalkPoverty Radio  
 TED Radio Hour  
 This American Life  
 This I Believe  
 Throwing Shade  
 Tiny Desk Concerts  
 The Torch: The Great Courses Podcast  
 Transwaves

*Trends & Issues in Instructional Design, Educational Technology, & Learning Sciences*

*Tumble*

UNICEF Podcasts

*UnLearned*

*Unprisoned: Stories from the System*

*Voice of Literacy*

*We Want the Airwaves*

*Welcome to Night Vale*

*What It Takes*

*What Just Happened?*

*Women of the Hour*—Lena Dunham

*World of Wonder*

Podcat

PodLikeThat (from Audiosear.ch)

PodRec—Facebook bot

Product Hunt

Quora Topic—Podcasts

*7 on 7 Podcast Reviews* newsletter

Tech Times—Podmaster

*The Telegraph* (UK)—Podcasts

Timbre—Podcast Playlists

## Alphabetical Lists of Tools and Apps

For your convenience, here is an alphabetical list of all the podcast discovery tools and apps mentioned in this report.

### Podcast Discovery (Directories, Newsletters, Search Tools)

*Adolescence is a Marketing Tool* newsletter

*Audible Feast* newsletter

Audiosear.ch

*The Audit* newsletter

AV Club

*Bello Weekly*—Bello Collective newsletter

*Between Two Earbuds* newsletter

*Earbud* newsletter

Earbud—NPR

*Hodgepodge* newsletter

*Hotpod* newsletter

iTunes Charts

Listen to This, *The Guardian*

*Pod-a-Day* newsletter

Podcast Chart

PodcastLand

Podcasts Reddit group

### Podcast Listening Apps

AntennaPod

Audible

BeyondPod

Castro

Downcast

Google Play Music

iTunes

Otto Radio

Overcast

Player FM

Pocket Casts

Podcast Republic

Podcasts (Apple)

Podcat

ShortOrange

SoundCloud

Spotify

Stitcher Radio

TuneIn Radio

### Notes

1. See the Library Success wiki page on podcasting, with a section at the bottom of the page on how to podcast (for libraries): “Podcasting,” Library Success: A Best Practices Wiki, last updated August 13, 2012, [www.libsuccess.org/Podcasting](http://www.libsuccess.org/Podcasting).
2. Ibid. This site includes a long list of podcasts produced by public, academic, and school libraries.