Introduction to the Koha Open Source ILS

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Using this Software

• Microphone
• Raising your hand
• Green ✓/ Red X
• Laughing / Clapping
• Stepping out
• Text chat
• Audio
• Full Screen
• Exiting
Today’s Program

- What is a Koha?
- History of Koha
- Where to find Koha
- Features of Koha
- Introduction to basic features
- Where to find help
- Quick live look
- Additional Resources
What is a Koha?

• Where did the name Koha come from?
• Koha is not an acronym, it’s a Maori word
• A Koha is a special kind of gift, most accurately defined as a gift with expectations
• This is one of the reasons why the Koha ILS was licensed with the GPL because of the expectations of reciprocity built in to it
History of Koha

- Developed from 1999-2000 in NZ
- HLT hired a development firm & insisted that they release the software as open source
- First US Public Library goes live in 2003
- Koha 3.0 released in 2008
- First US KohaCon in TX in 2009
- 10\textsuperscript{th} Anniversary & KohaCon in NZ in 2010
- More: koha-community.org/about/history/
Where to find Koha

- Koha can be downloaded from the official site: [koha-community.org/download-koha/](http://koha-community.org/download-koha/)
- The code can be found at [http://git.koha-community.org](http://git.koha-community.org)
- The bug/enhancement list can be found (and contributed to) at: [http://bugs.koha-community.org](http://bugs.koha-community.org)
Features of Koha

- Fully web-based
- All necessary library modules
  - OPAC (complete with social functionality)
  - Circulation
  - Patron Management
  - Cataloging
  - Serials
  - Acquisitions
  - Custom Reporting
OPAC

• Customizable templates
• RSS feeds for searches
• Custom RSS feeds
• Tagging by patrons
• Comments/Reviews by patrons
• Book Jackets (various sources)
• Outside reviews
• Patron login/account management
Circulation

- Basic checking in/out
- Holds management
- Dropbox mode for overnight returns
- Custom due dates (override system dates)
- Settings for end of semester due dates
- Overdue notices (email & print)
- Additional circulation notices (email & SMS)
- Web-based self checkout
Patron Management

- Custom patron types
- Patron relationships
- Patron photos
- Custom patron fields
- Custom messaging preferences
- Fine management
- Circulation history
Cataloging

- Catalog templates/frameworks
- Original cataloging
- Copy cataloging with Z39.50 search
- Authorized values
  - adds pull downs with approved terms
- Plugins for automatic field population
- MARC & UNIMARC support
- Authority records
Serials

- Subscription management
  - System predicts numbering patterns
- Receive issues
- Track late issues
- Process vendor claims (email)
- Check in supplements
- Attach item records
Acquisitions

- Track vendors
- Track orders
- Receive orders
- Create ‘on order’ items
- Process claims (email)
- Budgeting
- EDI in a future release
Custom Reporting

- **Statistics wizards**
  - Select field to display in column and row and generate statistics for modules

- **Report wizard**
  - Choose database fields to generate a custom report to meet your library’s needs

- **SQL Reports**
  - Write your report in MySQL
Where to find help

• Koha Manual:  
  – koha-community.org/documentation/

• Koha Lists:  
  – koha-community.org/support/

• Koha IRC:  
  – koha-community.org/support/

• Paid Support:  
  – koha-community.org/support/paid-support/

• Koha Wiki:  
  – wiki.koha-community.org
Let’s Look

Welcome to the Koha Library Catalog!
Some great new items at the library. Click on the image to read more!

http://catalog.bywatersolutions.com/
Additional Resources

• Koha on Social Networks
  – wiki.koha-community.org/wiki/Koha_on_Social_Networks

• Koha Specific Zotero Library
  – www.zotero.org/groups/koha/items

• Koha Newsletter
  – koha-community.org/category/koha-newsletter/

• Free/Libre & OSS & Libraries Bibliography
  – www.zotero.org/groups/free_libre_and_open_source_software_and_libraries_bibliography/items
Thank You

• Koha questions can be directed to:
  – Koha Community: koha-community.org/support/
  – Me: nengard@bywatersolutions.com

• Don’t miss other Lyrasis & Koha workshops:
Thank You for Attending!

Questions?
• Professional Development
• 1.800.999.8558
• Web: lyrasis.org

• Email: es@lyrasis.org