Q: What is #1Lib1Ref?
A: Wikipedia’s annual campaign to encourage librarians to improve Wikipedia by adding citations to reputable sources in Wikipedia articles.

Q: When is the next #1Lib1Ref?
A: Jan. 15 – Feb. 3, 2019. #1Lib1Ref was established in 2016 to mark the 15th anniversary of Wikipedia’s founding on Jan. 15, 2001.

Wikipedia facts
- 302 different language versions (292 active, 10 inactive)
- Wikipedia.org is the 5th most popular website (after Google, YouTube, Facebook, and Baidu)
- English Wikipedia:
  - 5.7+ million articles (12% of all Wikipedia articles are in English)
  - ~700 new pages created each day
  - 34.8+ million registered Wikipedia editors
  - but... only 134,000+ are considered active (have edited in the last 30 days)
  - and... only 8.5 – 16% are female (based on surveys and research)

How participating can benefit libraries
- Build community among library staff members
- Elevate and showcase the role of libraries as information literacy leaders on campus
- Develop in-house expertise and knowledge about Wikipedia
- Strengthen information in Wikipedia about local and institutional resources

How participating can benefit librarians
- Share expertise with a worldwide audience
- Promote the role of scholarly information
- Develop a deeper understanding of the inner workings of a resource widely used on college campuses
- Gain practical, hands-on experience editing Wikipedia articles
- Offer teaching librarians a new approach for placing Wikipedia in context for their professional practice, especially around issues related to digital literacy
- Provide a launch pad for further Wikipedia programming, activities, and information literacy initiatives such as edit-a-thons, course assignments, and instruction

How #1Lib1Ref benefits Wikipedia and its users
- Increases the rigor and quality of articles
- Closes gaps in documentation and evidence
- Provides readers with more entry points to explore the research behind an article
- Helps address the gender imbalance among Wikipedia editors and content

Tips for coordinating your library’s involvement
- Provide hands-on training and support along with adequate documentation
- Organize group training and editing sessions to encourage camaraderie and knowledge sharing
- Ask participants to create their accounts beforehand
- Encourage use of the Visual Editor (WYSIWYG interface)
- Use the Citation Hunt tool to locate articles that need citations and/or provide other strategies to identify articles that need citations
- Add the project hashtag #1Lib1Ref in the Wikipedia Edit Summary
- Track your team’s contributions through a Programs & Events Dashboard
- Consider partnering with public and school librarians
- Never edited a Wikipedia page? Not a problem! Consult materials listed on the handout and ask for an experienced colleague to collaborate with you

Now what?
This is the perfect time to begin planning your library’s participation in January 2019! Take a copy of the handout of useful resources for getting started.

Library staff at Oberlin during the 2018 #1Lib1Ref campaign

"Imagine a world where every librarian added one more reference to Wikipedia."
--#1Lib1Ref campaign slogan