MEMORY SHARING / *Pisa and War*
Build history with your own stories

Abstract

MemorySharing is a *bottom-up* project, which aims at collecting, sharing and telling stories about a community. Memory Sharing is an **innovative way to share and enhance memories and private documents**, combining the **Web, Science and Creativity**.

MemorySharing's goal is to **connect generations** and combine the virtual world of the web with the reality of face-to-face meetings and workshops **by comparing and transmitting knowledge**, reinforcing the shared memory through the active involvement of young and old generations.

The project deals with the history of the twentieth century starting from documents and testimonies of individuals and families. Such materials constitute an important asset and alternative in the reconstruction and history of communities, cities and nations.

The first initiative in the project concerns Pisa and the Second World War, a period which is quite remote but nevertheless there are still living witnesses. This first application of MemorySharing will be developed from June to December 2014. The project will then continue by focusing on other themes and periods, and potentially cities as well.

The project is organized into the following three phases:

1) Gathering
Once a theme or period has been decided on, the whole community is encouraged to empty drawers and attics in search of photographs, letters, diaries, super8 movies, and memorabilia. These materials are then digitized, displayed, shared and exploited to create events…The material is collected through web portals, social networks and physical spaces (libraries, schools, offices and newspaper associations, local government etc.). People are invited to tell their stories, and to participate in meetings and workshops. An itinerant mobile video box built to make close-ups with HD video-audio collect video testimonials.

2) Sharing
Once sorted and catalogued, the material is published on the Web where it continues to generate a debate, and to stimulate the collection of new documents. The project will organize face-to-face meetings and laboratories with schools, organizations, families, and groups. Older people are encouraged to bring photos and tell their stories, and the young generation teach the elderly how to scan a picture, put it on the Web and use applications such as Google Earth and HistoryPin.

3) Storytelling
The materials are then processed in order to produce: documentaries, multi-

screen movies, movie-pitches (projected in the streets directly from a cine-bike), multimedia tours of the city (in which to view photographs of the past superimposed on the present buildings), multimedia exhibitions, photography contests (photo-remakes), readings, e-books and other events.