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Connecting Women: Wikipedia Editing in the Sciences, Ada Lovelace Day Edit-a-thon 2019

Selena Bryant
Cornell University

Wendy Wilcox
Cornell University

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Connecting Women: Wikipedia Editing in the Sciences, Ada Lovelace Day Edit-a-thon 2019
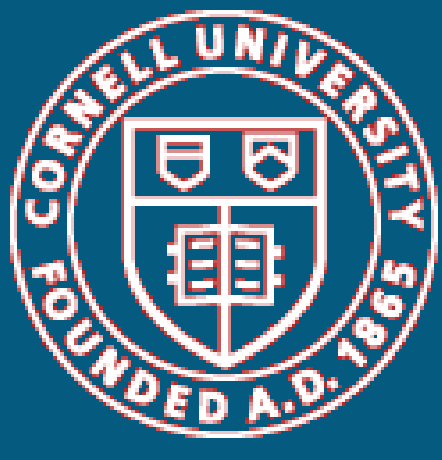
CORNELL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Selena Bryant, Teaching and Learning Librarian (sdb243@cornell.edu)
Wendy Wilcox, Access Services Librarian (ww83@cornell.edu)
Cornell University Library

ADA LOVELACE DAY & WIKIPEDIA EDIT-A-THONS

- Honors Ada Lovelace, an English mathematician and writer commonly known as the first computer programmer
- Founded by Suw Charman-Anderson, former Executive Director of the Open Rights Group, in 2009 & held every year on the second Tuesday of October https://findingada.com/
- Wikipedia edit-a-thons – events to encourage more participation in Wikipedia editing by and about underrepresented groups
    - ~ 17% of biographies in Wikipedia are about women
    - ~ 13 – 15% of Wikipedia editors are women

OBJECTIVES

For participants to:
- Learn more about what women have done in the sciences and using scholarly resources
- Raise the profile of women in science, technology, engineering and math on campus and worldwide.
- Collaborate with community members, faculty members and student groups.
- Network with others interested in similar topics
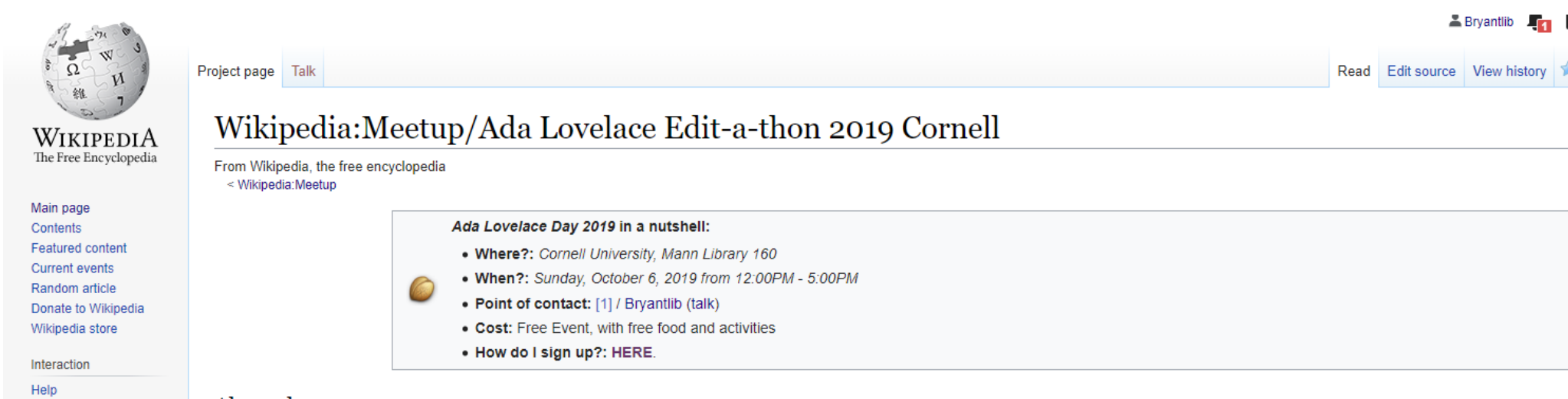- Learn how to edit Wikipedia

PLANNING

- Created Wikipedia dashboard & meetup page and LibGuide with event information and resources
- Advertised to college and K-12 students
- Created handout for day of event
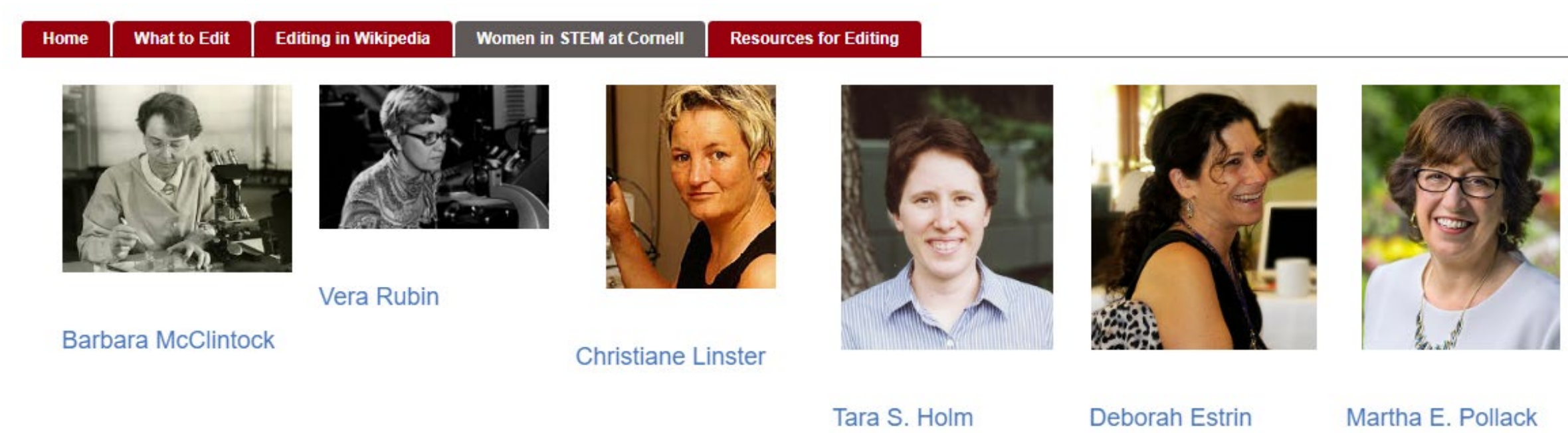- Made list of women identified professors at Cornell and their Wikipedia pages

Event Poster

EVENT

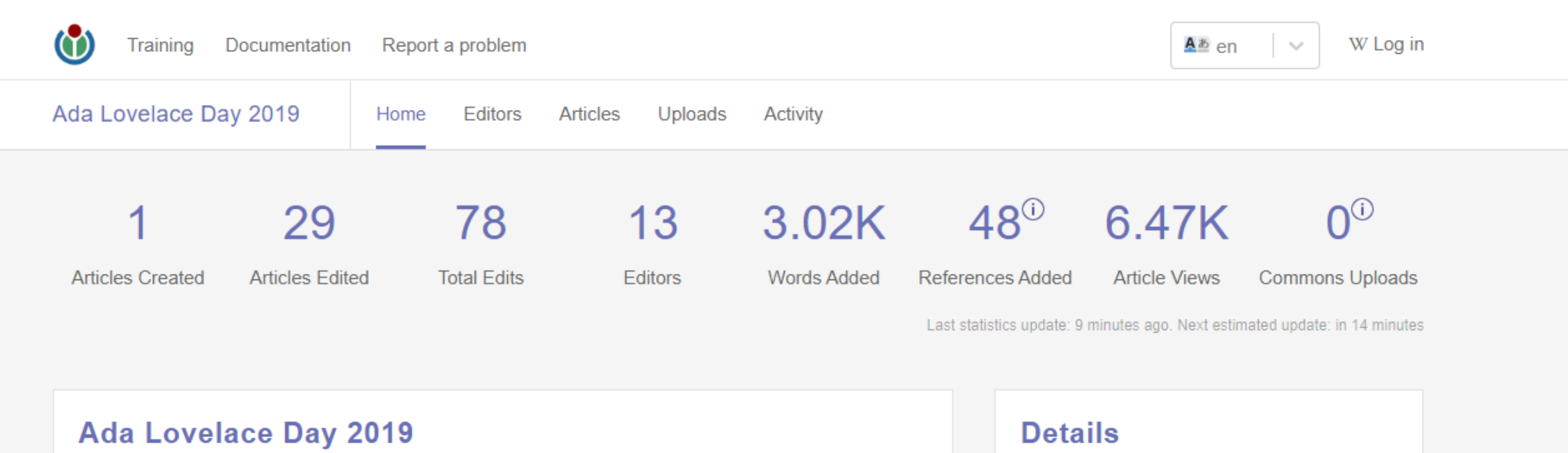### Ada Lovelace Day 2019 Women in the Sciences Wikipedia Edit-a-thon

- What/Whose page(s) to Edit
- Makerspace activities
- Detailed editing instructions

Wikipedia Meetup: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Meetup/Ada_Lovelace_Edit-a-thon_2019_Cornell

- How to find women in STEM worldwide
- Cornell affiliated women in STEM
- Scholarly resources for Editing

| Home | What to Edit | Editing in Wikipedia | Women in STEM at Cornell | Resources for Editing |

Barbara McClintock
Vera Rubin
Christiane Linster
Tara S. Holm
Deborah Estrin
Martha E. Pollack

Library Guide: https://guides.library.cornell.edu/adalovelace

1	29	78	13	3.02K	48	6.47K	0
Articles Created	Articles Edited	Total Edits	Editors	Words Added	References Added	Article Views	Commons Uploads

- Claim a page
- Track changes

Wikipedia Dashboard:
https://outreachdashboard.wmflabs.org/courses/Cornell_University/Ada_Lovelace_Day_2019
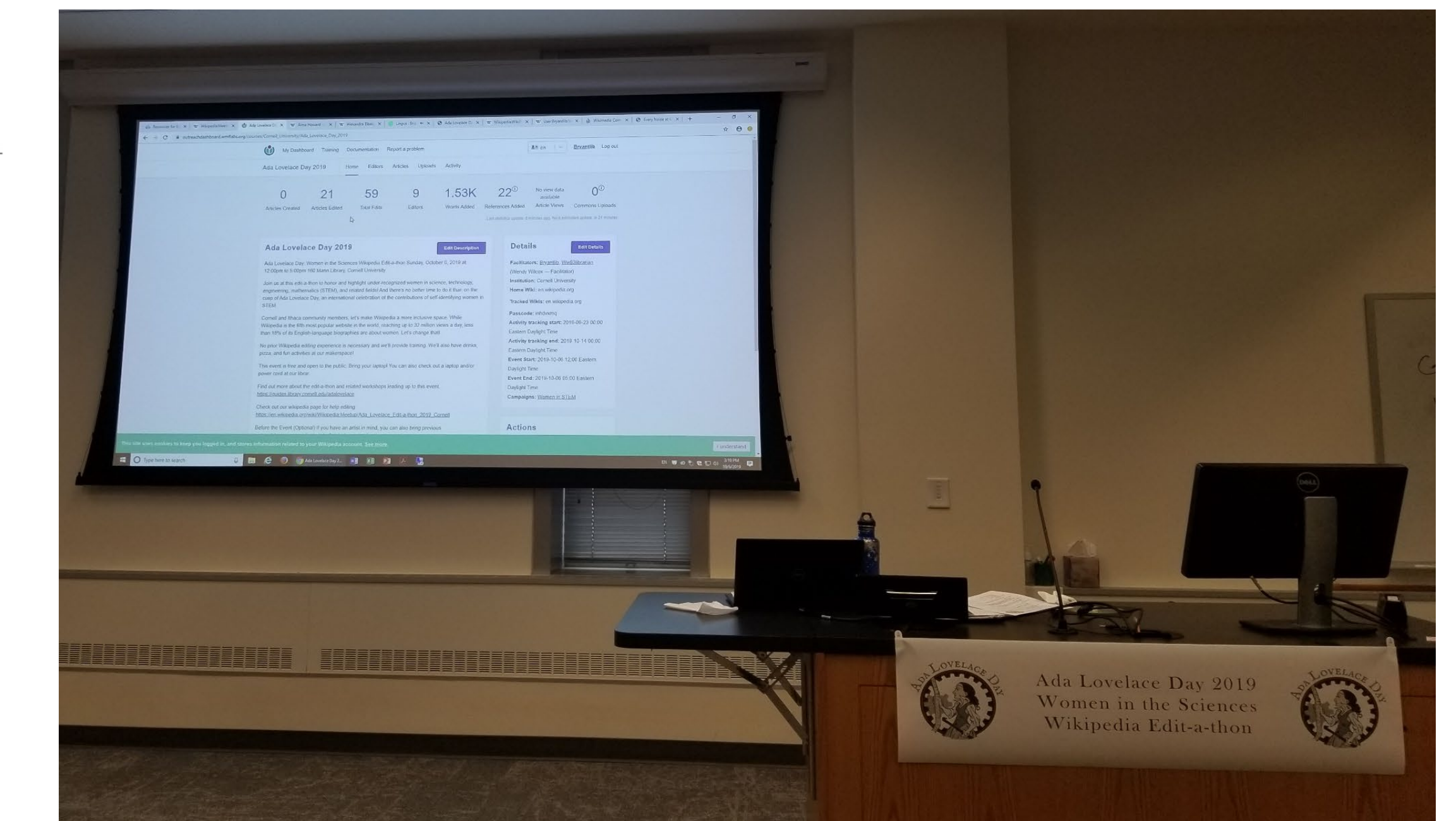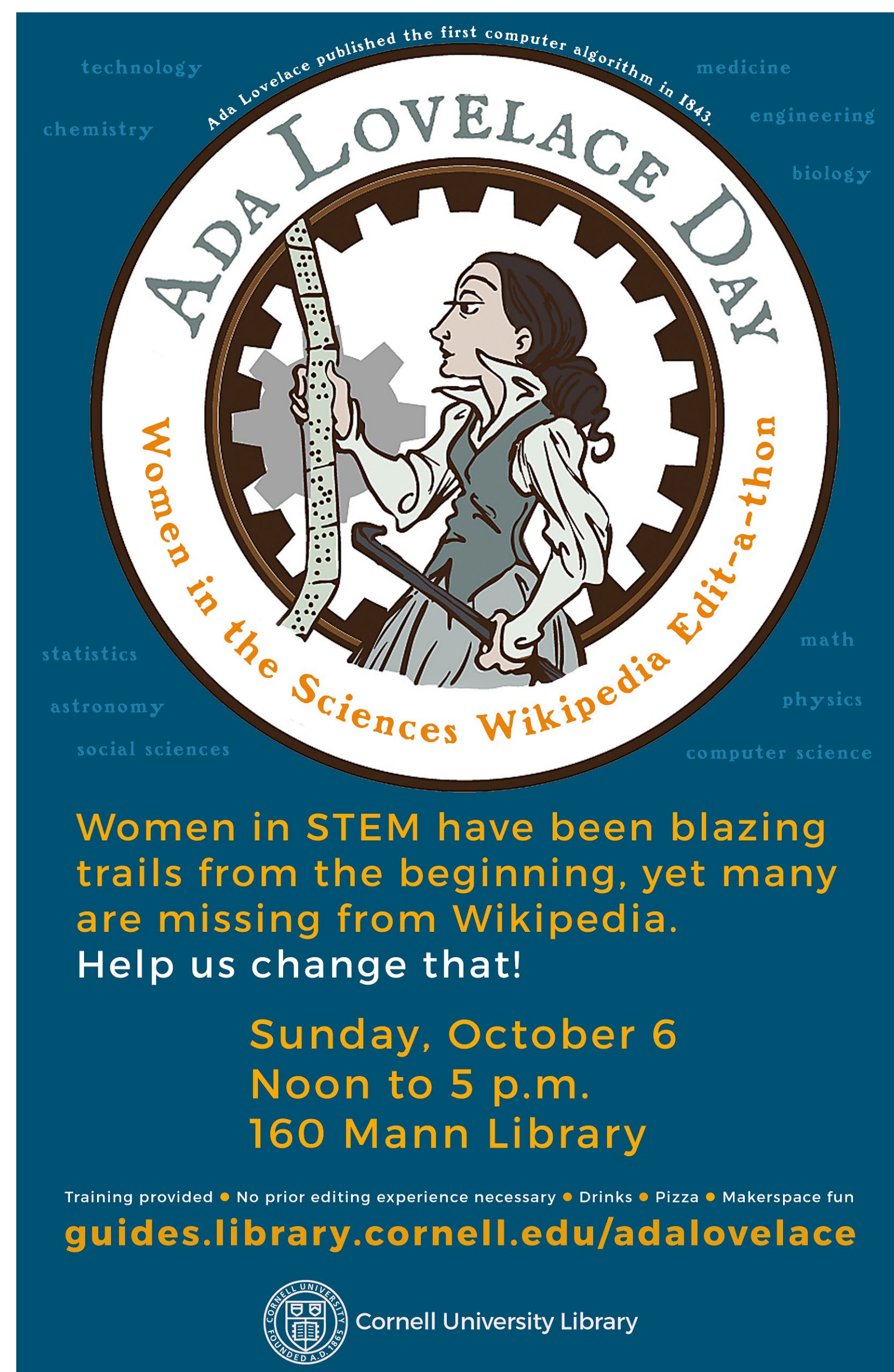
Wood Engraving, Stickers and Buttons of Event Logo made at event

Part of handout given to participants:

Suggested tasks:
- Edit articles for clarity and remove sexist phrasing
- Add links to articles in related topics (co-collaborators, discoveries, or influences)
- Find and upload public domain images to Wikimedia commons
- Add sourced information to an article (Books, Articles, Encyclopedia)

Articles to edit:
- Look on the dashboard page under articles for suggestions. Or look up a favorite scientist or professor to see if they have a page that needs updating.

Time Suggestions:
- 1 hour or less set up your Wikipedia user page and make some simple edits to existing pages.
- 90 minutes find a source in your area of expertise to add links and citations to an existing article.
- 2+ hours add a well cited paragraph to an article in your area of expertise. Add links to that article in relevant articles.
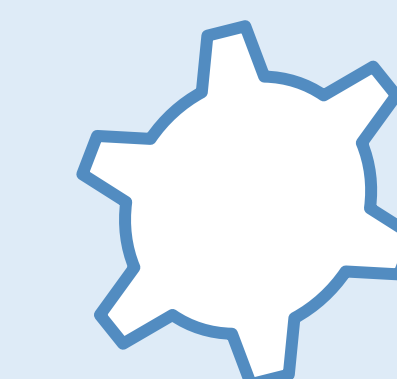
RESULTS

- 29 articles edited and 1 created for a total of 78 edits
- Over 3000 words and 48 references added
- 13 editors
- Personal relationships were created with student groups and faculty

LESSONS LEARNED

- Encouraging students to add articles of their favorite professors increased engagement
- New ideas for dates, times and place
- Collaborate with student groups when you can

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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