

Finding Aids, LibGuides, & Awesome Tables

Grover Baker
SEMLA Annual Meeting
October 21, 2022



A funny thing happened
on the way...

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Some background info...

Try to Remember...

- ~2016 Dept. of Theater & Dance added a minor in Musical Theatre Performance
- 2017 Worked with J.W. Pepper to order all of the complete vocal scores of musicals in their catalog
- 2018 As a summer project, a student worker began creating A list of every musical to win or be nominated for a Tony Award
- 2019 A 2nd student worker completed & updated the list

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Hey kids, let's put on a LibGuide...

Ya Got Trouble...

- Tables are problematic (to say the least!)
- 350+ entries are *waaaaaay* too many for one table
- Began experimenting
 - tabs for each year
 - drop down menu with years
- No good solution



Don't be afraid to ask...

Everything's Coming up Roses...

- Began talking to other librarians at work
- Denise Quintel, Discovery Services Librarian, was experimenting with using Awesome Table for our Staff Directory
 - Google Sheets
 - Interactive
 - Could be embedded in LibGuides as a Media/Widget



Nuts and bolts...

Putting It Together...

- Grover:
 - Decided what information (columns) to include
 - Cleaned up the spreadsheet
- Students:
 - Added URLs
 - Double checked those links
- Denise:
 - Created a Google account for Walker Music
 - Created the “Tony Awards Table” app in Awesome Table
 - Embedded the widget in the Tony Awards LibGuide
 - Provided detailed instructions on how to edit the content



Show me...

<https://library.mtsu.edu/tony-awards>

<https://app.awesome-table.com/>

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Awesome Table

← Embedding Tony AwardsTable

Embedding your Awesome Table app

Choose one of the 3 options below to embed your app in your website:

- The **Script** option is recommended if it's available to you, as the app will be automatically resized based on your content.
- If your website builder does not allow you to insert a script, you can choose the **Direct Link** or the **Iframe** option.

You will find more information in [our documentation](#) if required.

🔗 Direct Link

📄 Iframe

⌄ Script

STEP 1 : Paste this `<script>` tag inside the `<head>` section of your website.

```
<script src="https://app.awesome-table.com/AwesomeTableInclude.js"></script>
```

Copy

STEP 2 : Paste this `<div>` tag where you want your Awesome Table app to display.

```
<div data-type="AwesomeTableView" data-filters="" data-viewID="XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX"></div>
```

Copy

Filtering options



🖥 Desktop preview

📱 Mobile preview

Title Composer Year Category +

Result +

1 - 50 / 415



Title	Composer	Year	Category	Result	Call Number
Street Scene	Kurt Weill	1947	Special Tony Award	Winner	M1503.W419 S8 1948
Annie Get Your Gun	Irving Berlin	1948	Special Tony Award	Winner	M1503.B5 A5 1967
Medium	Gian-Carlo Menotti	1948	Special Tony Award	Winner	M1503.M47 M43 1967
Kiss Me, Kate	Cole Porter	1949	Best Musical	Winner	M1503.P67 K5 1980z
Kiss Me, Kate	Cole Porter	1949	Best Musical	Winner	M1503.P67 K5 2014
South Pacific	Richard Rodgers	1950	Best Musical	Winner	M1503.R63 S6 1949b

Come follow the band...

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Some *more* background info...

- Concert and Sight Reading Performance Assessment
 - Middle Tennessee State Band and Orchestra Association (MTSBOA)
 - Sessions being held at MTSU
 - My son's band was performing
- Program booklet
 - Transcribed every band piece (not the orchestra pieces) into a spreadsheet
 - Assigned student workers to:
 - Check our catalog & add URLs
 - Search the J.W. Pepper site & add URLs



Getting strategic...

- Requested to order the missing scores (150+)
 - All are currently being taught in area middle and high schools
 - Known SOM assignment using band scores to create rehearsal plans
 - “Additional” scores are relatively inexpensive
 - Nearing the end of the fiscal year



Nuts and bolts...

- Students:
 - Added call numbers & URLs as they processed the scores
- Denise:
 - Provided detailed instructions on how to:
 - Import and set up the Google Sheet
 - Connect the Google Sheet to Awesome Table
 - Create and imbed the media/widget in the LibGuide
- Grover:
 - Cleaned up the spreadsheet
 - Set up the Google Sheet and connected it to Awesome Table
 - Embedded the widget into the LibGuide



Band Scores

<https://library.mtsu.edu/band>

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33 1/3

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Even more background info...

33 1/3

- “... a series of short books about popular music, focusing on individual albums by artists ...”
- Several MTSU faculty have written books in the series
- Supports the curriculum in the Department of Recording Industry and the School of Music
- MTSU lost online access to the complete 33 1/3 series of books when we cancelled our subscription to *Bloomsbury Popular Music*

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Nuts and bolts...

- Student:
 - Assigned this to one of my student workers as a summer project
 - Used the Bloomsbury website and their WordPress site to generate a spreadsheet.
 - Checked the list against our catalog
 - Added call numbers and URLs to the catalog record for print copies
 - Added URLs for the ebooks
- Grover:
 - Cleaned up the spreadsheet
 - Spot-checked call numbers & links
 - Set up and connected the Google Sheet
 - Created the LibGuide and embedded the table as a widget



33 1/3

<https://library.mtsu.edu/33>

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Issues & Considerations

- Paid plan vs. free account
 - Our library has the free version
 - Current limit of 500 pageviews (no limit in 2019 when our account was created)
 - No counter but begin receiving emails at 50% and a green banner appears
 - Work-around:
 - Create a copy of the Google Sheet
 - Import it as a new Awesome Table
 - Edit the widget as needed in your LibGuide
- Embedding Awesome Table's Iframe code doesn't display as well as embedding the Script
- If your data doesn't need to be updated often, a searchable HTML table may be a better option... if you can code!



Benefits

- Good PR!
 - *“the band score library is awesome – what a great resource! I’ll be spending some serious time figuring out how to leverage it well for Instrumental Materials in the spring.”*
 - *“This new resource that you created is amazing ... Thank you for such a thoughtful project ... I anticipate poking around the shelves a lot more now.”*
- All three projects have been a great tool for collection development



Next steps

- Annually update Tony Awards
 - Check for newly published “Selections from...” and complete vocal scores
 - Add “Best Play” nominees and winners?
- Obtain CPA program and check for new compositions
- 33 1/3 series is constantly adding new volumes
 - Request new titles & update table
 - Consider adding cover image thumbnails
- What else might be a good candidate for an Awesome Table?
- Watch for the “green banner” and emails!



Questions?

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