Metropolitan
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Need Copyright- and Royalty-Free Images?

Everything you see on the Web is someone's property. If you don't have permission to use it, and if your presentation is going to be used many times or be published (and posting on D2L might well count as publishing) you'd better get permission. Fortunately, there are many places where you are a pre-approved user, including images created by the U.S. government (which are by definition in the public domain) and those in the databases to which the Metro State library subscribes, for example, Academic Search Premier (or pretty much any EBSCO database), Access Science, and Art Museum Image Gallery.

When you find a photo you like, check for details on what you can and can't do with it. Most licenses require that you give credit to the image creator when reusing an image.

Some Sources for Copyright-Safe Images (In no particular order)

Stock.XCHNG (a site where creative people offer their works to those who need them free of
 charge)
 http://www.sxc.hu/

Every Stock Photo is a search engine for free photos,
 http://www.everystockphoto.com/

Free Use Photos (on flickr.com, a photo-sharing site)
 http://flickr.com/groups/freeuse/ or http://flickr.com/groups/creativecommons

Google Images (In the Advanced Search option, specify Usage Rights. Also be sure to note
 image owners' contact information so you can ask permission, if necessary.)
 Tip: In the Advanced Search option, specify "large" or "extra-large" image size
 http://images.google.com/advanced_image_search?hl=en

Yahoo! Advanced Image Search. Similar to Google Advanced Image search
http://images.search.yahoo.com/images/advanced?ei=UTF-8

PicFindr (searches the web for stock photography that is completely free to use commercially)
http://www.picfindr.com/

NASA Images (generally not under copyright, as long as the use does not somehow imply that NASA endorses a product or cause)
www.nasaimages.org/

Open Clip Art Library
http://openclipart.org

Wikimedia Commons (A database of freely usable media files to which anyone can contribute)
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

flickrCC (Search program for Creative Commons licensed images on flickr.com)
http://flickrcc.bluemountains.net/

Flickr Commons. Includes collections from the Library of Congress, New York Public Library, Smithsonian, the Field Museum and more.
http://www.flickr.com/commons/

Lists of Free Photo Sites

Digital Image: 25 Free Stock Photo Sites (from 2008 article in <u>Digital Image</u> magazine)
http://www.digitalimagemagazine.com/blog/featured/25-free-stock-photo-sites/
These sites are all valid as of 09/09/09.

12 best places to get free images for your site (from TechRadar.com, August 12th, 2009)
http://www.techradar.com/news/internet/web/12-essential-sites-for-great-free-photos-624818

The Best Copyright-Free Photo Libraries (lists U.S. government works that are in the public domain).
http://www.dotgovwatch.com/?/archives/8-The-Best-Copyright-Free-Photo-Libraries.html

Free or inexpensive photo sites from Presentation Zen.
http://presentationzen.blogs.com/presentationzen/2006/01/where_can_you_f.html

Please contact the Reference Desk at 651.793.1614 for further assistance.

Available in alternative formats for people with disabilities.
Call Disability Services at 651.793.1549 (voice) or 651.772.7687 (TTY).

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