A year in review: Alexandria 2022

Intro
Hello, Alexandria users. We've gathered the new Alexandria features and major improvements of the last year. Let's take a look.

First, reports!

Reports

New Title Information Report [21.7]
We have made some big improvements to the Title Information report. We are talking cleaner formats and more select-by options. You will now be able to see information on the titles you have, selecting by specific awards, publishers, and even by language.

Loaned Items Notice [21.9]
Do you need a way to notify patrons of all the items they have checked out? Sure, you can send the Patron Details Summary, but it includes a bunch of other information. To keep it simple, we've added a Loaned Items Notice report. Notify patrons who checked out items a certain day—via an email, or a nice Letter format. Later we added a 2-per-page format so you can run it sorted by Homeroom and pass out tree-friendly notices to your patrons.

Copy Notes [22.1]
Copy Notes are a great way to keep not just information about the copy, but reminders for yourself 'to do' something with that copy. But how do you find all the copies that have notes? With the new Copy Notes report, you can see all your notes in one place.

Titles Missing Information [22.2]
The new Titles Missing Information report lets you find titles without cover art, like you could before, but also titles without genre.

Super Summary by Call Number [22.5]
Run the new Super Summary by Call Number report to get some analysis on your collection and how it looks spread out by call number. Take a look at your number of titles, lost items, age, and usage statistics.

Report improvements [22.1, 22.2, 22.3, 22.4, 22.5]
- Go to Sites to run your Site Record Counts report. The report now includes information on the number of titles and copies for your various sites.
- Sort by Title in the Lost Copies report. Now you can let that teacher know about all those lost copies of the book she taught.
- The Patron Information report has a new selection for 'optional date' (usually Graduation Date).
- You can finally sort the Activity Summary report by Date!
- When you use Alexandria to print your library cards, you can choose to Add 'P' to Barcode.
- The Overdue Items Information report (for Alexandria and Textbook Tracker) now has an option to show Barcode on the report.
- The Unpaid Charges Notice report is now available in Textbook Tracker.

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- We made a bunch of reports easier to read:
  - *[Circulation > Charges >]* The Print Charges report
  - *[Circulation >]* Cash Drawer Balance
  - The various Overdue Items reports
  - And the Copy Information report.

Other Operations

Renew Items utility [21.8]
Do you ever wish you could schedule renewals for your staff members? Well, you're in luck! If you want to help patrons renew their items while respecting renewal limits and holds, use the new Renew Items utility. You could even schedule this utility to automatically renew items checked out to teachers!

Utility improvements [22.1, 22.2, 22.3, 22.4, 22.5]
The Check Out utility is now available in Textbook Tracker.
Also, for Check Out and Check In utilities, you can now select by Copy Last Inventoried Date.

User Sessions export [21.7]
If you are an administrator or IT and need to check access to Alexandria Librarian, what can you do? Well, now you can run a User Sessions export and see login/logout/session data from the last few months.

Operations files [21.7]
When importing, do you ever lose track of the file you imported? Now in Operations Management you can download the original file. Also, after a BestMARC or EnhanceMARC operation, you can access additional files from Operations Management (indicated by the MISC icon).

More warnings for Utilities and Imports [21.12, 22.4]
We wanted to help our users take extra care when running utilities and imports. So we added extra warnings, and Imports don't default to Items anymore. When you run an import, there's a nice little checkbox to make doubly-triply sure you are sure you are ready to import!

Activity

Activity [22.5]
When a patron scans their barcode in Activity, you'll now hear your Check-in Alert for any patron with no holds, and a General Alert for any patron with holds. Now you can hear what's going on.
If you aren't using all 4 of your Activity buttons, the empty ones will be hidden from your patrons.

Circulation

Circulation Lookup by Nickname [21.9]
You know you can use the Circulation Lookup (L) command to quickly find patrons in Circulation—now you can find them by their nickname, as well as first and last name.

Reservations [21.12]

You can place reservations on up to 50 copies at a time when registered for Advanced Bookings.

Introducing Portuguese [22.5]

We've added Portuguese to our offering of languages. We're starting with Self Service, but soon you'll be able to view all of Researcher in Portuguese.

Researcher

Tiny Search Widget [21.11]

Did you know?—You can embed our Alexandria widgets on your library or school homepage so students can type in a search and jump directly to your Alexandria catalog.
We're offering a new, tiny search widget. Visit our support center to learn how to add it to your webpage!

Researcher Topnav [22.2]

In Researcher, check out the new topnav, with the handy Researcher drawer—no more 'going back' to Researcher in order to switch between Scout and Browse!
Also—*behold*—the user menu, where your patrons can see quick stats like how many items they have out and how many holds!

Bulletin Boards [22.4]

We've updated Bulletin Boards! Add bulletins to convey school or library information to your patrons, teachers, parents, and more.
Our favorite new features:
- You can set the Style (colors);
- It's mobile-friendly;
- and embedded Google Forms and Calendars work great!

Add-ons

CampusKEY [21.11]

Alexandria's CampusKEY, powered by GG4L Passport, is an enterprise-grade, single sign-on (SSO) and identity management (IDM) platform that helps school districts securely and cost-effectively distribute third-party EdTech applications and content to students and staff.
Now, students can see their other applications when they sign in with GG4L in Researcher.
Contact our Sales team to learn more about GG4L and CampusKEY.

IES [22.4]

Introducing Integrated Email Services for Alexandria and Textbook Tracker. Leave behind the headache of managing your own server, or trusting some external source—we can handle and send all of your Alexandria emails for you. Call us today [at 1.800.347.6439] to discuss if this is the best option for your library.

Upcoming

What's next?

We invite you to take a look at our Upcoming page to see all the things on our queue. Of course the biggest features will come with the Makeover, including a Dashboard, Lookup by Series in Circulation, and a brand new Bulletin Board Builder.

You can use the Makeover now by clicking the alert button at the top of your Circulation screen. Some of the things you may enjoy:

Copy List
Lookup by Series
Homeroom items out and pictures
New Login screens
And more.
Send us feedback by using the Help menu > Contact us!

Other things we are working on for next year are an updated Search interface and a new Style for Researcher, a 'popularity' tracker for titles, and a redesign of our Reports interface.

Don't forget to send us your Ideas for new features, and sign up for our User Research Group to give us feedback on early prototypes.

Thank you for watching, happy holidays!

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