



## Flickr

### Photo-storage, photo sharing and photo community

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### Objective

During this session we will introduce you to the fundamentals of creating a Flickr account, uploading photos to Flickr, creating sets and collections, tagging your items and learning about the extra "bells and whistles" that Flickr is used for.

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### Overview

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## Introduction

1. What is Flickr? What do you want to use it for?

Flickr is an online photo management and sharing application. The two main goals of Flickr are to:

- a. Make it easy for you to share your photos with friends and/or family. From uploading images from your computer or digital camera – to emailing photos from your camera phone to your Flickr account - the options for getting the photos on Flickr are endless.
- b. Enable new ways to organizing photos. Once you switch to digital it is very easy to get overwhelmed with the number of photos to organize. Flickr has the added benefit of allowing friends or family to post comments about your photos.
- c. Flickr is an excellent way to safeguard the immeasurable value of your photos. Many people assume that with all of their photos loaded on to their computer they are “safe” if anything were to happen. However, if there were a fire, or flood and your computer was lost all of your photos would be lost too. Flickr offers an excellent way to store your photos in a secure “offsite” location that won’t be subject to the risks that unforeseeable tragedy may pose.
- d. Flickr is also a social site that allows users (if they choose) to share their photos, post comments or tags about other photos, find photographers with similar interests; locate photographs by geography and much more. However, these are all features that do not need to be part of your Flickr experience if you do not choose to.

## Terms and Definitions

1. **Upload:** The means by which you load your photos in to your Flickr account. There are 5 ways to upload your photos to Flickr.

- Via the Flickr upload web page
- Via the Flickr Uploadr (to be downloaded on to your computer PC or Mac)
- Via iPhoto Aperture or Windows XP plugins
- Via email
- Via various free third-party desktop programs.

2. **Sets:** Sets are a grouping of photos that you can organize around a certain theme, such as “Trip to the Grand Canyon.” You can use sets to highlight your favorite photos, or to make an album that is just pictures of your pets, or of photos that you have taken with a particular camera.

3. **Collections:** these are groupings of sets (or other collections) so you can organize around a larger theme, such as family vacations, travels or by a time frame (2006, 2007).

4. **The Organizer:** this is the name for the Flickr application where sets and collections are created. The Organizer also allows you to perform tasks on large batches of photos (ie changing permissions or editing timestamps).

5. **Share:** sharing is one wonderful feature of Flickr that you may choose to be a part of or not. Some people join Flickr Groups as a way to meet other people with similar interests. If you don't see a Group you want to join you may create one of your own.

6. **Privacy Settings:** you determine how much or how little, and to whom, you do or do not want to share your photos. For every photo you load on to Flickr you can set limits to protect your privacy, your copyrights and more.

7. **Maps:** if you are interested in finding out (or sharing with others) where, and when a photo was taken you may use the Maps feature. Using the Organizer you drag-and-drop your photos onto the map to show where you took them, or browse a world map to see where other people have been and what they saw.

8. **Make Stuff:** the beauty of Flickr is the ease with which you can create things using your photos. Once your images are loaded you can create photo books (instead of the old-school photo album), make prints, business cards, calendars, postage stamps and more. Most of these features use a third-party to assist with these functions but all of them can easily be done from your Flickr account using your photos.

9. **Tags:** Labels for your photos, created by you or others (if you choose to allow this) that describe the content of a photo. If you want to see other photos that have the same tag you would click on tag word to see more photos that also use that tag. Tags are a user-generated way to search Flickr.

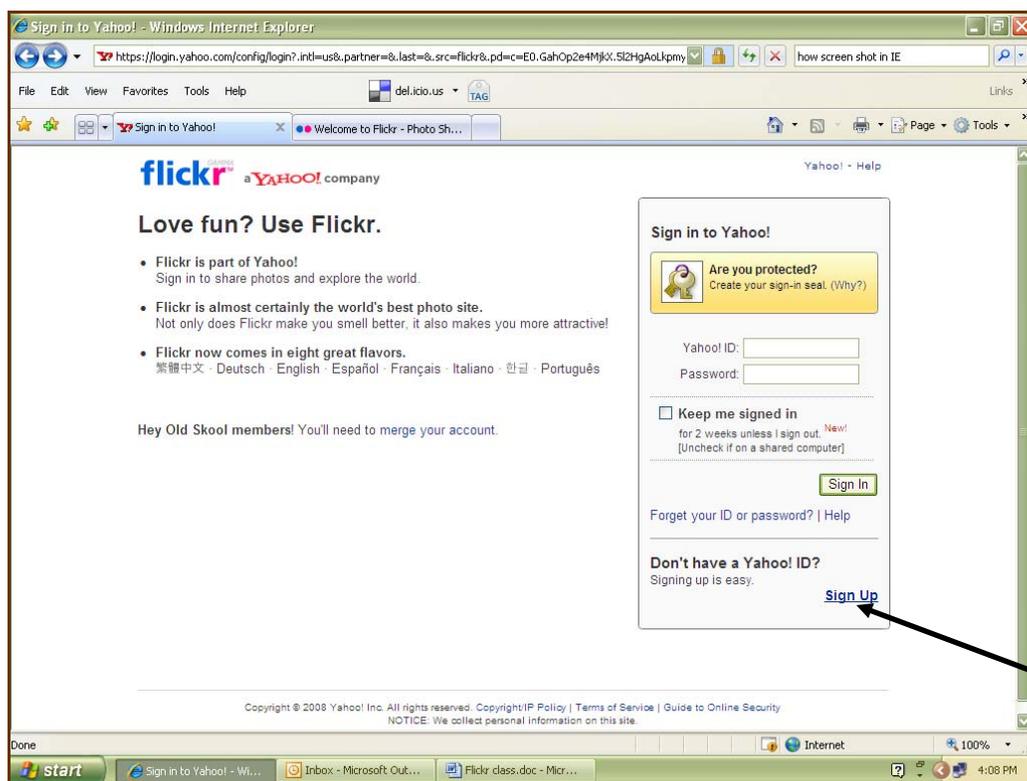
10. **Photostream:** Your photostream is a visual chronological history of everything you've ever uploaded to Flickr. If you have a FREE account your photostream will only display the last 200 photos you uploaded. If you have a PRO account everything is displayed.

11. **Mashups:** Mashup originally referred to the practice in pop music (notably hip-hop) of producing a new song by mixing two or more existing pieces. Now mashup refers to many mediums and forms wherein two or more things (applications, songs, images etc) are combined to make something new.

## Creating your Flickr Account

Flickr is owned by Yahoo; therefore you must have a Yahoo account in order to use Flickr. If you already have a Yahoo account it's very easy to create a Flickr account.

1a. If you already have a Yahoo account and attempt to create a Flickr account you will see this login screen:



Click here to create a Yahoo

**1b.** If you do not have a Yahoo account you will need to create one. From the screen above you will choose **sign up** below where it asks **Don't have Yahoo ID?** You will then see this screen:

Yahoo! Registration - Windows Internet Explorer  
https://edit.yahoo.com/registration?intl=us&new=1&done=https%3A/login.yahoo.com/config/validate%3Fsrc=filc

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help del.icio.us TAG Links

Yahoo! Registration Welcome to Flickr - Photo Sh...

Yahoo! - Help

**Hi there!**  
We'll get you set up on Yahoo! in three easy steps! Just answer a few simple questions, select an ID and password, and you'll be all set.

Already have an ID or Mail address?  
[Sign In](#)  
[Forget your password or Yahoo! ID?](#)

I prefer content from Yahoo! U.S. in English

**1. Tell us about yourself...**

My Name  First Name  Last Name

Gender  - Select One -

Birthday  - Select Month -  Day  Year

I live in  United States

Postal Code

**2. Select an ID and password**

Yahoo ID and Email  @ yahoo.com

Password  Password Strength

Re-type Password

**3. In case you forget your ID or password...**

Alternate Email

Security Question  - Select One -

Your Answer

Done

start Yahoo! Registration - ... Inbox - Microsoft Out... Flickr class.doc - Mic...

Internet 100% 4:10 PM

**1c.** Following the prompts in the above screen you will create your account. Once your account is created you will login into Flickr using your username and your password (that you select).

## Uploading Your Photos into Your Flickr Account

1. When you have a FREE Flickr account, you can upload 100MB worth of photos each calendar month. This is a bandwidth limit, and not an amount of space that you have on Flickr servers. Your bandwidth allowance is reset to zero at midnight in the Pacific Time Zone (Flickr headquarters time) on the first of each calendar month. You can't recover any of your monthly allowance by deleting photos. If you have a free account, you'll see your limit on the upload page.

If you find yourself hitting your limit, try a Pro account. Or, you can shoot your photos at a lower resolution or resize them to be more "web-friendly" (like 300KB instead of 5MB).

With a free Flickr account you will get:

- 100 MB monthly upload limit (5MB per photo)
- 3 sets
- Photostream views limited to the 200 most recent images
- Post any of your photos in up to 10 group pools
- Only smaller (resized) images accessible (though the originals are saved in case you upgrade later)

With a Pro Flickr (currently \$24.95 a year) account you will get:

- Unlimited uploads (10MB per photo)
- Unlimited storage
- Unlimited bandwidth
- Unlimited photosets
- Archiving of high-resolution original images
- The ability to replace a photo
- Post any of your photos in up to 60 group pools
- Ad-free browsing and sharing

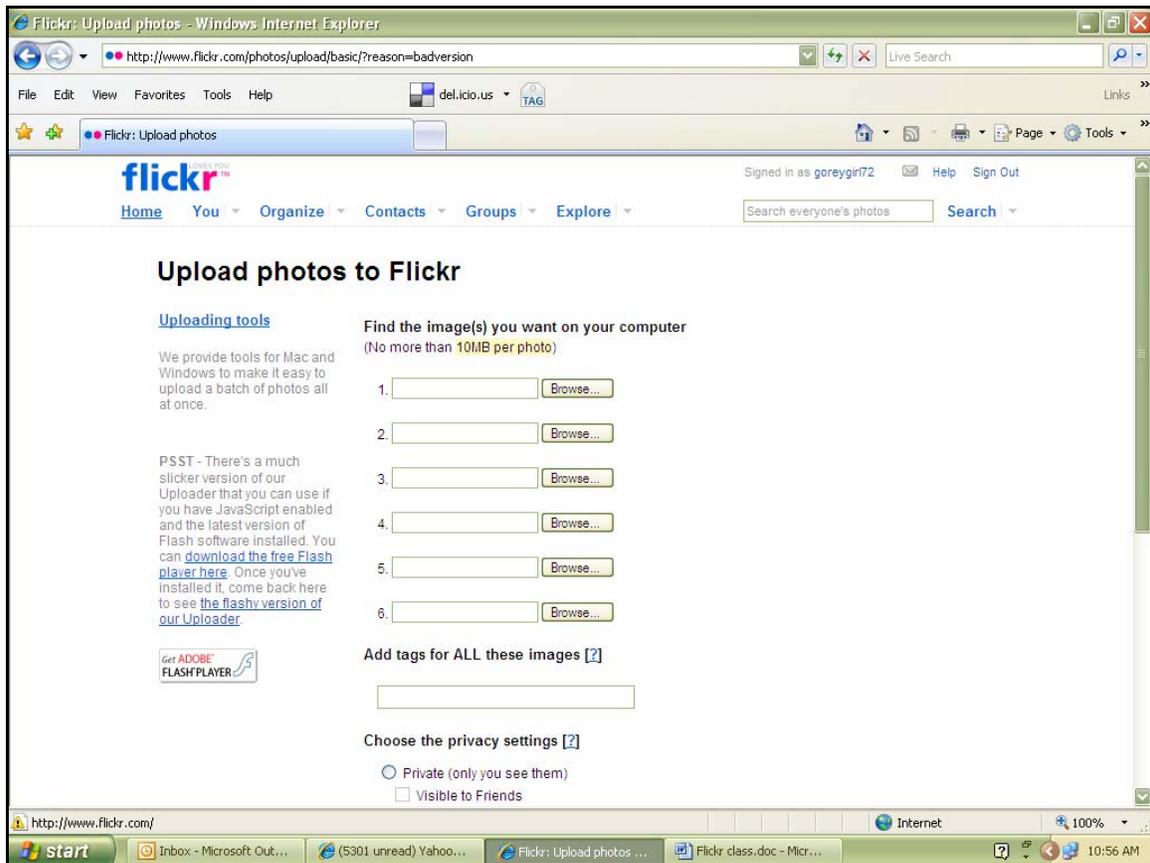
If you plan to use Flickr as storage for your photos and plan to upload many photos over time than the Pro account is the way to go. In the scheme of things it is reasonably priced for what you will get.

2. Uploading photos on Flickr. There are several options for uploading your photos:

- Via the Flickr upload web page

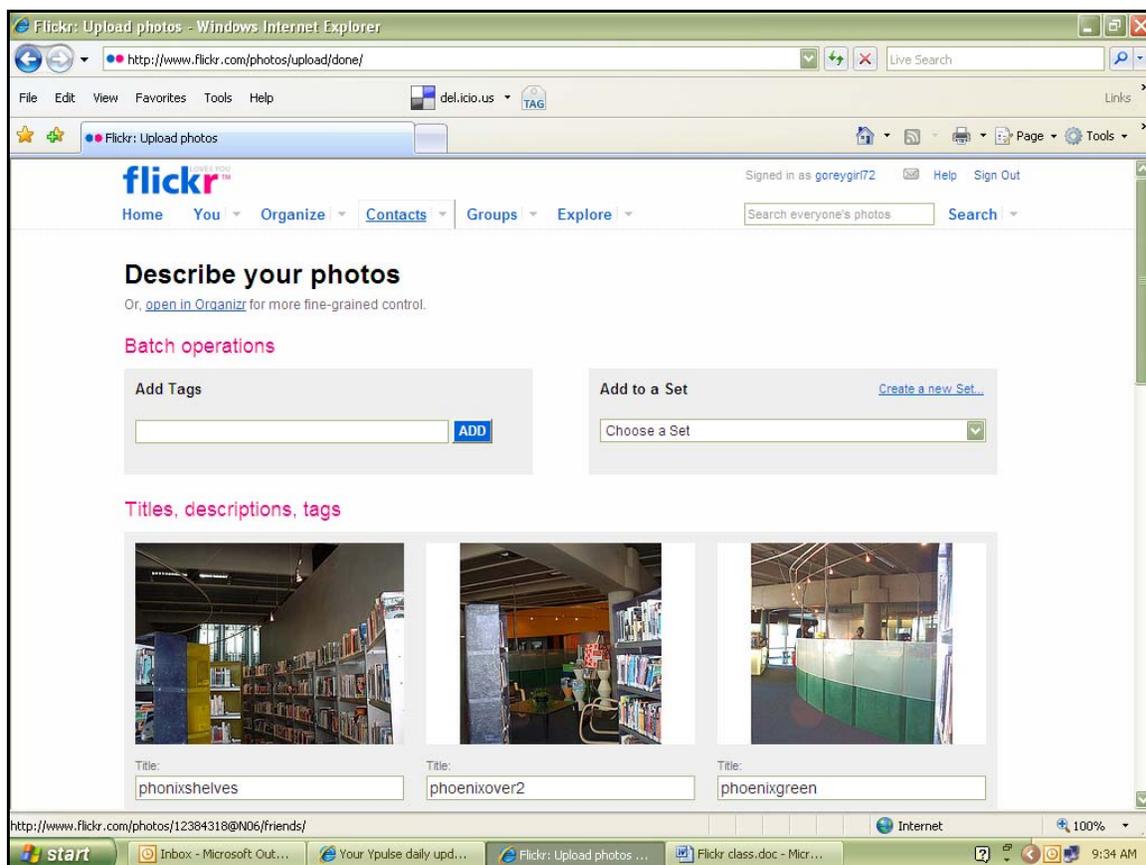
- Via the Flickr Uploadr (available to download on PC and Mac)
- Via iPhoto, Aperture or Windows XP plugins
- Via email
- Via various free third-party desktop programs.

For the purpose of our class today we will be using the Flickr **upload page**. This is what it looks like.



Uploading is easy using this page. Use the browse function to locate your photos from your computer, your disc, or a jump-drive. Once you have selected all of the photos to upload click on the upload button.

After the photos have uploaded you will see this screen:



At this point you may do various **optional** functions:

- you can add **titles** to your photos
- you can add **descriptions** of your photos
- you can add **tags** for your photos

You may choose NOT to do anything and save the batch and move on. With a FREE account of course you will hit your upload limit fairly quickly – unless you reduce the size of your images.

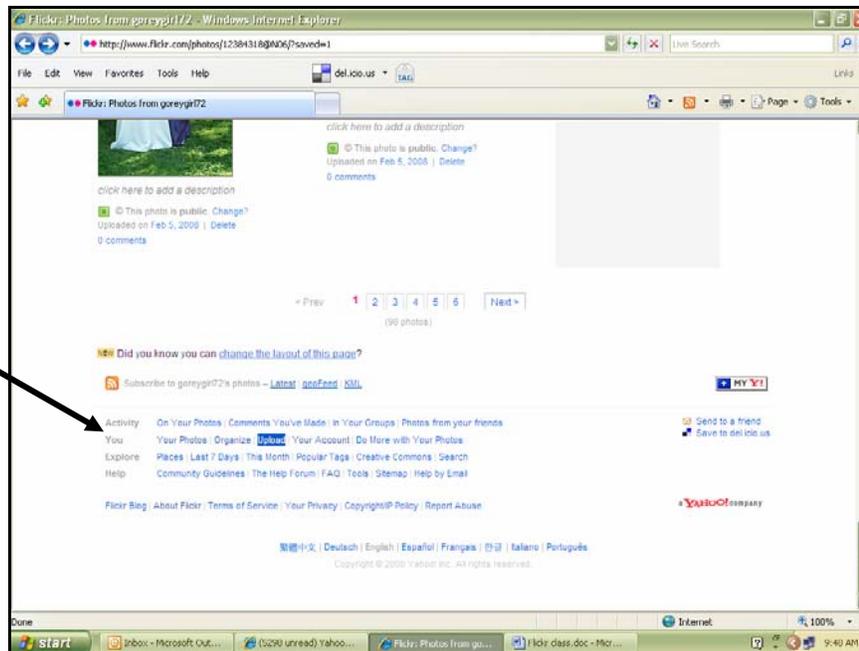
## Security/privacy settings and Sharing your Flickr account

1.

It's easy to manage the various security and privacy settings for your Flickr account. You have the option of setting these options photo-by-photo as you upload – which is handy if you don't mind others viewing photos of your garden for example, but do not want others to view photos from a party that feature images of your children. Flickr allows maximum flexibility in determining these options.

The easiest way to set these levels is from **your account** page. Flickr has a very handy index of all the various functions you can perform at the bottom of every page that looks like this:

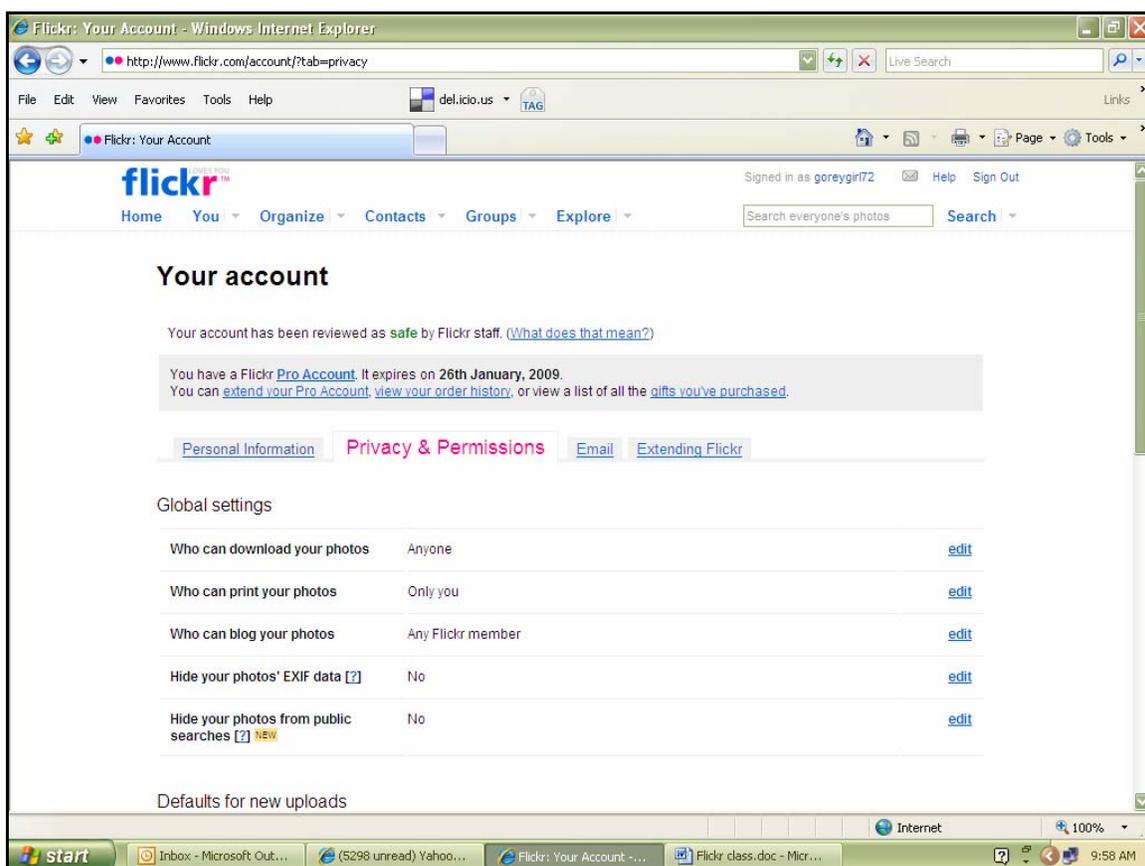
Locate  
YOU at  
the  
bottom of  
the  
screen.



The **YOU** area at the bottom of each Flickr screen lists these options:

**Your Photos | Organize | Upload | Your Account | Do More With Your Photos**

To set your **Privacy and Permissions** settings click on **Your Account** and then choose **Privacy and Permissions**. You will see this screen:



Once here you can go through each of these options to determine if others can download, print, blog, comment on and search your photos. You can set these limits to allow any Flickr user access to your photos – to just friends, family or Flickr contacts. You may set these options photo-by-photo or set defaults for new uploads.

You may also set these settings photo-by-photo. When you have an individual photo selected the various options to make changes for the photo are on the right hand side. You will see them here:

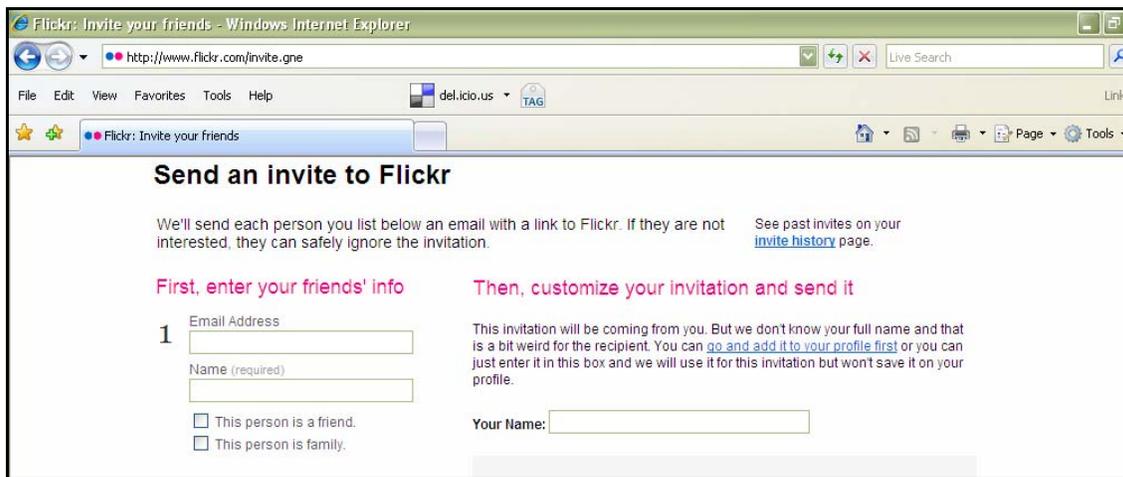
The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying a Flickr photo page. The address bar shows the URL: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/erinbrarian/2246676418/>. The page features a large photo of a hallway entrance, a comment box with the text "Add your comment" and a "POST COMMENT" button, and a right-hand sidebar with various settings. Two callout boxes with arrows point to specific settings: "All rights reserved setting here" points to the "All rights reserved (edit)" option, and "Viewing setting here" points to the "This photo is public (edit)" option. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including Microsoft Outlook, Yahoo!, and a document titled "Flickr class.doc".

**All rights reserved setting here**

**Viewing setting here**

2.

Sharing your photos with friends and family is easy! If you know someone who is already a Flickr user the easiest way to share easy access to each others photos is to become **contacts**. If you find someone already on Flickr you can easily ask to become a **contact**. You may also send invites to friends or family to become Flickr members. Choose **contacts** from the top of any screen and then choose **invite**. You will then see this screen:

The image shows a screenshot of a web browser window titled "Flickr: Invite your friends - Windows Internet Explorer". The address bar shows "http://www.flickr.com/invite.gne". The page content is titled "Send an invite to Flickr". It includes a message: "We'll send each person you list below an email with a link to Flickr. If they are not interested, they can safely ignore the invitation." and a link to "invite history". The form is divided into two columns: "First, enter your friends' info" and "Then, customize your invitation and send it". The first column has a numbered list starting with "1" and includes fields for "Email Address" and "Name (required)", with checkboxes for "This person is a friend." and "This person is family.". The second column contains explanatory text about the invitation and a "Your Name:" field.

You may also set a website address for yourself to make it easier for friends and family to view your photos without becoming Flickr members. You make this choice from you **Your Account** page – underneath **personal information**.

In order to **ONLY** share your photos with friends or family (as opposed to **public**) you must have made those choices in the aforementioned privacy and permissions option in the **Your Account** section. Or you may choose to set these options photo-by-photo.

You may also send photos to people, either as attachments to an email or as a link to a Flickr page.

If you want others to find your photos easily than setting **tags** for each photo is the easiest way to make this searchable.

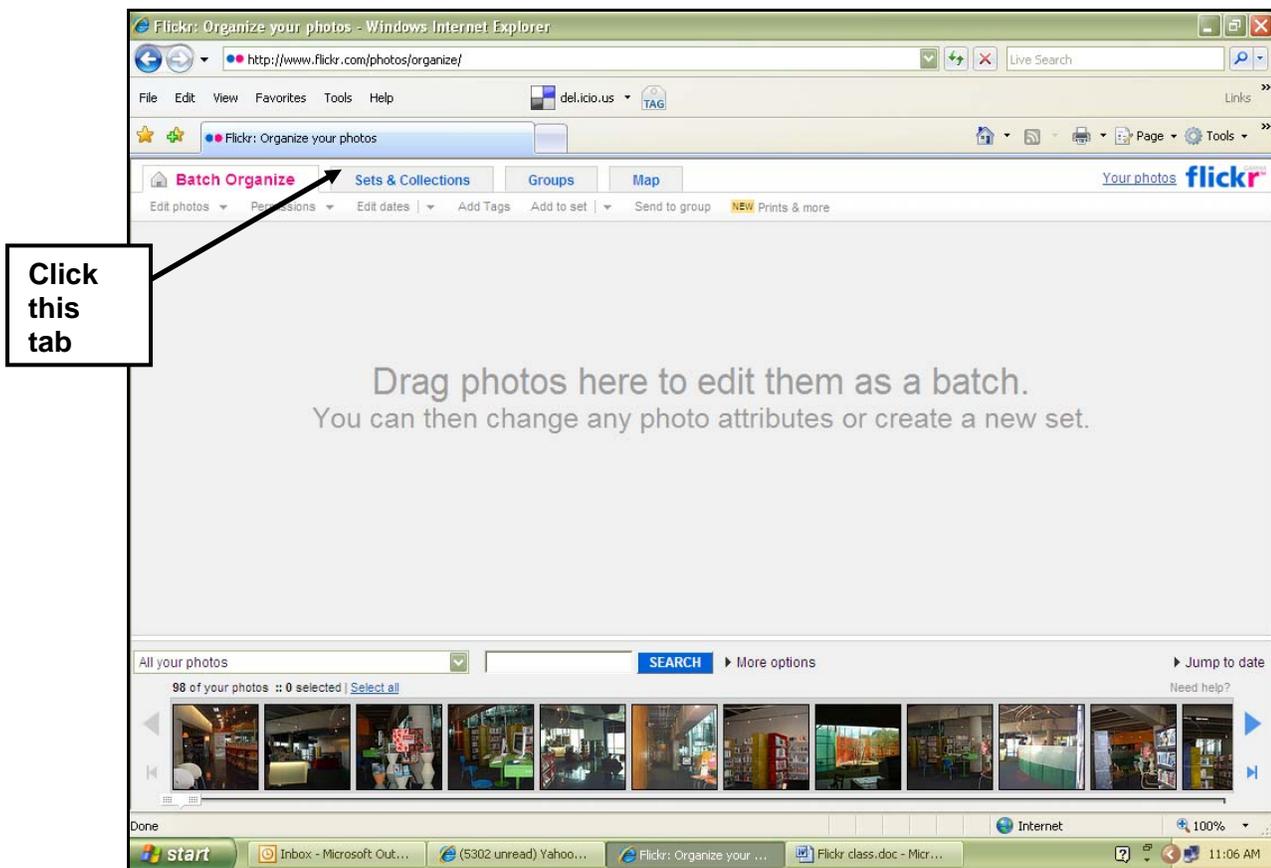
# Organizing Your Photos

1.

**Sets and Collections:** **Sets** are a grouping of photos that you can organize around a certain theme, such as *Our Hawaii Trip*. You can use them to highlight your favorite photos, or make an album that is only pictures of your dog, or of photos you have taken from a particular camera.

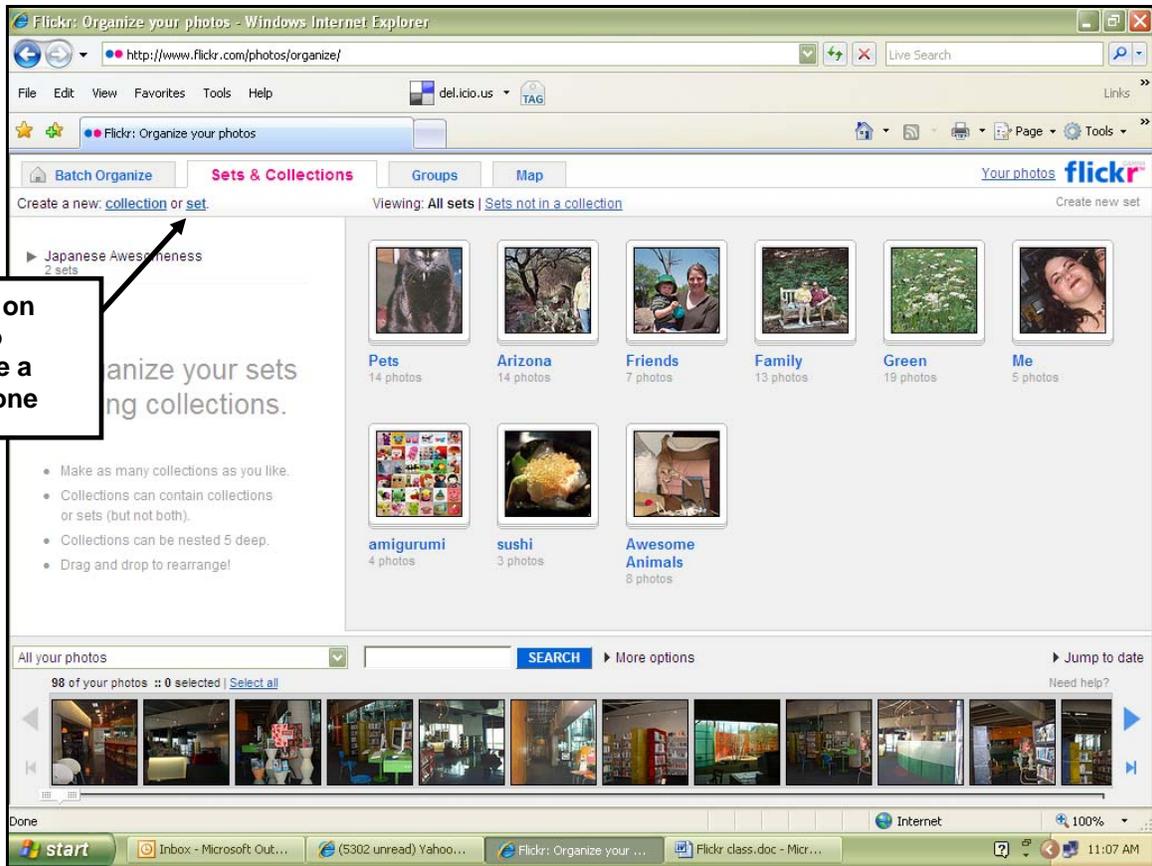
**Collections** are groupings of **Sets** (or other **Collections**) so you can organize around grander themes, such as Travels, Family or by year (2007, 2008 etc.).

To create sets and collections you will need to use the Flickr **Organizr**. To load the **Organizr** just click on Organize from the top of the screen or from the options at the bottom of the screen. Once loaded you will see this:

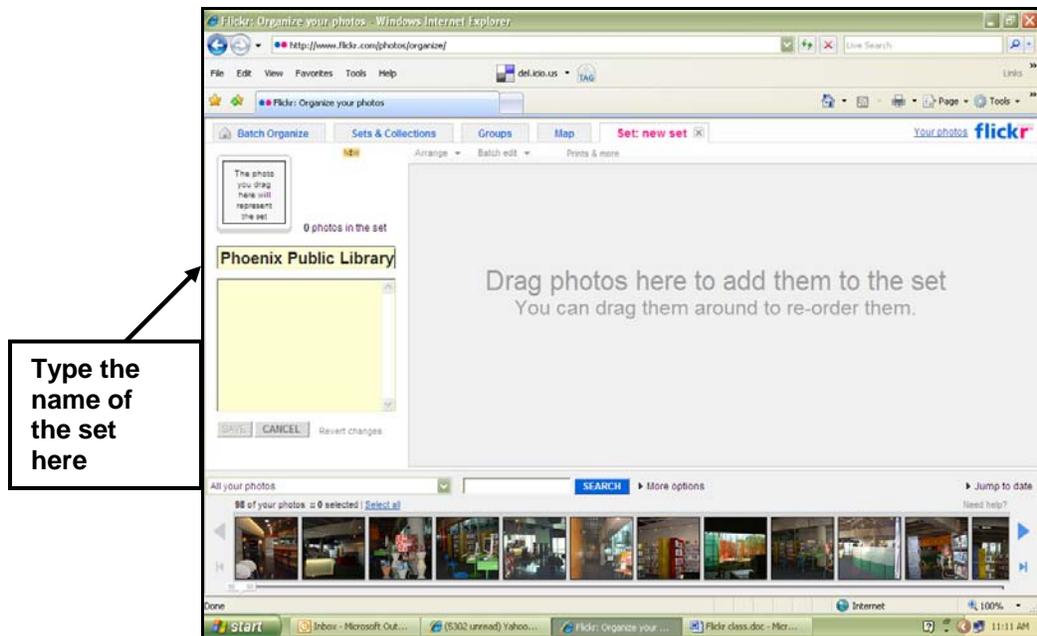


The default when you load the **Organizr** is the batch organize. For our purposes you will want to choose **Sets & Collections** by clicking the tab on the above screen.

Once you choose **Sets & Collections** you will see a screen like this:

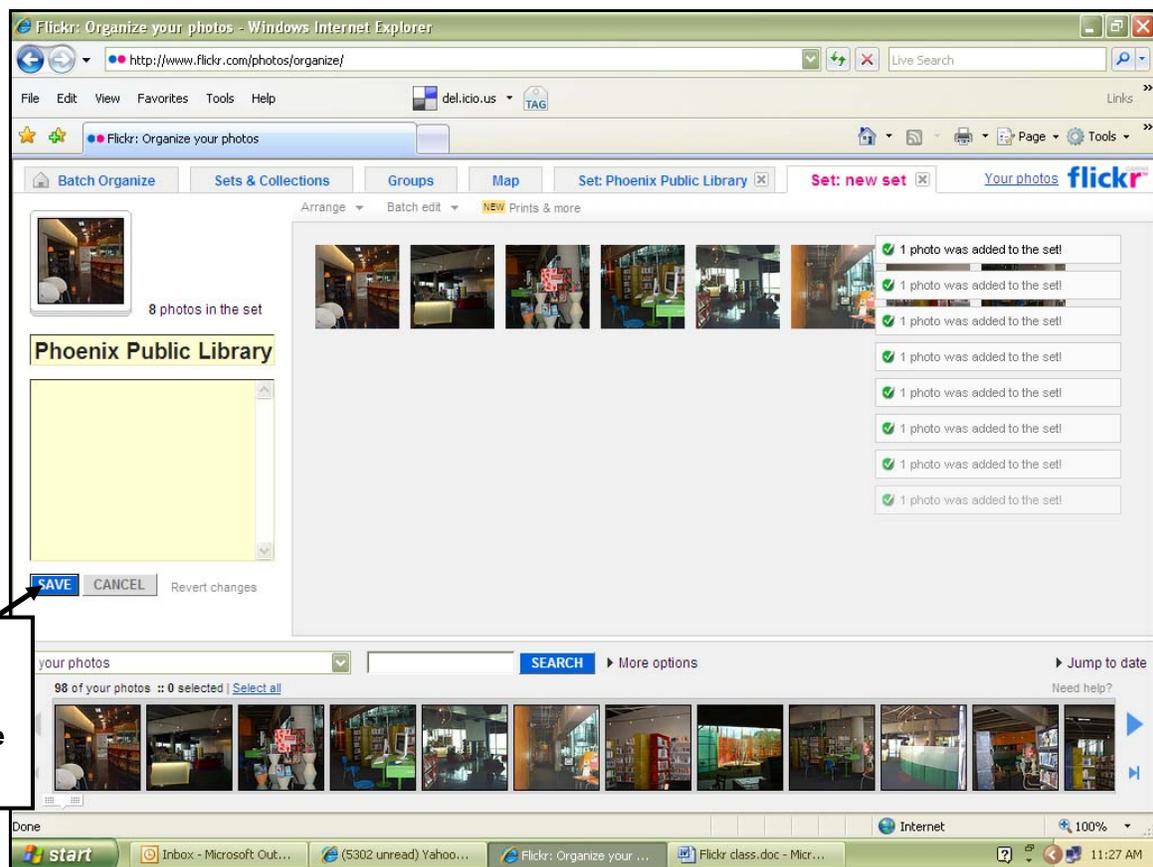


To create a set click on the link shown above. Once you choose this option you will see a screen like this:



The photos you see at the bottom of the screen are what Flickr is referring to when they use the term **photostream**. To add photos from your **photostream** to create your new set simply drag the photos into the box using your mouse. Moving a photo from your **photostream** does not delete it from your **photostream** – it's creating a new version in your newly created set. It is possible to delete items from your **photostream** if you want to, but that is an advanced move.

You will choose a name for your set by typing it into the space provided and once you are done dragging photos into the box to create your set you will click **save**. This is what the screen will look like when you drag your photos in to the box:



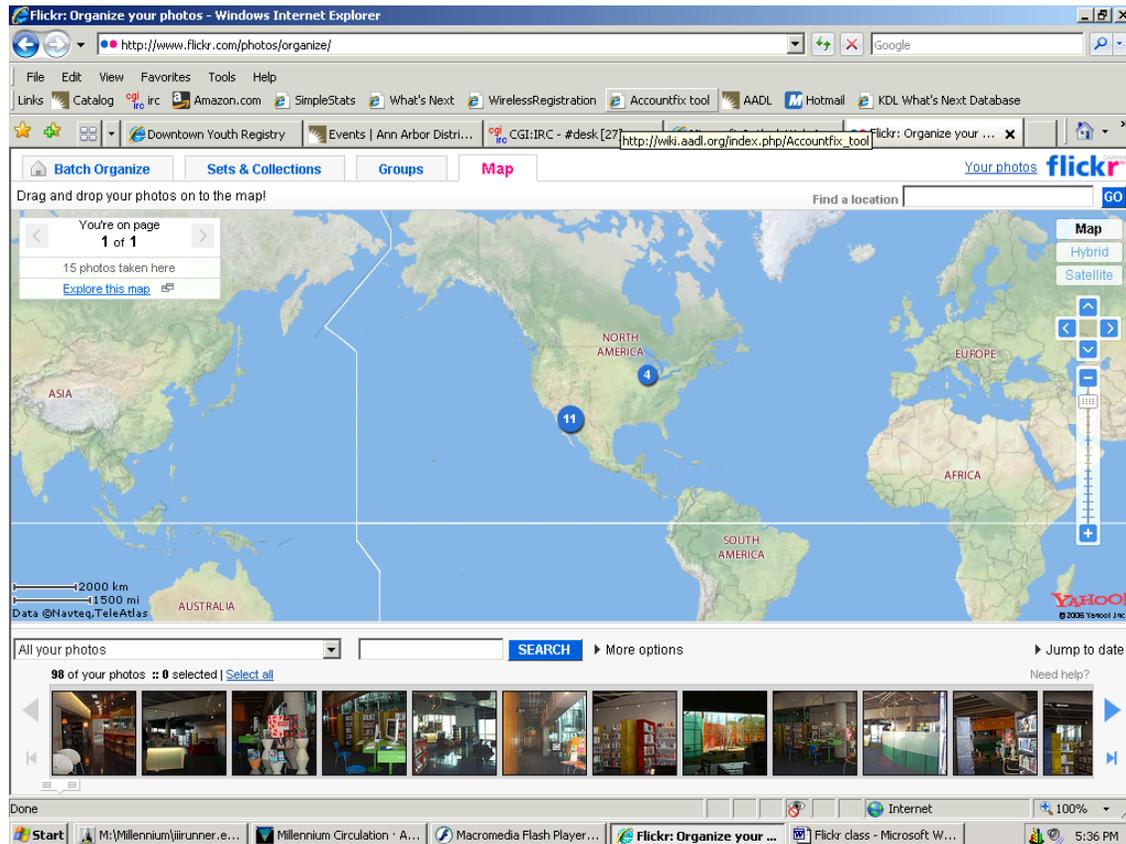
Once you have several **sets** that you want to organize together you will want to create a **collection**. Creating a **collection** is easy – you use the same options from the **Organizr** to name your **collection** and move **sets** into the collection.

2.

**Maps!** If you're interested in geography the maps option can be a lot of fun. Not only can you locate your photos on a map to let others know where the photo

was taken you can also explore the map to see what other photos were taken in a particular location.

Using the **Organizr** you will drag-and-drop your photos on to a map where to show where you took them. The screen will look like this when you choose the **map** tab in the **Organizr**:

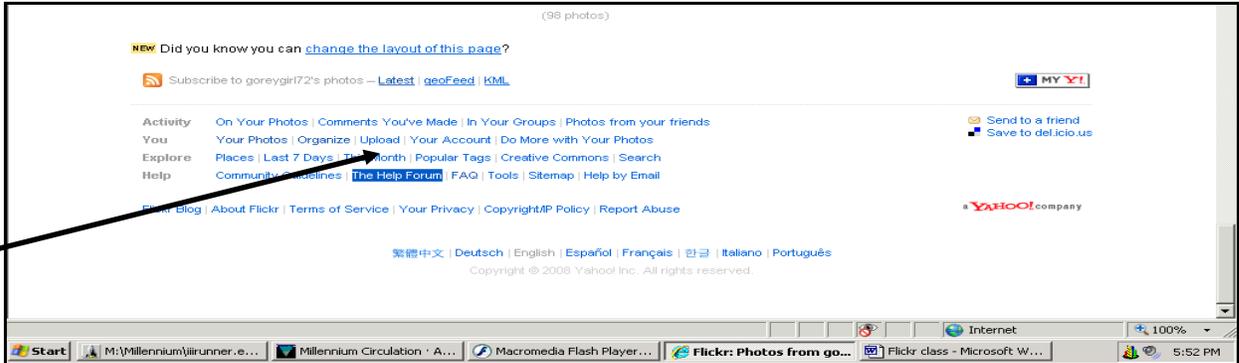


You can then manipulate the map by zooming in and out to make the location you drop your photo more specific. Depending on the detail of the map for the location you choose you may be able to drop the photo in the exact location of the house or park or location it was taken – even down to streets!

# Everything Else!

This class was just a tiny taste of what is possible with Flickr. There are many other features to use and have fun with as well as many other details to flesh out what we covered in this class. The Flickr FAQ page is a great place to spend time to answer the detailed help that you may require to explore other Flickr resources. It can be found at the bottom of the Flickr page here:

FAQ

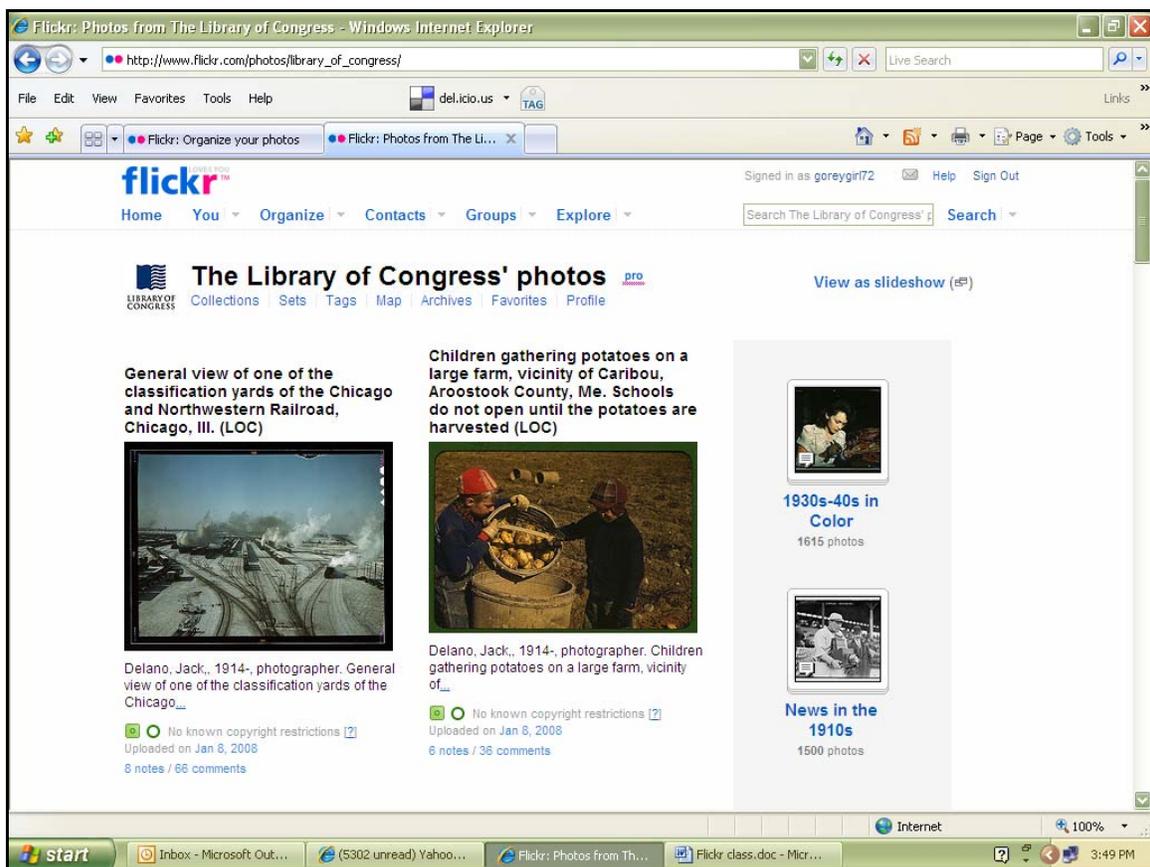


1. The Library of Congress (LOC) partnership is one of the more exciting things to development recently. Below is a screen shot of the blog post about this project on the LOC website: To find this post the address is <http://www.loc.gov/blog/?p=233>



**From the post above:** Out of some 14 million prints, photographs and other visual materials at the Library of Congress, more than 3,000 photos from two of our most popular collections are being made available on our new Flickr page, to include only images for which no copyright restrictions are known to exist. If all goes according to plan, the project will help address at least two major challenges: how to ensure better and better access to our collections, and how to ensure that we have the best possible information about those collections for the benefit of researchers and posterity.

This is what the LOC Flickr page looks like:



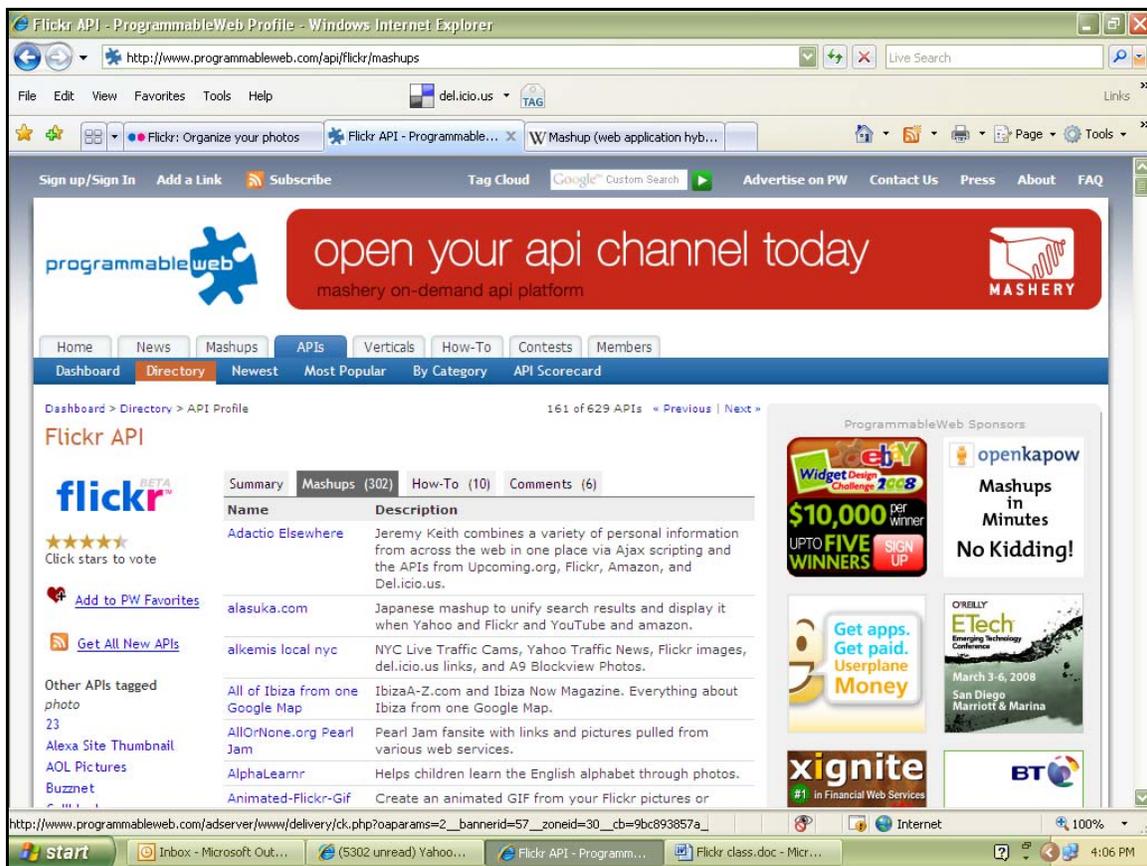
2.

**Mashups.** A very web 2.0 term and a key example of how things have changed in the world of creation is the word mashups. Mashup originally referred to the practice in pop music (notably hip-hop) of producing a new song by mixing two or more existing pieces. Now mashup refers to many medium and forms wherein more than one or more things are combined to make something new.

In the digital world, a mashup is a web application that combines data from more than one source into a single integrated tool; an example is the use of cartographic data from Google Maps to add location information to real-estate data from Craigslist, thereby creating a new and distinct web service that was not originally provided by either source.

That said there is an entire world of mashups that have been created using Flickr. These are definitely advanced maneuvers, but depending on how what your appetite is after this class you just might be ready for them.

Here is a list of some fun digital mashups that have been created using Flickr taken from the programmable web site:



The address for the above page is <http://www.programmableweb.com/api/flickr/mashups> Flickr is just one of the many applications you will find on this website. For even more fun ways to use Flickr visit <http://flickrbits.com/> .

3.

**Resources.** For additional information you may want to consult the following:

Websites:

For wikipedia's take on Flickr: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flickr>

An article on the origins of Flickr:

[http://www.usatoday.com/tech/products/2006-02-27-flickr\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/tech/products/2006-02-27-flickr_x.htm)

Books in AADL's collection:

1. Flickr Hacks by Paul Bausch and Jim Bumgardner. Sebastopol, Calif. : O'Reilly, 2006.

2. Blogs, wikis, podcasts, and other powerful web tools for classrooms by Will Richardson. Thousand Oaks, Calif. : Corwin Press, c 2006.

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