

Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust Feasibility Survey

1. Introduction

Previous statewide surveys of more than five hundred of Oklahoma's libraries, museums, and archives indicate that these institutions are struggling to preserve the documents, artifacts, and other materials that tell the story of our state. The most recent survey indicated that 100% of institutions reported losing items through deterioration, fire, flood, pests, theft, and other causes.

However, there is no dedicated source of funding to help preserve the collections in these institutions. With support from the national [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#), a study committee is now assessing the feasibility of creating an organization called the **Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust**. The purpose of the Trust would be to provide funding to cultural institutions to improve preservation of their collections. In addition, the Trust would provide training to cultural institution staff, as well as the general public, on properly caring for materials.

This survey is an important opportunity for you to help determine the feasibility of developing the **Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust**.

Submitting the Survey

A downloadable copy of the survey in Adobe PDF format is available online at www.culturalheritage.trust.org. Paper copies of the survey are available at public meetings held throughout the state. For a list of public meetings, please go to the website.

Why Should You Participate?

The opinions you provide will help inform decision-makers and potential funding sources as to the importance the public places on Oklahoma's cultural heritage.

Confidentiality

We will keep your individual responses completely confidential. Only the aggregate data will be reported; your individual responses will never be published or identified without your express permission.

How to Complete the Questionnaire

- To complete the survey, just click on the appropriate box or type the requested information on the line (or in the space) provided.
- Do not leave questions blank. If there are questions that you cannot answer, select "Don't Know." If there are questions that are not applicable to your institution, select "Not Applicable."
- Submit the survey by clicking on the submit button at the end of the questionnaire.

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2. Assessment Questions

Please answer each of the following questions completely. If you do not have an opinion on a specific question, please answer it as "Don't Know".

1. How often between July of 2007 and June of 2008 did you visit a library, museum or other cultural institution in Oklahoma?

- None
- Once
- 2 to 5 times.
- 6 to 10 times.
- More than 10 times.
- Don't Know

2. How do you rate the cultural institutions in your own community?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't Know

3. How would you describe the condition of your own family heirlooms, photographs and documents?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- I have none.
- Don't Know

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4. Do you think an organization such as the *Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust* described on the previous survey page is a good idea?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

5. Which of the following do you think should provide financial assistance in preserving the collections of Oklahoma's museums, libraries, and archives? (check all that apply)

- Federal Government
- State Government
- Local Government
- Businesses
- Foundations
- Individuals

Other (please specify)

6. What amount of money should the Oklahoma state legislature allocate on an *annual* basis to help ensure the preservation of Oklahoma's historical artifacts and documents? (choose the maximum you feel is reasonable)

- \$1.00 per Oklahoma resident
- \$2.00 per Oklahoma resident
- \$3.00 per Oklahoma resident
- \$4.00 per Oklahoma resident
- \$5.00 per Oklahoma resident
- \$6.00 or more per Oklahoma resident
- None, no money should be provided by the state legislature.
- Don't Know

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7. Would you be interested in guidance from a *Cultural Heritage Trust* on the care of your own family's memorabilia, i.e., photographs, scrapbooks, textiles, documents, etc.?

- Yes, most definitely
- Probably
- Probably not
- No, definitely not
- Don't Know

8. The committee is interested in learning why you care about historical objects, either in your personal collection or in the collections of the state's cultural institutions. In the box below, please share any special stories you have regarding an experience with an Oklahoma library, museum, or archive.

Cultural Champions

A list of *Cultural Champions* will be presented in the Final Report and on any Cultural Heritage Trust website that may be created in the future. If you would like to be included on that list, please complete the section below.

Again, none of your responses to the survey will be published in a way that identifies you personally.

Yes, you have my permission to list me as a Cultural Champion:

9. Name (as you wish it listed)

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10. Address:

11. City:

12. State:

13. Zip:

14. E-Mail Address:

**You have reached the end of the survey.
Thank you very much for your participation!**