A CALL TO ACTION

Oklahoma’s Connecting to Collections Initiative NEEDS YOU!

THE PROBLEM: Oklahoma’s unique heritage is at risk. Recent studies have found that thousands of historical documents, photographs and artifacts in collections throughout the state are in danger of being lost to due to a lack of funding and proper care.

THE SEARCH FOR A SOLUTION: With a $40,000 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and the Oklahoma Museums Association are conducting a study to identify collections care needs of Oklahoma’s museums, libraries, and archives. Input also is being sought on the feasibility of establishing the Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust, an organization that would provide funding and training to ensure long-term preservation of the state’s irreplaceable documents and artifacts.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: Please respond to the organizational survey by going online to www.culturalheritagetrust.org. Once you let us know your organizational needs, please complete the public opinion survey. Then, sign up to be a Cultural Champion to help us promote the concept of the Trust throughout the state.

SUMMIT MEETINGS: Intended for staff and volunteers of museums, libraries, and other collecting institutions, Summit Meetings will provide information, and seek support for, two national initiatives that could positively impact Oklahoma cultural institutions. Lunchtime focus group discussions will further explore the role of the Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust, as well methodologies for implementation. Meetings are scheduled from 10 am to 2 pm for:

- March 2 at Leonardo’s Discovery Center, Enid
- March 9 at the Muskogee Civic Center, Muskogee
- March 11 at the Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- March 18 at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center, Ada
- March 19 at the Philbrook Museum, Tulsa

Organizations may send up to two delegates. Reservations are required and may be made by going online to www.culturalheritagetrust.org. Reservations are available on a first-come/first-served basis. Oklahoma Museums Association member organizations that wish to send more than two delegates should phone 405-522-3259.