Creating a Nation of Learners
Grant Opportunities from IMLS:
Focus on State-Based Preservation Projects
May 15, 2013

IMLS Vision
A democratic society where communities and individuals thrive with broad public access to knowledge, cultural heritage and lifelong learning.

IMLS Mission
The mission of IMLS is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, learning, and cultural and civic engagement. We provide leadership through research, policy development and grant-making.

Goal 1: Learning Experiences
IMLS places the learner at the center and supports engaging experiences in libraries and museums that prepare people to be full participants in their local communities and our global society.

Goal 2: Community Anchors
IMLS promotes museums and libraries as strong community anchors that enhance civic engagement, cultural opportunities, and economic vitality.

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Strategic Plan 2012-2016
✓ Three programmatic goals drive grant-making

Read more here:
www.imls.gov/about/strategic_plan.aspx
Focus on STEM

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) is a national priority for US competitiveness.

IMLS encourages libraries and museums to blend STEM into programs and projects.

We hope to advance learning and support the acquisition of STEM knowledge at all ages; at risk youth are a priority.

To learn more go to: http://www.imls.gov/about/stem.aspx

National Leadership Grants for Museums

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Goals</th>
<th>1. Address challenges or needs of the museum field</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Heritage Health Index:</td>
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<td>a) Providing safe conditions for collections</td>
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<td>b) Developing emergency plans to protect collections</td>
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<td>c) Assigning responsibility for collections care and providing appropriate training</td>
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<td>d) Providing support for collections care</td>
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<td>2. Have broad impact</td>
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<td>Connecting to Collections: States, districts, commonwealths, republics, freely associated states</td>
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<td>3. Demonstrate innovation and collaboration</td>
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<td>Connecting to Collections: Involve libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, cultural centers</td>
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<tr>
<th>National Leadership Grants for Museums</th>
<th>Project Categories</th>
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<td>Learning Experiences</td>
<td>Community Anchors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development of model programs that create engaging learning opportunities</td>
<td>Addressing community challenges through new partnerships, services, processes, or practices</td>
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<td>Creation of professional development programs, tools, or resources for museum staff and/or volunteers in multiple institutions</td>
<td>Re-envisioning the role of museums in serving their communities</td>
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<td>Research on the role of museums in engaging learners</td>
<td>Research on the role of museums as community anchors</td>
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<td>Creation/support of communities of practice</td>
<td>Increasing the capacity of museums and/or partnering organizations to provide effective services for their communities</td>
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Mary Alice Ball, Senior Library Program Officer
Connie Cox Bodner, Supervisory Grants Management Specialist
### National Leadership Grants for Museums

**Project Category**
- Collections Stewardship
  - Development of new tools that facilitate access and use of museum collections
  - Professional development that improves the ability of museum staff to steward their collections
  - Research focusing on any broadly relevant aspect of the management, conservation and preservation of collections
  - Building or strengthening coalitions to enhance collections care

**Eligibility Requirements**
- A unit of state or local government, or nonprofit organization,
- Located in one of the 50 states, territories, or freely associated states, AND
- Qualify as a museum that, using a professional staff, (1) is organized on a permanent basis for essentially educational or aesthetic purposes, (2) owns or uses tangible objects, either animate or inanimate, (3) cares for these objects, and (4) exhibits these objects to the general public on a regular basis through facilities that it owns or operates OR
- an organization or association that engages in activities designed to advance the well being of museums and the museum profession; or
- an institution of higher education, including public and nonprofit universities.

**Deadline**
- Dec. 2, 2013

**Eligibility Requirements**
- You are not eligible to apply if you are:
  - A federally funded institution
  - A for-profit organization
  - An individual
  - A foreign country or organization

**IMPORTANT:** If you are a non-eligible institution, we encourage you to apply through a partnership with an eligible institution.

### Grant Programs

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<tr>
<td><strong>Support recruitment and education of library students, continuing education for those already in the profession, and development of new programs and curricula</strong></td>
<td>Support projects that address challenges or needs of the museum field, have broad impact, and demonstrate innovation and collaboration</td>
<td>Support projects that improve professional practice beyond the grantees institution</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Categories</strong></td>
<td><strong>MA-level Programs</strong></td>
<td><strong>Learning Experiences</strong></td>
<td><strong>Advancing Digital Resources</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PhD-level Programs</strong></td>
<td><strong>Community Anchors</strong></td>
<td><strong>Demonstration</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Continuing Education</strong></td>
<td><strong>Collections Stewardship</strong></td>
<td><strong>Research</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Building Institutional Capacity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Amount</strong></td>
<td>$50,000-$500,000</td>
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### Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program

#### Program Goals
- Recruit and educate next generation of librarians and archivists
- Provide continuing education for practitioners
- Develop faculty and library leaders
- Conduct research
- Develop new programs and curricula

#### Deadline
- Sep. 16, 2013

- Look for the FY2014 grant guidelines posted on www.imls.gov by July. (Consider reading the FY2013 version now to formulate your ideas.)
- View Applicant 101, narrated web presentation. Participate in a free webinar for applicants. Details will be posted with the guidelines.
- Submit your application several days in advance. This gives you time to correct any Grants.gov errors.

#### Eligibility Requirements
- You are not eligible to apply if you are:
  - A federally funded institution
  - A for-profit organization
  - An individual
  - A foreign country or organization

**IMPORTANT:** If you are a non-eligible institution, we encourage you to apply through a partnership with an eligible institution.

### Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program

#### Project Categories
- Masters-level Programs
- Doctoral-level Programs
- Research (reinstated at peer reviewers request)
- Early Career Development
- Continuing Education
- Institutional Capacity

#### Funding Categories
- Project Grants ($50,000 to $500,000)
  - Up to 3 years, or 4 years for PhD projects
- Collaborative Planning Grants (Up to $50,000)
  - Up to 1 year
- National Forum Grants (Up to $100,000)
  - Up to 1 year

### National Leadership Grants for Libraries

#### Program Goals
- **National Impact:** Address challenges that face the field and have far-reaching impact
- **Innovation:** Understand current practice and show how you will advance the field
- **Collaboration:** Demonstrate a broad need, field-wide buy-in and input, access to appropriate expertise, and sharing of resources.
**National Leadership Grants for Libraries**

**Project Categories**
- Advancing Digital Resources
- Demonstration
- Research
  - List of questions for effective research proposals
  - Required Data Management Questionnaire

**Funding Categories**
- Project Grants ($50,000 to $500,000)
  - Up to 3 years
- Planning Grants (Up to $50,000)
  - Up to 1 year
- National Forum Grants (Up to $100,000)
  - Up to 1 year

**Eligibility Requirements**
- A unit of state or local government, or 501c3,
- Located in one of the 50 states, territories, or freely associated states, AND
- One of the six organization types below
  - A library or a parent organization, that is responsible for the administration of a library.
  - An academic or administrative unit, such as a library school, which is a part of an institution of higher education
  - A digital library under the supervision of at least one permanent professional staff librarian.
  - A library agency that is an official agency of a state or other unit of government
  - A library consortium
  - A library association

**Deadline**
Feb. 3, 2014

**You are not eligible to apply if you are:**
- A federally funded institution
- A for-profit organization
- An individual
- A foreign country or organization

**IMPORTANT:** If you are a non-eligible institution, we encourage you to apply through a partnership with an eligible institution.

**Choosing the Lead**
- Administrative capacity
- Experience in coordinating partnerships
- Appropriate expertise in the field(s) relating to the project goals
- Standards relevant to the project activities
- Infrastructure—e.g. IT? Financial and administrative services? Space for meetings?
- Geographic location
**Important Considerations**

**Partnerships/Collaborations**
- Libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, community colleges, universities
- DPLA
- Local Conservators
- School Districts
- Heritage Preservation
- First Responders
- Utility Companies
- State and Local Government

**Geographic Focus and Reach**
- State
- Region
- Group of Counties
- Public Library Leaders
- Collaborating Museum Service Organizations
- Practitioners of a Specific Discipline
- Institutions of a Specific Type
- County-based Partnerships with Libraries, Museums, and Schools
- Consortia or Professional Organizations that Cross State Lines

**Achieving Results**
- Be specific about your intended results.
- What data will you collect and analyze?
- How will you evaluate progress and adjust course if you need to?
- Will your project be sustainable?
- How will the benefits generated by your project be extended beyond the lifespan of the grant?

**Potential Pitfalls**
- Application doesn’t follow the format specified in the guidelines.
- Not current in the field.
- Not inclusive.
- Unrealistic work plan.
- Budget is padded, inflated, or not aligned with the narrative.
- Project goals are not clearly articulated and supported or defended.
- Evaluation plan is weak, ineffective, or not meaningful.
- Use of generalizations, jargon, buzzwords, unexplained acronyms.
- Sloppy preparation.
- Introducing new, crucial information in attachments.

**Questions**