

GATHERING IDEAS FOR FUTURE STATEWIDE PROJECTS 2014

The Library Council of Washington is looking for your help in identifying ideas for the use of federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding to meet statewide library needs and opportunities.

Project name (a short descriptive title)

Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) Service Hub Development

Library, group, or person submitting proposal Andrew Harbison

Library Name, if different The Seattle Public Library

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1. Briefly describe your idea for the use of LSTA funding (limit your response to approximately ½ page):

Washington has a rich and diverse history embedded in the collections of libraries across the state. The Washington State Library has a unique opportunity to bring these collections together to share that history with broad audiences while offering new ways of seeing and experiencing our individual, local, and collective heritage. The use of LSTA funding can facilitate the planning, implementation, administration, and management of a centralized, statewide Service Hub for the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), a national clearinghouse for cultural heritage digital content.

As a DPLA Service Hub, the State Library would create an aggregate archive and coordinate the collection and preparation of existing digital collection records within the state for contribution to the DPLA union catalog in order to meet submission volume requirements. The Service Hub will also provide “a full menu of standardized digital services, including digitization, metadata, data aggregation and storage services, as well as locally hosted community outreach programs” [dp.la]

2. Briefly describe why funding of this idea is important to the Washington library community (limit your response to approximately ½ page):

Establishing a Service Hub in Washington State for the Digital Public Library of America will coordinate, develop, promote, and amplify digital initiatives in libraries across the state in accordance with fundamental library values of open access and discovery. In doing so, it will advance library roles in the cultural landscape, secure their relevance in the digital age, raise the visibility of digital collections, and create a collective online identity. Simultaneously, a Service Hub will cultivate collaboration and partnerships between libraries, cultural institutions, educators, and communities.

Culturally and historically relevant collections will not only serve community interests and educational goals, it will also provide opportunities for rich digital experiences with more comprehensive and deep collections. In addition to the benefits garnered by communities, partners, and stakeholders, libraries and their staff will benefit from ongoing training and development to maintain currency with industry and technology trends. Providing centralized digitization services will also reduce the costs to libraries to make their unique historical and cultural heritage resources freely available.

3. Briefly describe the outcome that is expected should the idea be funded. In other words, how will we know if the project has been successful and has achieved its goals? (limit your response to approximately ½ page):

The outcome will be the Washington State Library as a Service Hub for the Digital Public Library of America. The first year, the WSL will have identified and partnered with regional institutions to prepare and aggregate digital collection records to meet DPLA submission requirements and will have created an aggregate archive to collect, update, maintain, and submit those records to the DPLA. The WSL will also have created digitization and metadata creation training resources as well as developed processes and procedures for providing data aggregation and storage services for new partners. As part of the ongoing development of the Service Hub beyond the first year, the State Library will also perform outreach to potential new partners and community members to promote and raise awareness of the resources available.

General Information

Which library types are intended as the primary beneficiaries of this project? (check all that apply)

- Academic (private and public two-year and four-year academic institutions)
 Public (libraries organized under RCW 27.12)
 School (private and public K-12 schools)
 Special (business and industry, law, medical, other government, tribal, other)

If other, specify: _____

The intended beneficiaries of the project? (check the primary beneficiary)

- Library staff
 Library users or potential library users
 A specific group of staff or users, or a potential user group. Name the target

beneficiaries(s): students and educators

(e.g., children, adults, disadvantaged, remote access library users, unserved community members, reference staff, IT staff, students)

The activities needed to implement this project are envisioned to include (check all that apply):

- User training
 Staff training
 Grants
 Development of best practices
 Demonstration of emerging technology or practices
 Other, please explain:

Considering the outcome desired, how long should the project continue? 1-4 years
(Note that most projects are from one year to four years in length.)

Which Library Council areas of focus support the idea you are submitting (check all that apply)

1. Advance applied literacy in the state of Washington in areas such as legal research, health information, employment/job searching, and developing civic/voter education resources.
2. Enhance libraries relevancy in a democratic society.
3. Serve underserved, unserved, and culturally diverse communities and populations.