

# Information Sharing and Unfinished Business

IMLS Primary Source Newsletter

## January 2015

<http://www.idevmail.net/message.aspx?d=73&m=2482&e=&r=&f=HTML>

- Featured Project Profile: Supporting Trainers to Bridge the Digital Divide
  - The Public Library Association partnered with the American Library Association's Office for Information Technology Policy and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies to develop an online collection of digital literacy resources accessible to libraries, patrons, and other community-based organizations.
- January Director's Message: A Message of Farewell (*from Susan Hildreth, Director, IMLS*)
  - When I was tapped to lead IMLS and arrived in Washington, D.C. from the west coast, I didn't know what to expect... . But, I knew advancing the work of libraries and museums in the charged Washington political landscape could be a different beast entirely. What I found was a city filled with smart people with a passion for their work and a staff dedicated to the agency's mission of inspiring museums and libraries. With the support of the Administration, Congress, and many effective national associations, I feel I was able to accomplish a great deal during my four-year tenure. IMLS is now in a better position than ever to support our nation's libraries and museums.
- The Latest News
- UpNext Blog Posts
  - A Demand-side Open Government Planning Model for Public Libraries  
A new report released by the Center for Technology in Government, University at Albany, explores the role that public libraries play in supporting open government. [Read More](#)
- IMLS on the Road

## December 2014

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- Featured Project Profile: Rediscovering History with Needles, Thread, and Caribou Skins
  - Through a grant from IMLS, the Alutiiq Museum developed a project to educate adult skin sewers on Kodiak Island, recruit new sewers, create educational resources on skin sewing, and enrich community knowledge of the art of Native Alaskan skin sewing.
- December Director's Message: Good News from Washington, D.C.
  - The past two weeks have been busy ones for IMLS. We have been following three new developments in Washington, D.C. that will impact the work of U.S. libraries and museums for months and years to come.
    - On December 10, President Obama convened educators, advocates, policymakers, corporate supporters, and prominent early education leaders for the [White House Summit on Early Education](#). Not only did the event elevate this issue to the highest level in Washington,
    - On December 11, our attention turned from the White House to the Federal Communications Commission. At an [Open Commission Meeting](#), the agency announced a dramatic expansion of the E-rate program.

- The final news from Washington this week concerns the federal budget. On Tuesday night, President Obama signed into law the trillion-dollar spending bill to fund most federal agencies through fiscal year 2015. The budget for IMLS is \$227,860,000. It includes \$180,909,000 for library services (through the Library Services and Technology Act) and \$30,131,000 for museum services (through the Museum Services Act and the African American History and Culture Act).
- The Latest News
- UpNext Blog Posts
  - New Funding Available for Programs that Serve Disconnected Youth  
Five Federal agencies, including IMLS, are coming together with a new opportunity to help communities overcome the obstacles they face in achieving better outcomes for disconnected youth. [Read More](#)
- IMLS on the Road

## November 2014

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- Featured Project Profile: Oklahoma Libraries as a Gateway to Citizenship
  - The Oklahoma Department of Libraries collaborated with library and community-based programs to support English language learning, civic engagement, and preparation for citizenship.
- November Director's Message: Libraries and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
  - Our agencies have long recognized the role of libraries to help meet the workforce training and job search needs of the American public. At the height of the recession, more than 30 million people [reported](#) using library computers for workforce related needs and 3.7 million of them reported finding work. Today, 96 percent of libraries [surveyed](#) offer online job and employment resources and 78 percent offer programs to help people apply for jobs.  
In July, the President signed the [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014](#) (WIOA) which strengthens and aligns Federal employment, education, and training services.
- The Latest News
- UpNext Blog Posts
- IMLS on the Road

## October 2014

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- Featured Project Profile: Can Punch Cards and Photo Booths Build Visitor Loyalty?
  - The Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History at the McPherson Center's Loyalty Lab project tested low-tech, low-cost techniques to deepen visitor engagement, help the museum build relationships, and encourage repeat visits.
- October Director's Message: Public Libraries Can Be Catalysts for Community Transformation
  - Library leaders have a new ally. The Aspen Institute, an education and policy organization located in Washington D.C. has just published "[Rising to the Challenge: Re-Envisioning Public Libraries](#)." The report explores how libraries can be a catalyst for community transformation.
- The Latest News
- UpNext Blog Posts
- IMLS on the Road