

2018 Grant Awards, Washington Digital Heritage

The Washington Digital Heritage grant program for the 2018-2019 federal fiscal year was developed to support public, tribal, and academic libraries in carrying out a variety of digital initiatives focused on archival and special collections. Proposals receiving priority consideration for award included those demonstrating: broad accessibility of project outputs to the general public; a desire to develop sustainable local digital programs; and adoption and/or dissemination of regional standards and approaches to digitization.

Several of the awarded projects will be part of the Washington Rural Heritage program (<http://www.washingtonruralheritage.org>) maintained by the Washington State Library. Other project outputs will be hosted and maintained locally by awarded institutions.

Total Requested: \$96,442

Total Awarded: \$78,083

Organization: Asotin County Library (Clarkston, WA)

Award: \$4,000

Abstract: In 2015, the Nez Perce County Historical Society was given a collection of several thousand black and white photographic negatives of Lewiston, Idaho and Clarkston, Washington taken by professional photographer, Chester (Chet) Gilleland. These negatives are in pristine condition and are accompanied by a catalog listing names and subject matter. The Asotin County Library will partner with the NPC Historical Society to select the most relevant of these negatives and digitize them, using the catalog to create meaningful records of the history of the area.

Organization: East Adams County Library District (Ritzville, WA)

Award: \$2,635

Abstract: The library proposes to conduct a minimum of five and no more than ten interviews of community members to collect, interpret, and preserve spoken memories of growing up and living in Eastern Adams County while also digitizing specific photos, items, and ephemera to further annotate their experiences of rural, agricultural, and small town life.

Organization: Ellensburg Public Library (Ellensburg, WA)

Award: \$5,000

Abstract: The Ellensburg Public Library, in collaboration with the Ellensburg Rodeo Hall of Fame, will digitize Ellensburg Rodeo images, negatives, plates and posters donated to the library in 2004 from the local Daily Record newspaper. Many of these images are unpublished and yet to be identified. The collection will be highlighted during the Annual Sprit of the West Cowboy Gathering (<http://www.ellensburgcowboygathering.com>) on February 2019, have a permanent digital display at the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce, and be made available on the Washington Rural Heritage website.

Organization: Everett Community College (Everett, WA)

Award: \$8,000

Abstract: Everett Community College proposes developing policies and procedures to catalog historically significant institutional documents and their digital surrogates. Three digital asset management systems (DAMs) will be investigated, in which a trial will be run for the product selected, and test cataloging will be produced using the EvCC's historical yearbooks as a pilot study. Feedback from key EvCC constituents, and the project team, will be used to improve draft policies, procedures, and the depth / breadth of test cataloging data. The policies and procedures will be disseminated to Washington State's Community and Technical Colleges to encourage peer institutions to catalog and make accessible their institution's historic collections.

Organization: Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal Library (Sequim, WA)

Award: \$7,625

Abstract: With this funding, we intend to hire a part-time archival technician to 1) finalize transcriptions of existing oral interviews for web-based access through our House of Seven Generations website (www.tribalmuseum.jamestowntribe.org); 2) conduct a comprehensive inventory of approximately 300 ethnographic items in archival storage and catalog them with descriptive metadata into PastPerfect museum software. This data will be used to compile a "Collections Inventory" report for Tribal staff and citizens to increase access to the collections; and 3) provide digitization services to Peninsula College for their collection of approximately 200 student papers.

Organization: Kalama Public Library (Kalama, WA)

Award: \$6,896

Abstract: The Kalama Public Library will conduct, record, edit, and transcribe oral history interviews with a number of local Kalama residents. These individuals possess a vast knowledge of local history and recording their stories will help preserve the history of this community for future generations.

Organization: Nooksack Tribal Library (Deming, WA)

Award: \$4,900

Abstract: The Nooksack Tribal Library will collect and digitize historical photographs provided by Nooksack tribal members thus ensuring oral history and photographic heritage is passed to future generations. While collecting photographs, our tribal teens will record the oral history about the photographs and a select number of photos will be enlarged for display in the tribal library. This will be the first centrally accessible digitized photograph collection for the Nooksack Indian Tribe.

Organization: Ocean Shores Public Library (Ocean Shores, WA)

Award: \$5,931

Abstract: The Public Library of Ocean Shores proposes to digitize over 100 historic pictures of the evolution of Point Brown – the peninsula where Ocean Shores was established in 1960 – as well as the creation and evolution of the city itself. The documents are currently held in the Coastal Interpretive Center and include photography and maps of the transformation of its shifting sands, changing seascape, lakes and waterways as well as portraits of the new city and people who have settled there.

Organization: Spokane Public Library (Spokane, WA)

Award: \$1,218

Abstract: The Spokane Public Library will begin scanning 190 volumes of donated Postal Forwarding Directories from 1903 to 1925. These are a unique collection, with no other known set in existence. The handbound and handwritten documents were donated from Spokane's central Post Office to the Spokane Public Library (SPL.) When digitized and searchable, researchers will be able to find valuable, historical pieces of information including forwarding addresses, wives' names, business information, migration trends and more.

Organization: Tacoma Public Library (Tacoma, WA)

Award: \$8,000

Abstract: This project seeks to create a Thomas S. Handforth digital gallery as a component of Tacoma Public Library's CONTENTdm collections, and as a contribution to the Digital Public Library of America. Handforth, a nationally recognized author, artist, and illustrator, was a Tacoma native and is most well-known for his children's picture book, *Mei Lei*, awarded the Caldecott Medal in 1939. If successful, this grant will bring forth Handforth's fragile original artwork and primary source biographical material accessible to the public; currently the physical condition of these materials prevents any other medium of display.

Organization: Washington State University, Vancouver (Vancouver, WA)

Award: \$8,000

Abstract: Washington State University Vancouver Library will develop a new metadata schema and/or an application profile for an existing schema for use in the preservation of born-digital works of literature and other early software. These works have specific affordances that are not currently accounted for in available metadata schema.

Organization: Whatcom County Library System (Bellingham, WA)

Award: \$4,842

Abstract: To celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Whatcom County Library System (WCLS), a broad collection of historic photos and documents will be collected, and informative interviews produced, to give a comprehensive view of the inception and development of all ten branches (plus the Bookmobile!) of WCLS over the last three-quarters of a century. Festive History Harvest events throughout the system will invite the public to contribute privately-owned historic treasures to the collections already housed within each library location. These items will be digitized, catalogued and published in compliance with best practices of the Dublin Core metadata standard and will be ready for inclusion in the Digital Library of America at the earliest possible date.

Organization: Whitman County Library (Colfax, WA)

Award: \$4,522

Abstract: Whitman County Library (WCL) will partner with three local individual private collections to digitize their historically significant photos. These individuals include Joan Hubbard (extensive collection Colfax area), Greg Druffel (films and photos, Colton and Uniontown), and Helen Cowan (detailed history and collection of Inland Power & Light). Kathy

will also work with two of these community members, Greg Druffel and Helen Cowan, to record oral histories of Whitman County.

Organization: Whitworth University (Spokane, WA)

Award: \$7,729

Abstract: Whitworth University will digitize six linear feet of material making up the Sonora Smart Dodd/Father's Day Collection in the Whitworth University Archives. This material, collected by the Spokane woman who founded Father's Day in 1910, includes documents, artifacts, photographs, scrapbooks, and audiotapes, and therefore will need digitization in a variety of appropriate formats, along with the assignment of a wide range of appropriate metadata. The resulting digital objects will be uploaded into the Whitworth Digital Commons institutional repository, and then harvested by the Orbis Cascade Alliance's digital object Harvester for eventual upload into the Alliance's Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) Hub, thus making this highly important collection available to all researchers.