



Fundraising for Your Digital Collections

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Government Funders

- Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
 - National Leadership Grants
 - State LSTA grants (and re-grant programs)
- National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
 - Preservation Assistance Grants and Others
 - State Humanities Councils
- National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)
- National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC)
- Save America's Treasures (SAT)





NEH Preservation and Access Grant Categories

- Preservation Assistance Grants
- Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections*
- Grants to Preserve and Create Access to Humanities Collections
- Preservation and Access Research and Development Project Grants
- Challenge Grants
- Statewide or Collaborative Projects





NEH Preservation Assistance Grants

- Awards: up to \$6,000
- Activities:
 - general preservation or conservation assessments
 - consultants to develop a plan to address a specific preservation problem (now including digital preservation)
 - attendance at preservation workshops/training programs
 - purchase of preservation supplies, equipment, and storage furniture
 - purchase of environmental monitoring equipment
- 2010 Deadline: May 18





IMLS Funding Opportunities

- National Leadership Grants for Libraries and Museums
 - NLG Advancing Digital Resources
 - NLG Research or Demonstration Grants
 - Library/Museum Collaborations
- 21st Century Librarian Program
- Connecting to Collections Grant Program





IMLS Connecting to Collections

- Conservation Summit
- Four Regional Conservation Forums
- Conservation Bookshelf
- Statewide Preservation Planning Grants
- Statewide Implementation Grants





IMLS WebWise Conferences

- Held Annually in late February or early March
- Held in Washington, DC or other locations
- Presentations on National Leadership Grant Projects, especially digital projects
- Admission is free; registration fills quickly!
- Information at www.ims.gov





Five Kinds of Foundations

- General-purpose
 - large endowments, governing boards, professional staff, ex. Ford, Rockefeller, Mellon, Kress
- Special-purpose
 - single purpose foundation
 - purpose determined by founder
- Company-sponsored foundations
 - non-profit entities within a profit making company





Five Kinds of Foundations

- Community foundations
 - fund within a specific geographical region
- Family foundations
 - rarely staffed, administered by attorney
 - make contact directly with family/individual





Fundraising Strategies for Digital Projects

- Digitization Funding Sources from Donor Groups, etc.
 - Alumni (Yearbooks and Student Newspapers)
 - Friends Groups (Local History Materials)
 - Community Drives for Technology Funding
 - Corporate Gifts (less formal than grants)
 - “Hitching On” to Other Collaborative Projects (subjects, themes)





The Functions of a Proposal

- Represents a program, project, activity, or function that an organization wants to undertake in response to a need
- request for the allocation of resources
- instrument of persuasion
- promise to the funder to do certain things in certain ways
- a plan that serves as guidelines for the organization to implement the activity





The Proposal: Statement of Problem/Need/Purpose

- Describes the condition in a certain place at a certain time for a particular group of people, and how you will change that condition
- This is often the motivator
- If the funder agrees with the need, you have them “hooked”





The Proposal: Need

- Clear relationship to your organization's mission and purpose
- Focus on a need in the community, not in your organization
- Assertions should be supported with evidence
- Consistent with your organization's ability to respond
- Easy to read; no jargon





Grant Proposal Components

- Narrative
 - Project Significance
 - Project History
 - Methodology And Standards
 - Plan of Work
 - Project Staff
 - Dissemination of Findings
- Budget (and Budget Narrative)
- Appendices





Common Concerns with Grant Applications

- Lack of Communication with a Program Officer
- Failure to follow current guidelines
- Failure to quantify collection formats and size
- Inadequate discussion of ownership & IP rights
- Lack of detail in Plan of Work
- No letters of support or commitment
- Missing information on project staff
- Budget errors





A New Resource on Foundations

Foundation Grants for Preservation in Libraries, Archives, and Museums

- Published by the Library of Congress and the Foundation Center
- Updated 2nd Edition published in June, 2009
- Information from 488 Foundations on 1,994 awarded grants
- Available as PDF for download from
 - <http://www.loc.gov/preserv/foundtn-grants.html>





A Resource on Digital and IT Funding Resources

Grants for Information Technology

- A new Grant Guide available in Digital Form from the Foundation Center
- Published December 2009
- Covers a variety of technology-related grants and equipment
- Link to downloadable PDF version upon purchase; price is \$39.95





Questions and Further Discussion

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