

Memo

**To:** Montana State Library Network Advisory Council

**From:** Cara Orban, Statewide Projects Librarian

**Date:** March 3, 2014

**Re:** Statewide Projects Librarian update

## Databases

### ***EBSCO***

Working with consultant Pam Henley and the Data Control Technician for MSL, Colleen Hamer, the Statewide Projects Librarian put together a database content survey to be completed by statewide library staff throughout the month of February. The purpose of this survey is to better understand how, why, when, and what subscription database content is being accessed, and how these needs could be optimally served through discovery. Pam will coordinate focus groups from willing public library respondents to gather more in-depth feedback, which will help inform our training and outreach strategies for the statewide databases and Discover It.

### ***Homework MT (Tutor)***

HiSet materials are to be added in SkillsCenter and the Test Prep Center to replace the GED materials, which are no longer used in Montana.

Tutor's IP authentication table for the state of Montana is being updated with additional library IPs so that the statistical report that currently reads "Montana State Library GeoIP" will be broken down by institution to a greater extent.

## LSTA programs, projects and pilots

The LSTA Coordinator is drafting an LSTA manual to help document and standardize MSL's procedure for administering the LSTA grant. This manual will also clarify project managers' responsibilities in compiling information for the end-of-year LSTA report to IMLS.

### ***MontanaLibrary2Go***

The MontanaLibrary2Go Selection Committee and Executive Committee met on Friday, February 7th before Offline at Carroll College to set proposals for the FY15 content budget and cost share formula, and to draft recommended changes for selection policy and procedure and by-laws. Notable changes include breaking out the bottom tier of the cost formula to make the cost per patron more equitable and affordable for the very smallest libraries that wish to be part of the consortium; and a new selection procedure that includes evaluation of locally created content. The Selection Committee agreed that donations of local e-content can be sent on a monthly basis to that month's selector, who will evaluate and determine whether it is appropriate for the local collection; the selection team will then have the opportunity to review before the title is added to the collection. This will be added to the selection procedure. The Selection Committee also agreed that the scope of the e-content pilot should be limited to titles with content written or published by or about Montanans.

The Statewide Projects Librarian will meet with Montana Historical Society staff in March to coordinate a potential purchase of its catalog of e-books for the pilot collection, with approval from the Selection Committee. This collection will be funded with FY13 LSTA allotted for that pilot. Stacy Bruhn at MSL has

created a functional web interface for the pilot and EZproxy authentication will be applied to these titles so that SIP capable libraries in the consortium can download them.

The membership will vote on recommendations from the Executive Committee at its annual meeting, which will take place on Wednesday afternoon before MLA in Billings.

The OverDrive contract is up for renewal and is subject this year to an RFP. The MontanaLibrary2Go Executive Committee, Suzanne Reymer, two NAC members, and two consortium members will comprise the scoring committee, which is expected to meet in late March or early April.

Fort Peck Tribal Library and all of the UM campuses have recently joined MontanaLibrary2Go.

## **OCLC**

Following the NAC's approval of the OCLC Cost Share Formula Task Force's recommendations, the Commission at its February meeting approved \$34,933 in LSTA to be allotted toward the cost of covering all of InterLibrary Loan and \$20,000 in LSTA toward the cost of unlimited cataloging for the Group Services contract. MSL is currently negotiating with OCLC regarding the overall cost of the contract, but this will not affect enrollment costs to libraries, which will be based on the relational formula approved by the NAC. Enrollment will open in May as usual. More information about the formula is available [here](#).

OCLC trainer Barb Conger will lead a training on WorldShare ILL, Friday afternoon at MLA. The deadline for transitioning to WorldShare from WorldCat Resource Sharing is May 19th, though new requests will cease to be accepted in WRS as early as April 14th.

FirstSearch users will also need to be prepared for changes as this service is going to be folded into WorldCat Discovery Services during a year-long transition beginning March 2014.

## **Makerspace kits**

With recommendations from maker space coordinators and YA librarians from around the state, as well as from the maker pilot coordinator at the Idaho Commission for Libraries, the Statewide Projects Librarian has compiled a list of tools and materials to be included in the 3 makerspace kits that will circulate to libraries. This list will be distributed to the maker group described above for consensus before an order is placed and orientation opportunities for hosting libraries are organized. Montana libraries will benefit from hosting these kits by providing young adult patrons with unique opportunities for STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) learning and experimentation in a fun and mostly open-ended way that support several IMLS initiatives, including 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, Civic/Community Engagement, Economic/Community Development, Education Support, and STEM. Many of these tools provided in the kits are not publicly available elsewhere in most Montana communities.

The kits will include electronics (Arduino boards, Raspberry Pi, snap circuits, MaKey MaKey boards), Lego blocks, paper and fiber tools, and some other unique items. Hosting libraries will be encouraged to expand on the basic kit with their own materials and consumables, and a portion of the LSTA funding will be reserved for additional purchases and consumables as we assess what is successful, what needs to be replaced, and what libraries request as they actually begin hosting the kits and receive feedback from the community.

Applications will be sent out on Wired to line up the first round of hosting libraries in early March. The purpose of the orientation sessions will be to achieve a consistent understand of the purpose of the maker kits, as well as ensuring the hosting staff are comfortable with supervising the tools and materials

provided. Community partnerships and mentoring opportunities are strongly encouraged in order to maximize the value of hosting the kits. These kits are scheduled to be ready to go by MLA.

### ***Share Your Story***

Lauren McMullen, Pam Henley, Sara Groves, and Cara are working on this pilot, which is based on the StoryCorps oral history program and which encompasses goals for lifelong learning and community outreach (and combines those 2 lines in the FY13 LSTA budget). Expected outcomes from this pilot include: Document and share cultural heritage in the local community; expand public programming opportunities based on broad themes of oral histories; Promote relevant resources in the library; Draw new patrons into the library; Take library resources out to the community; Support hands-on technology training; Promote intergenerational activity; Form community partnerships to assist in promoting and collecting interviews, and in leading public programs.

A few layman-friendly audiovisual recording kits will circulate to libraries so that Montanans can share their stories, which may be based on the broad themes we will be supporting during this first phase: Wilderness, Work, and Women (we did not intentionally make this an alliterative motif). Supplementary materials will be included in the kit to help guide oral history interviews and program ideas for the libraries. We are striving to make these kits as turnkey as possible for the libraries to implement, but there is also the expectation that they will be proactive in seeking out a community partner and arranging some public programming that is centered around one of these themes. Once the equipment list is set, we will order and then determine what kind of training is necessary, and what partners we might rely on to help provide this training, which may likely take place online. The graphic designer who created the MSC logo is also working on some visuals for us to consider in promoting this project and providing marketing images for the libraries to use in their own communities. We hope to have these kits ready to go by MLA.

### **Other projects**

#### ***Wilderness Companion***

Finally, Sara Groves is leading a larger interdepartmental effort to create a Wilderness Companion, similar to the Hunting and Fishing Companions, in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. The Statewide Projects Librarian is helping to compile and organize a list of library and state-created content that will help the user understand "what to do" and "where to go" in Wilderness (as in, the officially designated Wilderness Areas - to keep this project within a manageable scope and to avoid reproducing efforts from other agencies, we are not including BLM, National Parks, et al). This companion is slated for release by Memorial Day.