

Memo

To: Montana State Library Network Advisory Council

From: Cara Orban, Statewide Projects Librarian

Date: Oct 30, 2014

Re: Statewide Projects Update

LSTA Annual Report

Statewide Library Resources staff will soon begin working on the State Programs Report for the FY13 Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) award granted by the Institute of Museum & Library Services (IMLS) and administered by the Montana State Library. The annual report, due by December 31, details expenditures and highlights statistics, outputs, and outcomes for each LSTA-funded pilot, project, and program.

SLR projects funded by the FY14 LSTA award will be subject to a new reporting standard that the IMLS will introduce in spring 2015. The new reporting format will focus less on narrative and more on a controlled vocabulary to identify a project's primary audience, objectives, and expected outcomes in a more standardized way that will allow IMLS and all reporting state library agencies to submit and search data across agencies more easily and efficiently.

Discover It

With assistance from MSL Geographic Information and Natural Heritage Program staff, the GIS Data List and the Montana Natural Heritage Program Field Guide records to the statewide Discover It profiles. These collections add to the diversity of content available through Discover It and provide end-users with an additional access point for discovering information from these two unique resources. The GIS Data List is the Montana State Library's list of GIS layers it distributes, as well as a metadata repository for GIS layers that have been developed with the assistance of the Montana Land Information Advisory Council. The Montana Natural Heritage Program Field Guide is an online resource providing information on identification, habitat, ecology, reproduction, range, and distribution of the species of Montana.

A liaison program has been developed to provide more focused training and outreach for Discover It. The Statewide Projects Librarian will continue to focus on proactive promotion to all library types; contract administration and communication with EBSCO and content partners; integration of new content or individual subscriptions on behalf of libraries; in depth profile customization assistance as needed; assistance with authentication setup; preparing and organizing focus groups and surveys; collecting and analyzing usage statistics; and working with the Statewide Trainer to determine training needs and organizing learning opportunities.

Liaisons are asked to help disseminate information about Discover It to colleagues where appropriate; Assist with basic customization questions; help increase awareness of available information about Discover It and EBSCO statewide resources within the Library Directory and on the Learning Portal;

advise on creation and improvement of instructional or promotional materials; and assist with efforts such as formal training, surveys, and focus groups.

The liaisons are Alana Mueller-Brunckhorst for special libraries and Pam Henley for public libraries. The Statewide Projects Librarian will seek to recruit a school library liaison for tailoring resources to that user group in the new year.

MontanaLibrary2Go

A new six-year contract with OverDrive was negotiated on behalf of the MontanaLibrary2Go consortium. The contract includes a growth clause which allows the consortium to maintain a relatively low annual hosting cost which will increase only if circulations for the consortium arrive at benchmarks as agreed upon between MSL and OverDrive. This negotiation lowered the overall contract value by \$8,000 and keeps the annual hosting fee \$20,000 lower than what OverDrive had proposed toward the end of the contract, unless circulation statistics justify the increase.

Blaine County Library and McCone County Library have joined the MontanaLibrary2Go consortium. Their \$1500 startup fees were covered with FY14 LSTA funds.

The MontanaLibrary2Go Executive Committee election was held online on October 29. The membership voted to elect or re-elect the following candidates:

Annie Alger, Missoula Public Library; Stef Johnson, Butte Silver Bow Public Library; Susie McIntyre, Great Falls Public Library; Debbi Kramer, Three Forks Community Library. KellyAnne Terry of Lewistown Public Library also remains on the Executive Committee for another year.

OCLC Group Services

The final enrollment spreadsheet for OCLC Group Services was submitted to OCLC in early October, and the final gap to be paid for unlimited cataloging is tentatively \$37,659. This marks the first year of a three year contract in which libraries have been asked to commit for the full three years when they enroll. Costs to libraries will increase by 2% each year for the remaining two years of the contract.

WorldCat Discovery Services is a new interface with discovery capabilities that will replace the OCLC FirstSearch platform, which will be discontinued in December 2015. WorldCat Discovery is now live, and so Montana libraries can begin the transition to this new platform at any time. Organized trainings with OCLC will be offered to library staff beginning November 2014.

ARSL Conference

Three Montana librarians from small public and tribal libraries attended the Association of Rural and Small Libraries annual conference in Tacoma, Washington in September. They received scholarships of up to \$2,000 through LSTA funding to attend. They were:

Michelle Fenger, Ronan Library District; Fred Noel, Salish Kootenai College; and Jodi Oberweiser, Drummond School-Community Library. They will be taking part in a webinar in mid-November to share their experiences with their colleagues.

Courier

In August, the Montana State Library issued a Request for Proposals for courier service to libraries across Montana. One complete response was received, from Critelli Couriers. With approval from the scoring committee, MSL worked with the State Procurement Bureau to proceed to contract. The cost to participating libraries that sign an agreement with Critelli will be \$23 per stop, with a subsidy applied from FY14 LSTA for courier development. Additional stops may be added using that line in FY14 LSTA in order to increase volume to all member libraries and to expand the coverage area.

The new contract is expected to commence January 1. This would align with the renewal date for the existing contract, and so would allow a fairly seamless transition for the member libraries.

LSTA Pilots

Montana Makers Kits

The Montana Makers maker space pilot kits began circulating to libraries in June 2014. The purpose of this pilot is to encourage interest in STEM/STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) education, primarily in young adults ages 10-17. In a maker space, learning happens actively through collaborative, goal-oriented projects and programs, as well as through unstructured access to resources that encourage open-ended, self-initiated learning. STEAM education also supports development in the areas of critical thinking, creativity, and problem solving. This pilot supports priorities of the Institute of Museum and Library Services which include enhancing 21st century skills, afterschool programs and community engagement.

The kits include electronics (Arduino boards, Raspberry Pi, Snap Circuits, Squishy Circuits, and MaKey MaKey boards); Lego sets with accompanying curriculum to support projects focusing on engineering, math, physics, and communication skills; paper and fiber tools; and optional items such as telescopes and forensics kits.

Hosting libraries have received support through online resources and live online training opportunities and drop-in sessions. Currently there are six identical maker kits available for loan to any Montana library. These kits circulate to libraries for 8 weeks at a time. Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Share Your Story

Share Your Story is a pilot that allows libraries to borrow traveling digital audiovisual recording kits for an 8 week period. Hosting libraries and volunteers are trained to use these tools to record and preserve their community's stories, which will be made available on a dedicated website currently under construction (www.shareyourstory.org). Some content may also be accepted into the Montana Memory

Project. The kits include an iPad loaded with audiovisual recording apps, a microphone, a tripod with a tablet mount, and an oral history primer distributed with permission from the Montana Historical Society.