

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE  
INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND THE  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

**IN SUPPORT OF A PARTNERSHIP FOR CULTURAL EXCHANGE**

This Memorandum of Understanding ("Memorandum") is made by and between the Institute of Museum and Library Services of the United States of America ("IMLS") and the Ministry of Culture of the People's Republic of China ("MOC") (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Participants").

WHEREAS the United States of America and the People's Republic of China are entering into an Implementing Accord for Cultural Exchange for the Period 2012 through 2014, under the Cultural Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the "Implementing Accord"), with the purpose of strengthening cultural cooperation between the United States of America and the People's Republic of China;

WHEREAS Article V of the Implementing Accord identifies activities to be undertaken by the United States of America and the People's Republic of China in furtherance of museums, libraries, archives, and electronic information resources;

WHEREAS IMLS is a Federal agency that provides leadership and support to the 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums in the United States in order to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement; and recognizes the role of museums and libraries in education, community vitality, and developing 21st century skills;

WHEREAS the MOC is a government entity under the State Council in charge of cultural and artistic undertakings throughout the People's Republic of China;

WHEREAS the Participants recognize that culture goes beyond the barrier of borders and language, and can serve as a bridge, linking the hearts of different peoples and enhancing mutual understanding and friendship;

WHEREAS the Participants recognize the positive impact that friendly relations and strengthening cultural cooperation between their two countries can have on leveraging institutional resources to help foster a broader and deeper understanding between their peoples; and

WHEREAS the Participants recognize the positive benefits achieved from their prior collaboration, through which over two thousand museum and library professionals have engaged in workshops and initiatives to advance best practices in librarianship, the preservation of cultural heritage, and participatory engagement in cultural activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Participants intend to join together in a "Partnership for Cultural Exchange" in furtherance of Article V of the Implementing Accord, and to work together as follows:

#### PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding is designed to establish a "Partnership for Cultural Exchange" to further the goals and activities reflected in Article V of the Implementing Accord. The Participants intend to work together to promote professional exchanges that enhance museum, library, archival, and information services within the United States of America and the People's Republic of China.

#### ACTIVITIES

Under this Memorandum of Understanding, the Participants intend to engage in the following activities:

- Support programs to facilitate the exchange of information and best practices in the fields of museum, library, archival, and information services, particularly in the areas of civic engagement, lifelong learning, access to information, and preservation of cultural heritage.
- Encourage and promote privately-funded cultural and artistic people-to-people exchanges between non-governmental organizations and facilitate the further development of friendly relations between the peoples of the two countries.

Specific projects may be decided through separate arrangements signed by relevant organizations of each country.

#### FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Specific financial arrangements for activities and exchanges conducted under the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding are expected to be made through consultations between relevant organizations of each country.

If either Participant encounters financial difficulties in the course of carrying out an individual project, the organizations involved should jointly decide, after consultations, upon a suitable adjustment or postponement of the project.

#### LAWS AND REGULATIONS

The Participants intend activities under this Memorandum of Understanding to be subject to the applicable laws and regulations of each country, including those concerning the availability of funds.

#### TERM

This Memorandum of Understanding is to become effective upon signature of both Participants and is to cover the period through May 31, 2014.

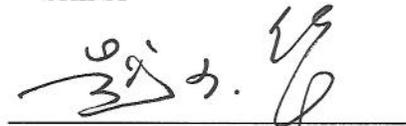
Signed on the respective dates as noted below, in duplicate in both English and Chinese.

FOR THE INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM  
AND LIBRARY SERVICES OF  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

  
SUSAN H. HILDRETH  
DIRECTOR

4/30/12  
DATE

FOR THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF  
CHINA

  
ZHAO SHAOHUA  
VICE MINISTER

5/4/2012  
DATE