Office of Library Services
August 2015 Grant Announcement

National Leadership Grants, Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries, Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program

California • Connecticut • District of Columbia • Florida • Georgia • Illinois • Kansas Kentucky • Louisiana • Maryland • Massachusetts • Michigan • New York • North Dakota Ohio • Oklahoma • Pennsylvania • Tennessee • Texas • Virginia • Vermont • West Virginia

California

University of California, Irvine – Irvine, CA
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0018-15
Award Amount: $24,000

The Digital Media and Learning (DML) Research Hub at the University of California, Irvine, will develop widely available, easy to implement STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) programming, especially coding. The programming will use the online coding tool Scratch. This project grows out of the research from Connected Learning: An Agenda for Research and Design, and a current ongoing research project called Coding for All: Interest-Driven Trajectories to Computational Fluency, which focuses on exploring youth, connected learning, and STEM to create more equitable learning opportunities and to support youth as they bridge their interests to academic and future pathways.

University of California, Santa Cruz – Santa Cruz, CA
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0031-15
Award Amount: $25,000

The University Library at University of California, Santa Cruz will develop a suite of services to support digital exhibit building by faculty and students and, in so doing, create documentation that can be applied and adapted by research libraries across the country. This project responds to the need for libraries to articulate the limits of their support for research-based digital exhibits and offers innovative responses to specific challenges in this area. The project will provide support for exhibit development and creation at all stages, allow for a more nimble response to requests for custom-built exhibits by differentiating aspects of exhibit building and offering a la carte support services, and integrate virtual and physical space through the use of touchscreen technologies and hybrid exhibits.
Mozilla Foundation – Mountain View, CA
Grant Program: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians Program
Project Type: Continuing Education
Log Number: RE-00-15-0105-15
Award Amount: $808,601; Matching Amount: $808,601

The Mozilla Foundation, in collaboration with The Technology and Social Change Group (TASCHA) at the University of Washington Information School, will refine and launch an open source curriculum, training, tools, and credentials for a library audience to learn web literacy skills and develop digital competencies. The project intends to empower library staff to provide patrons with opportunities to develop the digital skills they need for better success in such areas as education, workforce development, and civic engagement. The project will first identify core digital literacy badges for library professionals that include technical and 21st century skills aligned with Mozilla's Web Literacy Map. The team will pilot the resources in five public library systems representing geographic, demographic, and experiential diversity. Emphasis will be placed on underserved communities, and populations will be selected for testing. In addition, one school of library information studies will also be selected to test curriculum, training, and credentials.

Creative Commons Corporation – San Jose, CA
Grant Program: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians Program
Project Type: Continuing Education
Log Number: RE-00-15-0116-15
Award Amount: $300,858; Matching Amount: $300,858

Creative Commons in collaboration with partners the American Library Association, the California State University System and the Digital Public Library of America, will design, develop, and deliver a professional development and continuing education certification program for librarians. The certificate will help librarians acquire Creative Commons knowledge and skills leading to increased capacity, services, and support for a wide range of 21st century library functions associated with Open Access (OA), open data, Open Educational Resources (OER), and public domain materials. The Creative Commons certificate for librarians will include both a modular set of learning materials that can be used independently for informal learning, and a formal, structured, and facilitated certificate the can be taken for official certification.

Leland Stanford Junior University – Palo Alto, CA
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries
Project Type: National Digital Platform
Log Number: LG-70-15-0242-15
Award Amount: $685,129; Matching Amount: $697,600

Stanford University Libraries, with partners University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Harvard University, University of California, Irvine, and Metropolitan New York Library Council, will significantly improve ePADD, an open-source software package that supports archival processes around the appraisal, ingest, processing, discovery, and delivery of email archives. Email archives present a singular window into contemporary history; however, they are often
inaccessible to researchers due to screening, processing, and access challenges, as well as the sheer volume of material. The first phase of development was a proof-of-concept for using natural language processing, automated metadata extraction, and other batch processes to support archival workflows and provide access to otherwise hidden cultural heritage materials. This second phase of development will seek to greatly expand the program’s scalability, usability, and feature set. Broad adoption of ePADD will be promoted through stakeholder interviews, expanded user testing, UI enhancements, and community engagement.

Internet Archive – San Francisco, CA
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries
Project Type: National Digital Platform
Log Number: LG-71-15-0174-15
Award Amount: $353,221; Matching Amount: $98,460

The Internet Archive, working with partner organizations, University of North Texas, Rutgers University, and Stanford University Library will undertake a two-year research project to explore techniques that can expand national web archiving capacity in several areas. The project aims to build a foundation for collaborative technology development, improved systems interoperability, and an Application Programming Interface (API) based model for enhanced access to, and research use of, web archives. The project will outline successful community models for cooperative technology development work; it will prototype and test API-based interoperability; and it will explore how interoperability can enable new access models, improve discoverability, and expand shared digital services. In working with the Archive-It platform, now used by more than 350 partner institutions, results of this research will be directly applicable to libraries, archives, and museums around the country and the world.

Cal Poly Corporation – San Luis Obispo, CA
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries
Project Type: National Digital Platform
Log Number: LG-73-15-0133-15
Award Amount: $99,131

California Polytechnic State University, in partnership with the University of Texas at Austin, will run a one-year planning and research project that will culminate in a forum on software preservation in support of cultural heritage organizations missions. The forum will solicit community input and build consensus around future steps for a national strategy for software preservation. The project team and partners will work to identify potential partners, explore licensing issues, gather empirical evidence for the need for software preservation, draft technical architecture specifications, and develop plans for sustaining a national effort. These activities will be in service of building community consensus on the best software preservation organizational model, to be implemented after this planning project.
Connecticut

Litchfield Historical Society – Litchfield, CT
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0010-15
Award Amount: $24,750

The Litchfield Historical Society's Helga J. Ingraham Memorial Library will create a user-friendly public interface that will provide patrons with a single search portal for the society’s instances of ArchivesSpace and CollectionSpace. The interface will also integrate social tagging with both databases to enable researchers to add detail to descriptions, as well as create a single external authority file source that will be shared between the databases. Tools will be shared with the open-source community via GitHub, and documentation will be made available to facilitate implementation at other institutions using these systems.

Connecticut State Library – Hartford, CT
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0004-15
Award Amount: $25,000

Through the Connecticut’s Archival Community project, the Connecticut State Library will work to provide access to hidden collections in small and mid-sized cultural heritage organizations. The project addresses challenges in providing online, searchable access to archives at these organizations. During workshops and site visits, forty institutions will learn to create DACS- and EAD-compliant finding aids for their five most important collections, resulting in increased visibility for 200 hidden collections. The project will then create an advisory committee to recommend the best means of making these finding aids available online and propose solutions for organizations without a web presence, so that their finding aids will be reachable through a host site. The project will demonstrate how training and support for small and mid-sized cultural heritage organizations can make their undocumented and hidden archival collections available to a broader audience.

Hartford Public Library – Hartford, CT
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0037-15
Award Amount: $25,000; Matching Amount: $26,440

In collaboration with University of Hartford’s Center for Social Research, Capital Region Education Council, and Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Hartford Public Library will build a digital tool that tracks teens’ non-cognitive skill development in a variety of learning spaces. The project directly addresses the need for equal access to technology and the need to minimize the opportunity gap. Additionally, the project will evaluate the efficacy of informal learning environments, particularly YOUmedia Hartford. As the number of learning labs and makerspaces in libraries continues to grow, this kind of baseline evaluation will prove valuable to sustainability efforts nationwide.
District of Columbia

Council on Library and Information Resources – Washington, DC
Grant Program: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians Program
Project Type: Research in Early Careers Development
Log Number: RE-00-15-0107-15
Award Amount: $172,996; Matching Amount: $33,863

The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) will conduct a formative assessment research project to capture and analyze the diversity of the National Digital Stewardship Residents experience across five related programs. By the summer of 2016, 40 graduates of library and information science master’s programs will have completed IMLS National Digital Stewardship Residencies in select institutions across the U.S. The residents’ experiences have varied widely according to the type and size of institution in which they are based, the collection formats with which they work, and the approach to education and training taken by the teams of professionals responsible for their cohorts. The research team will produce a final report making recommendations to inform funders, professional organizations, and future hosts of and applicants to programs developed from the NDSR model.

Urban Libraries Council – Washington, DC
Grant Program: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians Program
Project Type: Continuing Education
Log Number: RE-00-15-0115-15
Award Amount: $98,500; Matching Amount: $62,700

The Urban Libraries Council (ULC) will identify strategies and define models for barrier-free access to learning for kids, from Universal Library Card adoption to fully integrated municipal One Card systems. On April 30, 2015, President Obama issued the ConnectED Library Challenge calling upon library leaders to work with their mayors, school leaders and librarians to create or strengthen partnerships so that every child enrolled in school can receive a library card. In response, ULC successfully rallied over 30 public libraries and their communities to answer the challenge. To ensure success, the cooperative agreement will identify and share leading practices for adoption of universal or one card systems. ULC will also describe and document successful programs and models so that other cities and counties across the United States can successfully implement a program that ensures a library card in every student’s hand.

Florida

University of Florida – Gainesville, FL
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries
Project Type: Learning Spaces in Libraries
Log Number: LG-81-15-0155-15
Award Amount: $491,822; Matching Amount: $232,289

The University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries in partnership with researchers at OCLC and Rutgers University will study 180 students, from primary to graduate school, working in the
science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Using a task-based methodology, the project team study will observe students’ cognition in action. They will prescreening participants using a survey; create and implement subject-based simulations using Articulate’s Storyline software; use a think-aloud protocol to understand student choices, behaviors and rationale during video-recorded sessions; code and analyze qualitative and qualitative datasets; and share findings with library and educational communities. The researchers will also create workshops, webinars, and customized exercises to advance information literacy-related instruction for students in K12, community college, and university environments.

**Georgia**

**Savannah College of Art and Design – Savannah, GA**
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries
Project Type: Learning Spaces in Libraries
Log Number: LG-82-15-0166-15
Award Amount: $50,000; Matching Amount: $72,900

Savannah College of Art and Design will plan for and create a model for the academic library of tomorrow using user experience (UX) design expertise. UX Design is defined as the process of enhancing user satisfaction by improving the usability, accessibility, and pleasure provided in the interaction between the user and the product. The IMLS grant will offset planning for an operational model that links library resources (physical, technological, digital) in a user-experience, participatory-centered design model across all Savannah College of Art and Design libraries, including a reimagining of space to accommodate new technologies, offer new services and increase the value of the user experience. The resultant UX Design assessment tool will advance a new paradigm of user awareness and integrated service delivery thus providing a model for the library sector. The results from the project will be disseminated for wide use, adaptation, scale, and replication at libraries across the U.S.

**Illinois**

**College of DuPage – Glen Ellyn, IL**
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0028-15
Award Amount: $25,000

College of DuPage Library will conduct ethnographic research to develop and implement strategies for increasing and improving library usage among students. The project will allow the college to better quantify and qualify library usage, and identify potential barriers to specific groups of students and to increase and diversify student library usage. A research-based model for improving student library usage will be disseminated to help other academic libraries better target outreach efforts to ensure students are aware and make better use of library resources to improve their learning and academic success.
American Library Association – Chicago, IL
Grant Program: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians Program
Project Type: Continuing Education
Log Number: RE-00-15-0108-15
Award Amount: $50,000

The American Library Association will provide 50 scholarships to help a diverse group of librarians, library staff, and library students in the United States attend the World Library and Information Congress in Columbus Ohio. The scholarships will be provided to individuals in the early or middle-stage (20 years or fewer) of their careers who are not already actively engaged in International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). The project will help to ensure the next generation of participants and leaders on the global stage from the United States fully represents the diversity in the community and in the country.

University of Illinois – Champaign, IL
Grant Program: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians Program
Project Type: Continuing Education
Log Number: RE-00-15-0112-15
Award Amount: $398,844; Matching Amount: $328,857

Librarians and digital humanities scholars from the University of Illinois in partnership with colleagues at Indiana University, Northwestern University, Lafayette College, the University of North Carolina, and the HathiTrust Research Center will develop a shared curriculum for use in academic libraries and a train the trainer series designed to assist librarians in getting started with the tools, services, and related research methodologies of the HathiTrust Research Center (HTRC). The project will help to establish academic libraries as a learning space for encountering the “big data” tools and methodologies. To this end it will work to provide librarians with new content for instructional services while also empowering them to become active research partners on digital projects at their institutions.

American Library Association – Chicago, IL
Grant Program: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians Program
Project Type: Research in Early Careers Development
Log Number: RE-00-15-0114-15
Award Amount: $498,755; Matching Amount: $83,436

This research project builds on a prior IMLS-funded research symposium to find out what works at the intersection of formal and informal learning in the school library through a planned and coordinated research agenda. Project activities will build on previous investigations underlying learning in libraries, testing findings of research, theory, and best practices. The project team will make recommendations about next steps in evaluating the impact of school libraries on student achievement and help determine methodologies for future research. The authors will also help identify key features of educational interventions that can be used as indicators that an intervention is likely to develop key skills needed to have significant positive impact on student performance.
University of Illinois – Champaign, IL
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries
Project Type: Learning Spaces in Libraries
Log Number: LG-80-15-0185-15
Award Amount: $248,205

The Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will engage in a three-year, multi-site project focused on app-creation for children from eight to twelve. App Authors will create curricula and tools for use in school and public libraries that will teach young people to create apps and allow them to share their achievements with other children. The curriculum will be disseminated for adoption at other school and public libraries. The project will provide young people with early programming experience, and further establish libraries as places to engage youth in STEM exploration and digital development that reflects their own experiences. This project builds upon work completed during a previously funded IMLS planning grant.

Kansas

State Library of Kansas – Topeka, KS
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0015-15
Award Amount: $23,486

The State Library of Kansas will produce a digital collection management system that is adapted to include an intuitive, streamlined, and highly functional web-based interface. Other institutions with text heavy documents will be able to take advantage of the project’s approach in adapting a CONTENTdm website to suit their specific needs. In addition to the scanned historical documents produced by library staff, the project will produce a documentation of best practices that will be made available to other institutions and tested with at least one other records management group. The intangible, intellectual outcomes of the grant, in addition to the added access to information that these documents will provide to academic, governmental, and civilian populations, is a knowledge base concerning digital organization, presentation, and management that can be utilized by other information professionals.

Kentucky

COSLA, Inc. – Lexington, KY
Grant Program: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians Program
Project Type: Continuing Education
Log Number: RE-00-15-0111-15
Award Amount: $95,200; Matching Amount: $49,609

The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) will enable libraries to take full advantage of the opportunities for transformation provided by the FCC’s E-rate Modernization Orders. COSLA will evaluate possible support program changes, such as consultation service and training needs of new State Library Administrative Agencies staff, based on a cross-state
review of needs. The Georgia Public Library Service, acting in conjunction with the American Library Association's E-Rate Task Force, will implement a clearinghouse for best-of-breed information, documentation, and best practices to serve as an information resource and to stimulate a national community of practice around libraries and E-rate.

Louisiana

Terrebonne Parish Library System – Terrebonne, LA
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0030-15
Award Amount: $18,143

Terrebonne Parish Library System will expand STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) access by circulating robotics kits to schools, after school groups, and individuals. The MoboRobo project will reach elementary and middle school aged children through programming and circulation of robotic kits to library patrons, school groups, and afterschool organizations including the Boy and Girl Scouts and 4-H. They will test which type of circulation is most effective in expanding public access to robotics. This information will help public libraries maximize impact when developing their own robotics lending programs and implement STEM-based learning opportunities in their own communities.

Maryland

University of Maryland – College Park, MD
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries
Project Type: National Digital Platform
Log Number: LG-72-15-0143-15
Award Amount: $50,000

The University of Maryland’s College of Information Studies, in partnership with the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities, will use a planning grant to support a meeting to develop specific plans for facilitating virtual reunification of dispersed photograph and image collections. The meeting will bring together archivists, technologists, humanists, and other stakeholders, with the ultimate goal of investigating virtual reunification as an additional social and technological service atop the basic aggregations provided by national-scale digital platforms.
Massachusetts

WGBH Educational Foundation – Boston, MA
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries
Project Type: National Digital Platform
Log Number: LG-71-15-0208-15
Award Amount: $898,474

WGBH, in partnership with Pop-Up Archive, will address the challenges faced by many libraries and archives trying to provide better online access to their media collections. This 30-month research project will explore and test technological and social approaches for metadata creation by leveraging scalable computation and engaging the public to improve access through crowdsourcing games for time-based media. The project will support several related areas of research and testing, including: speech-to-text and audio analysis tools to transcribe and analyze almost 40,000 hours of digital audio from the American Archive of Public Broadcasting; open source web-based tools to improve transcripts and descriptive data by engaging the public in a crowdsourced, participatory cataloging project; and creating and distributing data sets to provide a public database of audiovisual metadata for use by other projects.

Amherst College – Amherst, MA
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries
Project Type: National Digital Platform
Log Number: LG-72-15-0114-15
Award Amount: $49,765

Amherst College, in conjunction with the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums, the Mukurtu project, and the Digital Public Library of America, will work together to develop a framework for sharing, exploring, and visualizing Native-authored library and archival collections. The project will bring together Native Studies scholars; Native librarians; tribal historians; representatives from libraries with large Native-authored collections; metadata, digital humanities, and user interface specialists; and technologists to expand and improve culturally appropriate access to Native digital collections and to create collaborative digital humanities scholarship that accurately represents Native American intellectual networks.

Michigan

Grand Valley State University – Allendale, MI
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0042-15
Award Amount: $21,700

Grand Valley State University Libraries, in Partnership with YetiCGI, a Michigan-based game development company, will conduct research designed to help libraries deploy quest-based mobile games at comparatively little expense. They will revise and test Library Quest, a mobile game designed to teach college students about library services and spaces. The partners will investigate whether or not a mobile game can complement classroom instruction by teaching
lower order information literacy skills. They will also explore whether playing the game affects student self-sufficiency and confidence and improves student understanding of the library as a support system. Data on the development of the app, the structure of the content, and the assessment will be made valuable to other libraries considering whether or not and how to develop their own mobile apps for education.

**University Corporation for Advanced Internet Development – Ann Arbor, MI**
Grant Program: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians Program
Project Type: Continuing Education
Log Number: RE-00-15-0110-15
Award Amount: $248,725; Matching Amount: $95,098

University Corporation for Advanced Internet Development, commonly called “Internet2,” and its member Research & Education networks, in partnership with the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums; the American Library Association; the Association of Rural and Small Libraries; and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, will run a pilot project to develop a library broadband network assessment toolkit and training program for rural and tribal libraries. Over the course of this 24-month project, Internet2 will pilot the use of the toolkit with at least 30-50 library practitioners in at least 30 rural public and tribal libraries across five states.

**Regents of the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, MI**
Grant Program: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians Program
Project Type: Continuing Education
Log Number: RE-00-15-0113-15
Award Amount: $240,000

The University of Michigan will work with data literacy experts and curriculum designers to create open educational resources for librarians to build their data literacy skills. The resources will include: 1) a data literacy handbook of information and instructional resources 2) two one-day data literacy virtual conferences and 3) multimedia and PDF content drawn from those resources and packaged into one-hour professional development (PD) content for face-to-face implementation at the school, district, community, or state levels. Providing training for high school library instructors will enable them to provide enhanced instruction and improve the data fluency of students.

**New York**

**The Central New York Library Resources Council – Syracuse, NY**
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0056-15
Award Amount: $17,750

The Central New York Library Resources Council will coordinate the upgrade and customization of an open source tool called the EADitor, which edits and publishes online archival finding aids using the EAD Document Type Definition generated through an XML-based form. This project customizes the tool for use in a consortial environment and serves as an essential building block.
in a larger initiative to build an online repository and index for finding aids in New York State. In addition to the technical development of the tool, the project supports creation and implementation of a pilot training program that will explicate the use of the tool and align finding aids with local best practices and national standards. The project supports the continued development of a national digital infrastructure by collecting and preparing materials for inclusion and use with any number of possible linked open data initiatives, including Social Networks in Archival Context and the Digital Public Library of America.

**University of Rochester – Rochester, NY**
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries  
Log Number: SP-02-15-0003-15  
Award Amount: $24,831

The University of Rochester will create the Library Application for Study Space Engagement, a mobile app that will provide students with the mobile capability to examine the current occupancy of Rush Rhees Libraries’ most coveted and celebrated study spaces. Relying on indirect wireless usage data rather than individual device information, the app will query the wireless access point infrastructure of library facilities. By doing so, this app will create a heat map of space occupancy in near real-time, empowering students to enhance their productivity, increasing their level of satisfaction with library services and spaces, and encouraging a more even distribution of studying students among less frequented spaces during cycles of high volume. Broader impact will come from providing peer institutions with source code and a blueprint for reproducing this project in similar environments.

**Brooklyn Public Library – Brooklyn, NY**
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries  
Log Number: SP-02-15-0023-15  
Award Amount: $25,000

Brooklyn Public Library (BPL), in partnership with Bureau Blank, will launch the BPL Incubator, a formal process by which library staff can submit ideas for community-based projects, gain staff and community feedback, and compete for funding to pilot a community-based project. The project team will engage staff and patrons in a process for developing and testing new programming ideas; pilot promising short-term projects; design scalable and adaptable library programs that leverage existing community resources; and create a replicable staff and community engagement framework and open source web app. By engaging the community in this project, BPL will create a pathway for Brooklynites to deepen their relationship with the library and take advantage of BPL’s many educational, recreational, and informational services.
**New York Public Library – New York, NY**  
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries  
Project Type: National Digital Platform  
Log Number: LG-00-15-0263-15  
Award Amount: $1,372,154; Matching Amount: $1,372,154

The New York Public Library (NYPL), in close collaboration with the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), and 19 partner libraries and library consortia from across the country will expand and provide outreach for the Library Simplified open source eBook platform. Through this work, the partners aim to unify and improve the eBook borrowing and reading experience for library users across the country. The project directly supports technology development and implementation of the Open eBooks initiative, an effort to make eBooks available to children and youth from low-income families. The project also supports a broader strategy to enhance open source software tools for public library systems across the country to provide access to eBooks.

**StoryCorps, Inc. – Brooklyn, NY**  
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries  
Project Type: Learning in Libraries  
Log Number: LG-00-15-0265-15  
Award Amount: $125,000; Matching Amount: $31,812

The project will send two trained StoryCorps facilitators to each of the National Medal-winning museums and libraries, as chosen by IMLS. At each institution, StoryCorps will record up to 18 stories, each with two participants who know one another well. Each institution will receive one professionally-edited audio segment developed from an interview that the StoryCorps team and the institution determine to be particularly strong. By the end of the project StoryCorps will record up to 180 stories and produce 10 professionally edited segments to be featured through IMLS media. The project provides IMLS National Medal recipients with a unique way to engage with their local communities, and it adds to a rich archive of stories preserved at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

**New York Botanical Garden – Bronx, NY**  
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries  
Project Type: National Digital Platform  
Log Number: LG-70-15-0138-15  
Award Amount: $846,457; Matching Amount: $994,646

The New York Botanical Garden, Harvard Ernst Mayr Library of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Missouri Botanical Garden, and Smithsonian Institution Libraries, as part of the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL), will work to position BHL as an on-ramp for biodiversity content providers interested in contributing to the national digital library infrastructure through the Digital Public Library of America. The project will work to: 1) expand public access to biodiversity literature; 2) onboard at least one hundred new small organizations (libraries, museums, societies and publishers) into providing content through the network; 3) serve as a model for national “subject-based” content hubs; and 4) develop processes that will ensure long-
term biodiversity contributions to the Digital Public Library of America. Project activities will include training and quality control for content providers, national outreach to engage the broader community, and system enhancements to BHL’s existing digital infrastructure.

**Syracuse University – Syracuse, NY**  
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries  
Project Type: Learning Spaces in Libraries  
Log Number: LG-80-15-0212-15  
Award Amount: $281,263; Matching Amount: $281,371

Syracuse University’s School of Information Studies (iSchool) will partner with Coulter Library at Onondaga Community College and Fayetteville Free Library to design a Community Profile System to include human expertise, particularly in the STEM fields. The system will enable librarians to collect communities’ learning needs, identify relevant community experts, and link the resources to serve the learning needs in a cost-efficient manner. The tangible products include the Community Profile System and its web and mobile applications. As libraries shift from collection-driven to community-driven service models, the Community Profile System will fill a much needed gap in the community-oriented librarianship toolbox. The partners are building a system that will realize community-oriented librarianship in a cost-efficient manner. The collaboration and partnerships will ensure the design, test, and assessment of the tool to meet its goal of a national adoption in diverse settings.

**Syracuse University – Syracuse, NY**  
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries  
Project Type: Learning Spaces in Libraries  
Log Number: LG-80-15-0214-15  
Award Amount: $249,495; Matching Amount: $46,148

Syracuse University’s Center for Digital Literacy, along with By Kids For Kids, the Connecticut Invention Convention, Brooklyn-On-Tech, Time2Invent, and OCLC’s Webjunction, among other collaborators, will work with 96 school librarians and students in grades 4-8 to create a website called The Innovation Destination. The site, developed using an iterative design approach, will contain resources and training materials, including lesson plans, activities, web links, pathfinders, learning games, bibliographies, and research articles, for use by elementary and middle school librarians to stimulate and support creative thinking. The centerpiece of the site will be KidsClips, a searchable database of hundreds of interviews with successful young innovators who provide insights into the innovation process and serve as role models for students. The project aims to enable librarians to recognize the importance of motivating and supporting student innovation by creating innovation spaces within their libraries, demonstrate knowledge and skills for being innovation mentors, and report increased student interest in innovation resources and activities.
North Dakota

Mayville State University – Mayville, ND
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Project Type:
Log Number: SP-02-15-0044-15
Award Amount: $24,906; Matching Amount: $0

Mayville State University will enhance accessibility to and usage of STEM kits by rural area teachers and make it easier for these teachers to incorporate the kits into their curriculum planning. The importance of STEM education and how libraries can support STEM is a current focus of current library literature. However, there is a lack of research and other evidence on cataloging and circulation of educational kits using a process that supports educator schedules, educator collaboration, and, specifically, rural educators. This project develops an innovative model for curriculum kit access, presentation, management, preservation, and sharing across rural communities.

Ohio

Reuben McMillian Free Library Association – Youngstown, OH
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0035-15
Award Amount: $20,765

The Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County and the Roger & Gloria Jones Children’s Center for Science & Technology (OH WOW!) will promote two relatively new, complimentary lab spaces in downtown Youngstown for the purpose of cross germination of participants and evaluating skill building that occurs in these participants in each location. In addition to surveys, Youngstown Ohio Learning Opportunities will utilize “stackable” badges to track skill development of participants and measure whether badges are an effective tools. The project will track whether participants move between the two labs for learning. The project will benefit other libraries and museums that wish to measure the impact of learning in complimentary spaces on shared audiences, as well as the effectiveness of badges for multi-organization learning.

Miami University – Oxford, OH
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0009-15
Award Amount: $23,483

The Miami University Libraries Center for Digital Scholarship will complete a one-year project to develop an on-demand Digital Scholarship Applications dashboard. The tool will allow faculty and student scholars to easily and quickly choose, configure, deploy, and evaluate any of a set of common web applications in a shared hosting environment. The envisioned service will be similar to those offered by commercial hosting providers for deployment of popular web applications, but focused on tools relevant to digital scholarship.
OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc. – Dublin, OH
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries
Project Type: National Digital Platform
Log Number: LG-72-15-0197-15
Award Amount: $49,934

OCLC will work with the Digital Public Library of America, the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, the Public Library Association, and Association for Library Collections & Technical Services to conduct a nationwide survey of public libraries and state library agencies. The survey will identify the extent to which public libraries have or have not digitized unique collections, the obstacles that are preventing digitization, and the opportunities and partnerships that can accelerate digitization. This one-year collaborative planning project will result in a report with data that will serve as a baseline for measuring the success of future work to increase public library participation in the national digital platform. The findings and recommendations will also help public libraries, funders, service providers, and state library agencies determine how to work cooperatively to support the digitization of collections.

Oklahoma

Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums – Oklahoma City, OK
Grant Program: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians Program
Project Type: Continuing Education
Log Number: RE-00-15-0109-15
Award Amount: $498,222; Matching Amount: $706,186

The Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM) will provide two annual conferences with continuing education programs targeted to the needs of tribal archivists, librarians, and museum staff; and will conduct a survey of tribal archives, libraries, and museums, followed by a report documenting activities, challenges, and needs. Funded activities will contribute to improving the informational, educational, and cultural programs and services available to the nation’s 4.5 million indigenous peoples. Grant funds of $150,000 will be used to support conference scholarships.

Pennsylvania

Free Library Foundation – Philadelphia, PA
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0014-15
Award Amount: $24,570

The Free Library of Philadelphia will develop Prison Services: Expanding Opportunities for Incarcerated Parents and Their Families at Neighborhood Libraries. Prison Services focuses on meeting the immediate needs of incarcerated parents, returning citizens, and their children and families by connecting them to critical resources, literacy and workforce development programs, and supporting family connectedness. The goal is to forge long-term relationships between inmates and libraries. This one-year pilot will broaden the Free Library’s relationship with the
Philadelphia Prison System to incorporate two new services: Stories Alive, a family televisiting and shared reading program hosted in libraries close to participants’ homes; and the dissemination of temporary library card and reentry resource packets to returning citizens on the day of their release, making the full range of library resources immediately accessible.

**Tennessee**

**University of Memphis – Memphis, TN**
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0027-15
Award Amount: $25,000

The University of Memphis Libraries received a grant to support the development of the University of Memphis Code Library, an innovative and scalable resource for the perpetual and permanent management of code created by members of the University of Memphis community. Responding to a previous lack of standardized attempts to archive code generated within academic communities, the project aims to create a resource through which scholarly standards, practices, and methodologies can be documented and archived. The project also encourages the expansion of coding into the core competencies of other disciplines by creating a discipline-neutral repository under the management of the university library.

**Texas**

**City of Houston – Houston, TX**
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
Log Number: SP-02-15-0019-15
Award Amount: $25,000

In partnership with the Children’s Museum of Houston, Houston Public Library will build on the success of the Pop Up Library program, which addresses early learning and summer reading slide, as a means to provide inclusive family centered sensory programs, services, and resources to children with special needs. Pop Up Library TOO! will help libraries address strategic goals in supporting this important, underserved, and growing population and will leverage the library’s role as a trusted community resource, convener, and strong contributor to the quality of life and serve as a model approach for partnerships with libraries to advance critical community priorities.

**Vermont**

**Vermont Department of Libraries – Montpelier, VT**
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries
Project Type: Learning Spaces in Libraries
Log Number: LG-80-15-0112-15
Award Amount: $339,861; Matching Amount: $340,061
The Vermont Department of Libraries will partner with the Vermont Center for the Book (VCB) and the Montshire Museum of Science to develop the Vermont Early Literacy Initiative - STEM (VELI-STEM). This three year project will help 25 librarians learn concepts and practices essential to STEM learning and weave STEM language and ideas throughout programming for young children, parents, and community childcare providers. The librarians will incorporate STEM learning experiences into story hours, after-school programming, displays, and Discovery Science Centers. Librarians will also have access to an online STEM clearinghouse of resources and work with community childcare providers through outreach and training programs so that providers will, in turn, introduce STEM learning experiences to the preschool children in their care.

**Virginia**

**Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University – Blacksburg, VA**  
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries  
Log Number: SP-02-15-0034-15  
Award Amount: $25,000

The University Libraries at Virginia Tech, in partnership with the School of Performing Arts at Virginia Tech, will work to revitalize a collection of text-based community arts objects generated by the Community Arts Network between 1999 and 2010. The project team will create a prototype virtual community, called VTArtWorks, that connects the community discussions of practitioners and scholars to a stable, sustainable repository infrastructure. VTArtWorks will promote libraries and archives as anchors for community engagement and innovation, by demonstrating how repository systems can enhance community development. Project activities will include developing a prototype system with features to encourage communication between scholars and the arts community. The developed prototype will be built with open source systems, be customized according to research performed during the grant period, well documented to ensure that it can be adopted or adapted by communities and cultural units outside of Virginia Tech.

**George Mason University – Fairfax, VA**  
Grant Program: National Leadership Grants for Libraries  
Project Type: National Digital Platform  
Log Number: LG-70-15-0258-15  
Award Amount: $249,337

The university’s Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media will extend the core functionality of Omeka S by more fully integrating linked open data in digital collections, and creating new modes of access and dissemination through other platforms. The center will develop and support several deliverables: a basic resource description template; three linked open data and controlled authority modules; a social media sharing module; and several developer training workshops. Key outcomes include increasing the integration of LOD authority files in metadata for digital collections; the ability of cultural heritage organizations to implement their own local controlled authorities; the likelihood that new metadata for digital
collections can be smoothly transferred to key aggregators of the national digital platform; the ease of circulation for digital cultural heritage collections through web and social media

**West Virginia**

**West Virginia University – Morgantown, WV**
Grant Program: Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries  
Log Number: SP-02-15-0006-15  
Award Amount: $24,959

West Virginia University Libraries will pilot a project that will address challenges faced by the student veteran community through campus partnerships, expanded services and the development of processes and resources tailored to these students. This includes developing a mobile website specific to the academic and personal needs of veteran students, launching a research boot camp library instruction program tailored to the needs of student veterans.