2014 ANNUAL REPORT

THE MISSION OF IMLS IS TO INSPIRE LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS TO ADVANCE INNOVATION, LIFELONG LEARNING, AND CULTURAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT. WE PROVIDE LEADERSHIP THROUGH RESEARCH, POLICY DEVELOPMENT, AND GRANT MAKING.

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> Museums and libraries all across America have a tremendous power to make a difference in the communities they serve.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

DEAR FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS,

I am privileged to present the 2014 annual report for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). 2014 was an outstanding year for IMLS, as we focused national attention on the role of libraries and museums in American society.

IMLS provides federal leadership and support for libraries and museums through research, policy development, and grantmaking. Our work benefits libraries of all types: public, academic, research, and tribal; and museums of all disciplines: art, history, botanic gardens, aquariums, science and technology centers, children's museums and zoos. With help from our national partners, the U.S. Congress, and the Administration, we inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, learning, and civic engagement.

In 2014, IMLS strengthened its partnerships with federal agencies, private funders, and nonprofits to advance national priorities. We helped libraries and museums reach underserved and at-risk populations in new ways. We introduced efficiencies and innovations to our core grant making work. And we elevated the impact of museums and libraries with our research and with the 20th anniversary of our annual National Medal for Museum and Library Service.

It was a year of new initiatives and milestones. The agency held its first hearing, establishing a public record on the importance of high speed broadband connectivity in America's libraries. With museum sector partners, we announced a pilot for low-income families to visit participating museums for a nominal fee. With our IMLS Focus initiative, we engaged with library leaders to discuss the forces that are reshaping American libraries. Their input is helping to inform our grant programs.

The report describes how we are meeting our strategic goals of helping museums and libraries offer engaging learning experiences, enabling them to be strong community anchors, aiding in the care of museum and library collections, and promoting use of technology to increase access to content.

As I come to the end of my four years as leader of IMLS, I am struck by the collective impact of museums and libraries all across America. They have tremendous power to make a difference in the communities they serve. And, at IMLS, we remain ready to tell their story.

Sincerely,

Susan H. Hildreth
Director, February 2011 – February 2015

GRANTS FY 2014

Every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the territories received a share of $154,000,000 awarded through the Library Grants to States program. In addition, IMLS awarded 594 grants totaling more than $54,700,000 through competitive grants for library and museum service. Competitive grants were awarded in consultation with several hundred museum and library professionals who reviewed 1,299 grant applications.

1,299
Total number of discretionary grant applications

$136,814,868
Total $ Amount Requested

$54,724,551
Total $ Amount Awarded

594
Total number of discretionary grant awards

2,586
(using FY12 funds)
Number of Grants to States projects reported

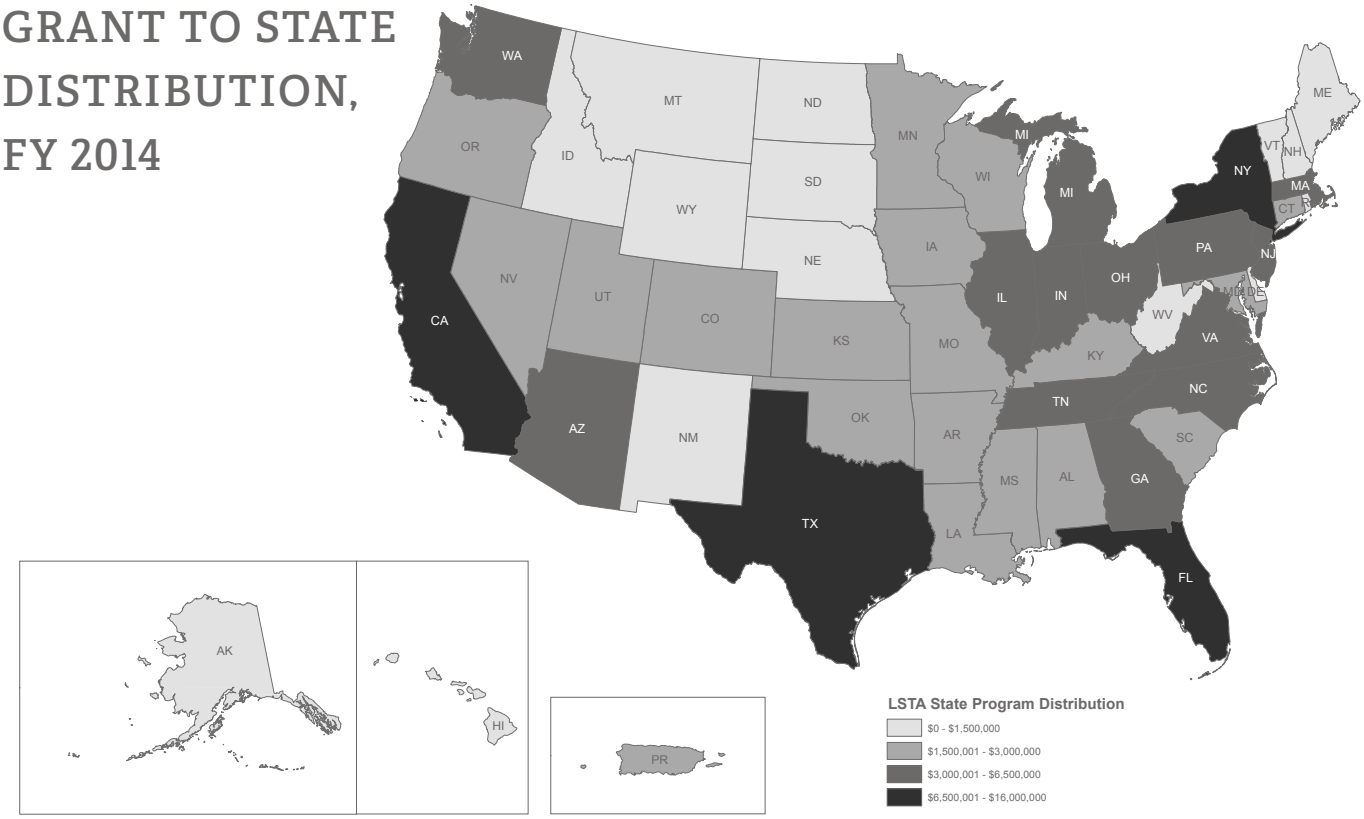
376
Reviewers

139
Panelists

15
Panels

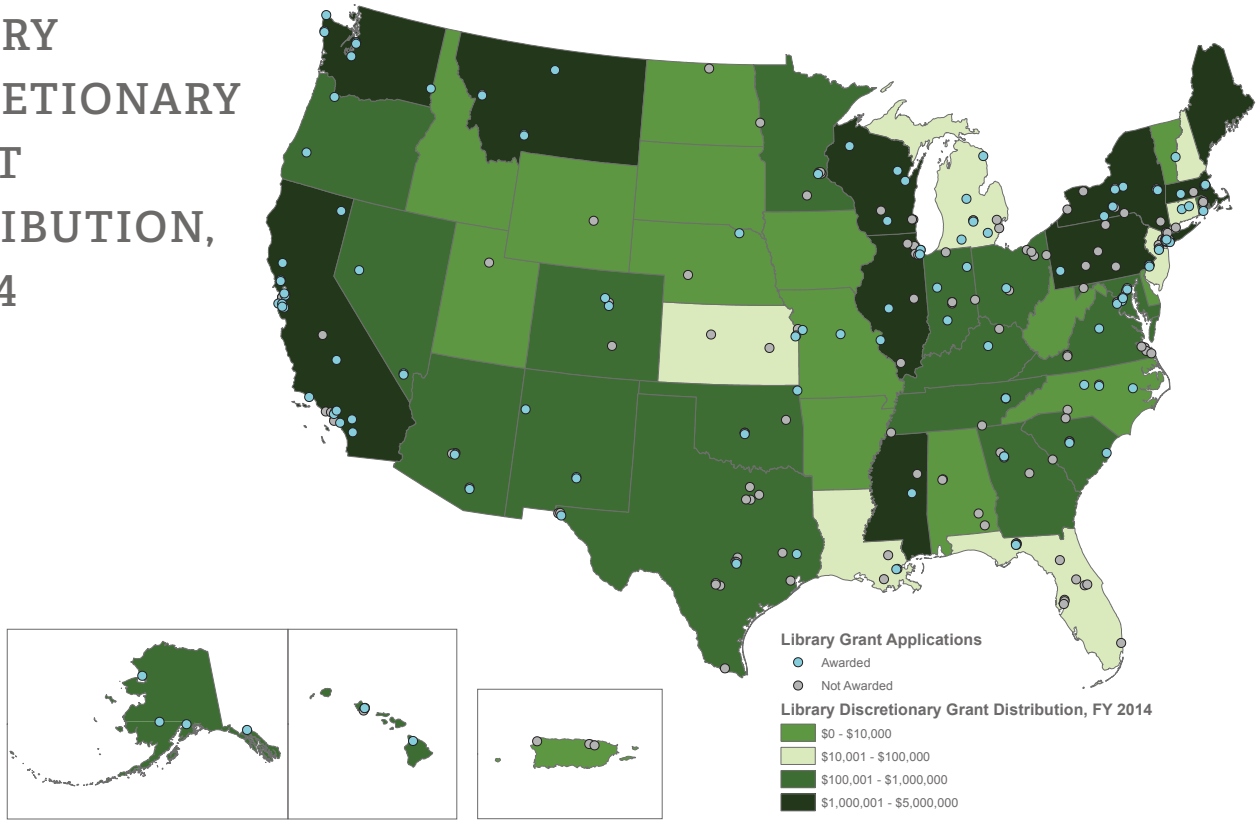
13
Grant Programs

GRANT TO STATE DISTRIBUTION, FY 2014



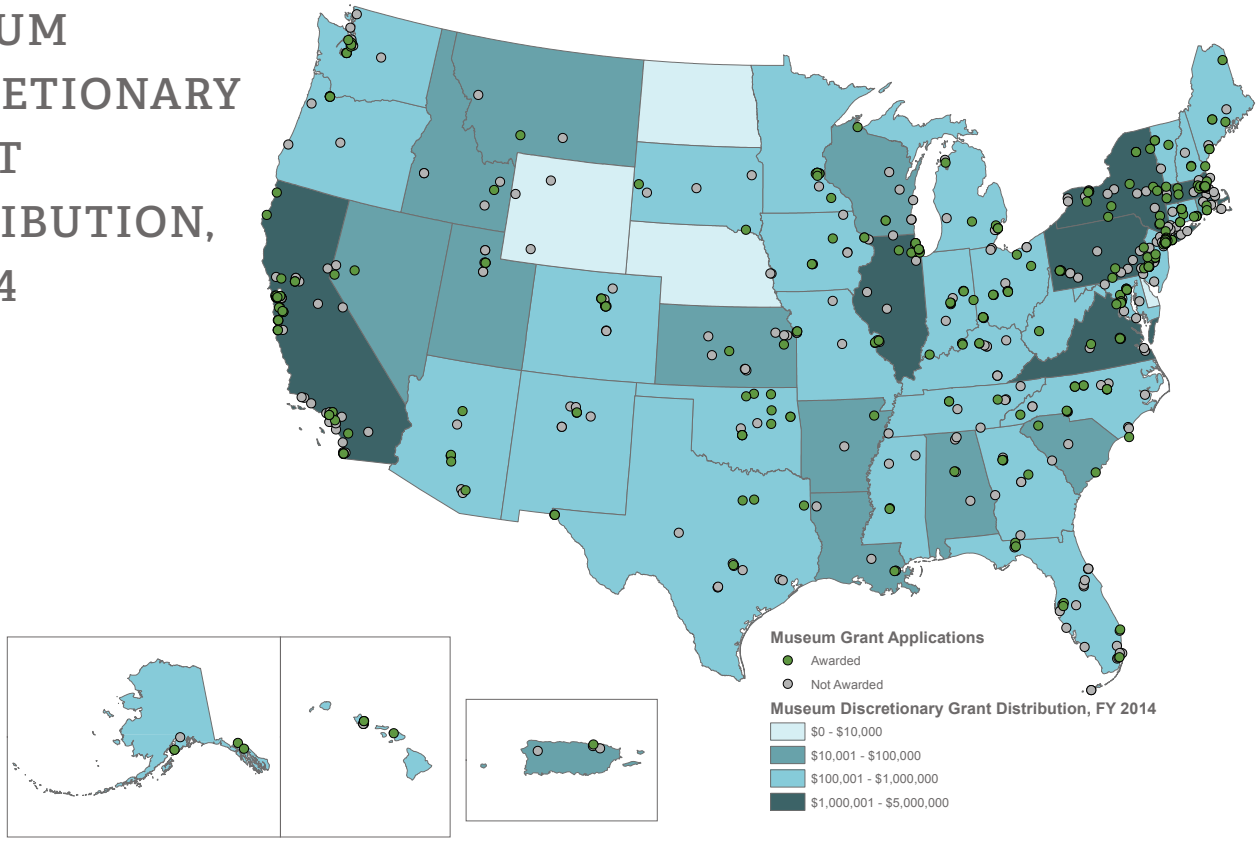
Note: American Samoa, Northern Marianas, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands also received funds but are not displayed. Source: Institute of Museum and Library Services, 2014

LIBRARY DISCRETIONARY GRANT DISTRIBUTION, FY 2014



Source: Institute of Museum and Library Services, 2014

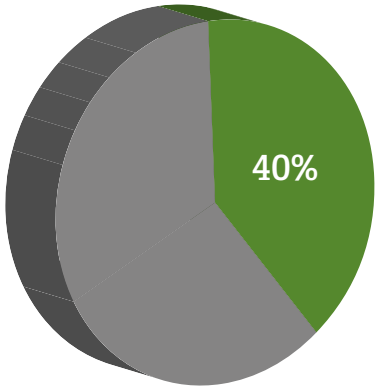
MUSEUM DISCRETIONARY GRANT DISTRIBUTION, FY 2014



Source: Institute of Museum and Library Services, 2014

LEARNING

IMLS PLACES THE LEARNER AT THE CENTER AND SUPPORTS ENGAGING EXPERIENCES IN LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS TO PREPARE PEOPLE TO BE FULL PARTICIPANTS IN THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND OUR GLOBAL SOCIETY.



LEARNING GRANTS

In FY 2014, IMLS awarded $85 million in grants to support lifelong learning. This represented 40 percent of grant awards issued totaling $213 million.

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT:
TACKLING MONEY MATTERS AT NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

> Library staff members traditionally feel hesitant to answer financial questions for fear of litigation and other risks. The Money Matters project changed the culture across the library system and showed staff that providing people with authoritative resources is not advice, but it is the best kind of help they can give.

– KRISTIN MCDONOUGH, NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY DIRECTOR
New York Public Library, Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians grantee

MAY
IMLS received the partner's award from the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading.

JULY
We announced that we are working with the National Writing Project (NWP) to create a Learning Labs Community of Practice. NWP, a professional development network that reaches more than 100,000 teachers, will help educators adapt, extend and contribute to curricula, program models, digital tools, and other prototypes that have been incubated in YOUmedia/Learning Labs.

JUNE
At the White House Makers Faire, we announced "Supporting Making in Museums and Libraries," an initiative with the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh and its university, museum, and library partners to build field-wide understanding of making in museums and libraries.

JULY
We announced a partnership with the BUILD Initiative to work with five states to encourage more intentional integration of libraries and museums into statewide and local early learning strategies. More than 400 library and museum professionals participated in a webinar in August to learn about this project.

OCTOBER
At the White House Summit on the Word Gap, we announced that we are working with Reach Out and Read and the American Academy of Pediatrics to pilot a program to make a "prescription to visit the library" part of well-child visits.

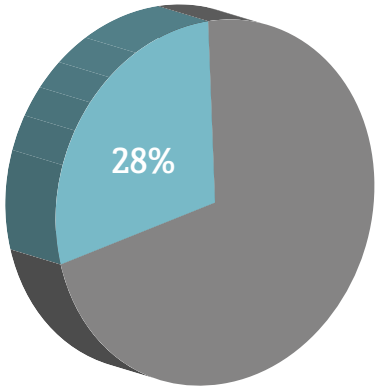
NOVEMBER
We continued to partner with the Joan Ganz Cooney Center at Sesame Street on the National STEM Video Game Challenge. We are tapping into students' natural passion for playing and making video games to develop systems thinking, problem solving, iterative design, and digital media literacy.

Reach Out and Read®

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

COMMUNITY

IMLS PROMOTES MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES AS STRONG COMMUNITY ANCHORS THAT ENHANCE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES, AND ECONOMIC VITALITY.



COMMUNITY GRANTS

In FY 2014, IMLS awarded $60 million in grants promoting museums and libraries as Strong Community Anchors This represented 28 percent of grant awards issued totaling $213 million.

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT:
DIALOGUES ON IMMIGRATION: EMPOWERING NEW VOICES

> We often tend to undervalue personal connection in the era of online learning and virtual contact, but projects like this hinge on the power of coalition and connection. All the programs are stronger and better because we work across regions and sites, meet face-to-face, and build peer learning and support networks.

– SARAH PHARAON, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, NORTH AMERICA, INTERNATIONAL COALITION OF SITES OF CONSCIENCE
International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, 21st Century Museum Professionals (now National Leadership Grants for Museums) grantee

MARCH

Susan H. Hildreth and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Director Richard Cordray launched a national partnership supporting financial literacy.

JUNE

We announced that we are partnering with the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) at the U.S. Department of Education to encourage effective collaborations between libraries and federally funded adult education programs. Our goal is to enhance the skills, employability, and quality of life of youth and adults with low skills.

FEBRUARY

More than 270 people attended the annual IMLS WebWise conference. The two-and-a-half-day meeting explored digital technologies in museums and libraries. Nick Poole, from the UK's Collections Trust, started the conference with "Make It Personal: Developing Services That People Love," and Mary Flanagan, Sherman Fairchild Distinguished Professor in Digital Humanities at Dartmouth College, closed the conference with "Play with Your Metadata."

270

IMLS and United States Citizenship and Immigration Services launched a series of webinars to help libraries serve new populations.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Let's Move! Museums & Gardens joined in the fifth anniversary celebration of ***Let's Move!***, First Lady Michelle Obama's comprehensive initiative to raise a healthier generation of kids.

MUSEUMS for ALL
an initiative of the Institute of Museum and Library Services

JUNE

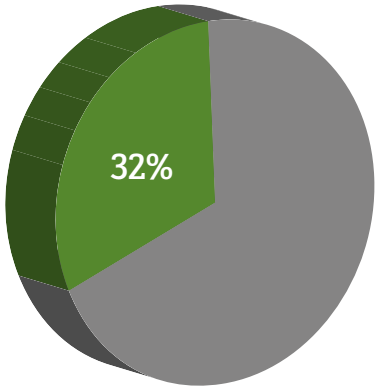
At the Clinton Global Initiative, IMLS and the Association of Children's Museums (ACM) announced Museums for All, an initiative to make museums more accessible to low-income families. The program will enable low-income families (as indicated by an EBT card—an electronic payment card that has replaced food stamps) to visit any participating museum, year-round, for a minimal fee.

JULY

Congress passed and the President signed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014. In October, more than 700 library professionals participated in a town meeting webinar with representatives from IMLS, the U.S. Department of Labor, the U.S. Department of Education, and the American Library Association to learn about how the new law highlights libraries' roles in workforce development.

CONTENT

IMLS SUPPORTS EXEMPLARY STEWARDSHIP OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY COLLECTIONS AND PROMOTES THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY TO FACILITATE DISCOVERY OF KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE.



CONTENT GRANTS

In FY 2014, IMLS awarded $68 million in grants to support collections and content. This represented 32 percent of grant awards issued totaling $213 million.

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT:
RHODE ISLAND'S FIRST RESPONDERS RECEIVE TRAINING TO LIMIT DAMAGE TO COLLECTIONS

"The priceless works held in libraries, archives and special collections represent the cultural heritage roots of our communities. They help us remember the past and look to the future. It is so important that these materials are kept safe, no matter what situations may arise."

– DONNA LONGO DIMICHELE, PROGRAM MANAGER/LSTA COORDINATOR
The Rhode Island Office of Library and Information Services, Grants to States and Connecting to Collections grantee

MARCH
Together with the Sloan Foundation, we announced that we are supporting SHARE, a project to create a single, structured way to for scholars to announce new research releases in a timely and comprehensive manner.

OCTOBER
Surveys were sent to 14,000 collecting institutions to support the second edition of the Heritage Health Index, a comprehensive report of the state of collections in the United States.

20
YEARS

JULY
We announced several projects to build on 20 years of significant federal investment (IMLS, NEH, NSF, Library of Congress, and the Smithsonian) to make digitized collections of cultural and scientific content accessible to a broader public. We are mobilizing the technology and mastering the logistics that are necessary to manage large scale digitization of analog collections and to steward born-digital content in environments built to facilitate discovery, inquiry, and research.

We continue to collaborate with the NEH, NSF and international funding agencies to support the Digging into Data projects, work with the Library of Congress on the Digital Stewardship Residency programs, and support the development of data curating and data policies to support open access to content and publications. A grant to the Digital Public Library of America will help make the digital collections of libraries, museums, and archives more findable and useful.

Connecting to Collections
. . . A Call to Action . . .

SEPTEMBER
We announced an award to the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works for Connecting to Collections Care, or C2C Care. The free resource will incorporate digital badges and support a community of practice for library, museum, and archives professionals with training webinars, vital resources, and discussion forums.

> The school is not just the island where education can happen and then when they leave the island, the education stops. The whole community has to be focused on education. It's the home. It's the school and it's the library.

– THOMAS POWER, CHIEF OF STAFF, NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
On detail to the Office of Science and Technology Policy, White House, as Deputy Chief Technology Officer for Telecommunications, quoting his mother who was an elementary school teacher and then a school librarian.

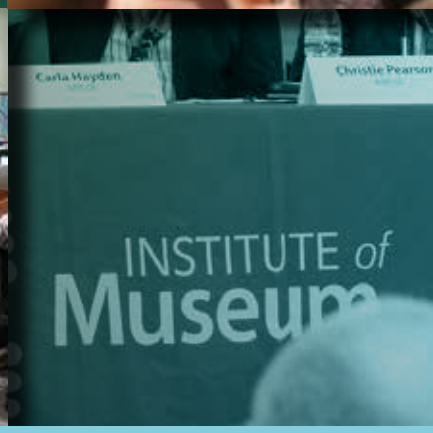
ACCESS

IMLS ADVISES THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS ON PLANS, POLICIES, AND ACTIVITIES TO SUSTAIN AND INCREASE PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND IDEAS.

DECEMBER 2013

As part of the United States delegation to the World Intellectual Property Organization's Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights, we proposed Objectives and Principles for Exceptions and Limitations for Libraries and Archives to help these institutions carry out their public service role of preservation and support for research and human development, particularly in the digital environment.

Data collection closed for the Public Needs for Library and Museums Services national household survey.



FEBRUARY

We launched a new Open Data webpage that provides access to an inventory of IMLS's data sets and emphasizes the agency's commitment to open data. The agency conducted an internal audit of all available IMLS datasets, and also created a machine-readable data catalog of the agency's datasets.

APRIL

We held a hearing on Libraries and Broadband and the E-rate program. The hearing featured new IMLS research showing that more than 90% of libraries in the U.S. have benefited from the E-rate. The event was broadcast live by C-SPAN and covered by the New York Times, Politico, Bloomberg News, and others.

We took action to help eliminate a policy barrier that has kept many Native American libraries from being able to fully participate in the E-rate program by submitting comments to the FCC.

We released a database with more than 35,000 entries of museums and museum-serving organizations in the U.S.

JUNE

With the release of the FY 2011 Public Libraries in the United States Report, we provided an in-depth look at public library service and, for the first time, showed that public libraries usage increases with public libraries investment.

The State Library Administrative Agency Survey for FY12 found that the state library administrative agencies faced a period of declining revenues and staff reductions in recent years.

> No one organization can do everything. Learning in the 21st century is happening in networks. But here is the thing about libraries: you are the spine of cities, you are the spine of rural communities. In my mind, you are the most important informal learning space that our government funds and that we have going today.

– CONNIE YOWELL, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MACARTHUR FOUNDATION
IMLS Focus Stem Learning in Libraries, Chicago, June 5, 2014

CONVENING

IMLS IS A HUB OF IDEAS FOR AND FROM MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES.

FEBRUARY

We convened a high-level meeting with early literacy experts that included former U.S. Department of Education Assistant Secretary Joan Lombardi; Dr. David W. Willis, Division Director of Home Visiting and Early Childhood Systems, HHS Health Resources and Services Administration; and Kyle Zimmer, President and Co-Founder of First Book, to highlight library and museum roles in early learning.

APRIL – JUNE

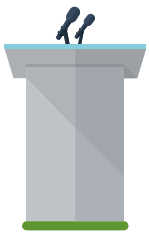
We held meeting in three major cities to discuss national digital initiatives, learning spaces in libraries, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) learning. We invited broad participation via webcast and social media, and more than 900 unique visitors participated in each meeting online.

Stories about IMLS programs and initiatives appeared in the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, CNN, and the New Yorker.

Our social media presence is growing! We have more than 6,600 fans on Facebook, 8,800 Twitter followers, 4,200 subscribers to the UpNext blog, and 17,000 subscribers to the monthly newsletter, Primary Source.

MARCH

To strengthen state museum networks, we worked with the American Alliance of Museums to convene 84 museum professionals representing 46 state museum associations, including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, at Crystal Bridges in Bentonville, Arkansas. This was the first meeting of its kind in more than 17 years.



IMLS staff connected with constituents at several congressional grant workshops and participated in a number of Hill briefings including presentations for the Congressional STEM Caucus and the Congressional Maker's Caucus.

SEPTEMBER

IMLS and OCLC Web Junction launched the Coalition to Advance Learning in Archives, Libraries, and Museums to help coordinate national continuing education investments and activities. Future work will also be supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

BILL & MELINDA GATES foundation

> The 2014 National Medal for Museum and Library Service recipients offer outstanding programming and services that address vital community needs and inspire a love of learning. The life-changing experiences of these institutions' selected community members, who have made the trip to Washington, D.C., to share their stories, remind us just how valuable our nation's museums and libraries are.
>
> **– SUSAN H. HILDRETH, DIRECTOR**
> Institute of Museum and Library Services

CELEBRATION

IMLS SHINES A NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT ON MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES TO HONOR GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS.

NOVEMBER 2013

First Lady Michelle Obama presented thirteen afterschool arts and humanities youth education programs the 2013 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards. The awards recognize exemplary programs of youth-serving nonprofits, including libraries and museums, that provide youth with education and practical experience in the arts and humanities.

SPOTLIGHT

This year's Film Forward, a partnership with the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities, continued to bring award-winning films to libraries and museums across the country and the world.

sundance
FILM FORWARD

MAY

First Lady Michele Obama presented the **National Medal for Museum and Library Service** to five libraries and five museums that are strengthening communities in innovative ways. All 143 previous winners joined the celebration online with photos, stories, and a commemorative logo to mark the 20th anniversary of the National Medal for Museum and Library Service.

AUGUST

IMLS partnered with the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies and the Library of Congress to sponsor the Pavilion of the States at the 2014 National Book Festival held in Washington, DC. The Pavilion remained a great success with visits from thousands of festival-goers.

SEPTEMBER

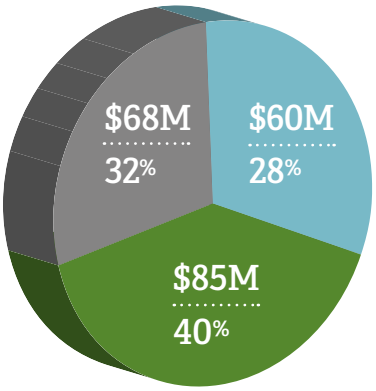
Five new National Student Poets were officially appointed at a ceremony with First Lady Michelle Obama at the White House. The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities and IMLS have partnered with the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers for a third year of the program, the country's highest honor for young poets presenting original work.

ACCOUNTABILITY

IMLS IS A CAREFUL STEWARD OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS AND MAXIMIZES PUBLIC VALUE THROUGH STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT.

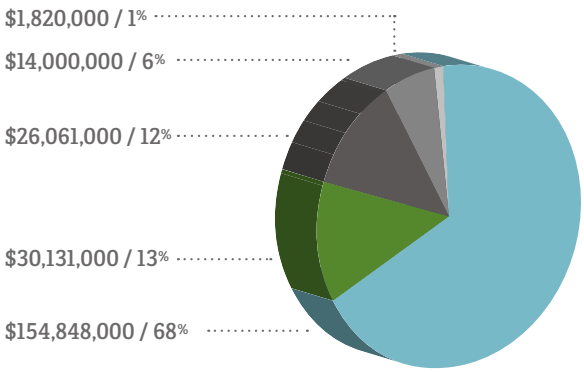
FY 2014 NET FINANCIAL POSITION

FINANCIAL POSITION	FY 2014	FY 2013	CHANGE ($)	CHANGE (%)
ASSETS	$288.8M	$298.8M	($10.0M)	-3.3%
LIABILITIES	$45.2M	$53.0M	($7.8M)	-14.7%
NET POSITION	$243.6M	$245.8M	($2.2M)	-0.9%
NET COST	$225.4M	$254.5M	($29.1M)	-11.4%



FY 2014 GRANT OBLIGATIONS

- *Supporting Life Long Learning*
- *Promoting Museums & Libraries as Strong Community Anchors*
- *Supporting Exemplary Stewardship of Collections*



IMLS FY 2014 APPROPRIATIONS

- *Library – State Program*
- *Museum – Discretionary Program*
- *Library – Discretionary Program*
- *Administration*
- *Research, Evaluation, and Data Collection*

JANUARY

We incorporated the new government-wide federal grant requirements into our grant programs and regulations. These changes have required a comprehensive examination of our grant processes, from application through financial and performance reporting.

OPEN GOVERNMENT PLAN

JUNE

IMLS's new Open Government Plan was released. The new plan, which was developed after consultation with agency stakeholders, is part of a continuing government-wide initiative to promote openness in the work of federal agencies and highlights the agency's efforts toward greater transparency, collaboration, and public participation.

JULY

The Grants to States Program staff conducted site visits in Arkansas, Colorado, Hawaii, Kentucky, Missouri, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina, and Washington.

We entered into a cooperative agreement with the Office of Policy and Planning at the Smithsonian Institution to develop evaluation resources for IMLS applicants and grantees.

More than 500 library and museum professionals participated in technical assistance webinars for potential applicants to answer questions and encourage good applications.

500

MARCH

$226 MILLION

The President submitted his FY 2015 Request to Congress including $226,448,000 for IMLS, an increase over the request for 2014.

For the first time, museum grant applicants seeking $25,000 or less could opt to participate in a new "no match" initiative. The effort proved successful in supporting small museums.

IMLS's first stand-alone Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) regulations took effect. The new regulations describe the agency's procedures for handling FOIA requests from the public and reflect the agency's presumption of openness.

AUGUST

Our Freedom of Information Act Program was one of only seven programs throughout the government to receive all "green lights" from the U.S. Department of Justice for carrying out the Administration's priorities for maximizing access to information through the Freedom of Information Act.

IMLS TEAM

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES BOARD IS A TWENTY-THREE-MEMBER ADVISORY BODY THAT INCLUDES PRESIDENTIALLY APPOINTED INDIVIDUALS WITH EXPERTISE IN, OR COMMITMENT TO, LIBRARY, MUSEUM AND INFORMATION SERVICES.

Informed by its collectively vast experience and knowledge, the board advises the Institute's director on general policy and practices, selections for the National Medal for Museum and Library Service, and coordination with other federal agencies and offices.

FY 2014 ADVISORY BOARD

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THE INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES IS THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR THE NATION'S 123,000 LIBRARIES AND 35,000 MUSEUMS. OUR MISSION IS TO INSPIRE LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS TO ADVANCE INNOVATION, LIFELONG LEARNING, AND CULTURAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT. OUR GRANT MAKING, POLICY DEVELOPMENT, AND RESEARCH HELP LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS DELIVER VALUABLE SERVICES THAT MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR COMMUNITIES AND INDIVIDUALS TO THRIVE.

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PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

Cover, background: *Terror of the South exhibition at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, photo by Pat Corkery, Martin Marietta.*
Cover, foreground, left to right: *Ancient Mediterranean and Islamic Art collection at the Seattle Art Museum, photo by Justin Gollmer. Computer lab at Hawaii's Hilo Public Library. SciTech Days at the Carnegie Science Center. Inside Becka's Studio at the Children's Museum of Tacoma, photo by Lisa Monet Photography. Naturalization ceremony at the Hartford Public Library.*
P. 4, background: *New York Public Library.*
P. 4, foreground, top to bottom: *Astronomy Days at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, photo by Karen Swain. Naturalist Center at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, photo by Chris Adamczyk. Computer lab at Hawaii's Hilo Public Library.*
P. 5, inset: *New York Public Library.*
P. 5, circle: *YOUmedia program at the Chicago Public Library.*
P. 6, background: *CityArts Mosaic Mural Project at Amazement Square.*
P. 6, foreground, top to bottom: *Amazing Mile Children's Run at Amazement Square. Lynch's Ferry Festival at Amazement Square. Community member Spencer Hahn watches a program with his mother at The Children's Museum of Indianapolis.*
P. 7, inset: *Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, photo by Olson Kundig Architects.*
P. 8, background: *Digitization of Civil Rights documents at the Birmingham Public Library.*
P. 8, foreground, top to bottom: *Clash of the Titans exhibit at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History. Ancient Mediterranean and Islamic Art collection at the Seattle Art Museum, photo by Justin Gollmer. Yiddish Print Shop exhibit at the Yiddish Book Center, photo by Ben Barnhart.*
P. 9, inset: *Hands-on disaster response training with the Rhode Island Office of Library and Information Services .*
P. 11, background: *FCC Chairman Thomas Wheeler speaks at the Libraries and Broadband hearing.*
P. 11, foreground, top to bottom: *Washington DC, Capitol (M Dogan via Shutterstock). Audience at the conference hall(Matej Kastelic via Sutterstock). Computer lab at the Athens-Clarke County Library.*
P. 12, circle: *Early literacy convening at IMLS.*
P. 13, background: *Indoor business conference for managers (Halfpoint via Shutterstock).*
P. 13, foreground, top to bottom: *Museum representatives from 46 states gather at the March convening. Student learning at the Carnegie Science Center.*
P. 15, background: *The White House.*
P. 15, foreground, top to bottom: *Mrs. Obama presents the 2014 National Medal for Museum and Library Services. Film Forward staff and federal partners, photo by Jill Orschel, © 2013 Sundance Institute, All Rights Reserved. Mrs. Obama with the 2014 National Student Poets.*
P. 15, circle: *Former IMLS Director Susan H. Hildreth with representatives Texas from at the 2014 National Book Festival.*
P. 16: *Chart and a magnifying glass on the table (sergign via Shutterstock).*
P. 18, top to bottom: *May 2014 meeting of the National Museum and Library Services Board. IMLS staff at the 2014 IMLS Focus convening in San Francisco.*
P. 19: *November 2014 meeting of the National Museum and Library Services Board.*

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> As I come to the end of my four years as leader of IMLS, I am struck by the collective impact of museums and libraries all across America. They have tremendous power to make a difference in the communities they serve. And, at IMLS, we remain ready to tell their story.

– SUSAN H. HILDRETH, *DIRECTOR*

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