



NATIVE AMERICAN LIBRARY SERVICES ENHANCEMENT GRANTS

Sample Application NAE-258868-OLS-25

Catawba Indian Nation

Amount awarded by IMLS: \$131,184

Catawba Indian Nation will facilitate education and access to Catawba culture via the creation of a modern, interactive, mobile friendly website for the Catawba Cultural Services Division and the Catawba Language Project. In addition to improved site navigation, the new website will include online curricula to allow citizens to learn the Catawba language and ultimately preserve it. The project will also facilitate hands-on learning through the purchase of a hand-held 3D scanner and 3D printer. This will enable the creation of replica artifacts such as pottery and tools for use in classes and public programs, particularly those aimed at children. It will also provide Catawba citizens with access to 3D printing technology through the Catawba Community Library.

Attached are the following components excerpted from the original application.

- Tribal Profile
- Narrative
- Schedule of completion

When preparing an application for the next deadline, be sure to follow the instructions in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity for the grant program to which you are applying.

Tribal Profile: Catawba Indian Nation Cultural Services Division

The Catawba Indian Nation (CIN) is a constitutionally governed, Federally Recognized, tribal nation with more than 3,500 citizens. Our traditional lands include the piedmont regions of South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia. Most of our citizens (643) live on the Catawba Indian Nation Reservation outside of Rock Hill South Carolina, or in our service area (2,483) which includes the entire state of South Carolina and six counties in North Carolina, as defined by Public Law 103-11: The Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act (1993).

Since 1989, the Catawba Cultural Services Division's mission has been to "protect, preserve, promote, and maintain the rich cultural heritage of Catawba Indian Nation." This mission was reaffirmed after the restoration of full federal recognition by a resolution of the Executive Committee of the Catawba Indian Nation on 15 February 1994. The Cultural Services Division has pursued that mission through cultural classes, summer camps, the creation of a cultural center, archives, community library, and artist support through the Catawba Trading Post store, and much more. In April of 2020, the Cultural Division transitioned from a 7871 non-profit to a division of the Catawba Nation Government which has created new supports for ongoing cultural work as well as rigorous policies, accounting, and compliance to ensure that we continue to fulfill our responsibilities to partners and funders.

The Catawba Cultural Services Division has two primary responsibilities. The first is to ensure the perpetuation of Catawba culture throughout the Catawba community through classes, fellowships, artist support, youth education, displays, programming, archives and historical work, and other events. The second is to appropriately share Catawba stories and knowledge with the non-Catawba community. We approach these responsibilities through a number of departments and programs. Today the Cultural Services Division includes the Catawba Cultural Center, a museum, educational, and event space; the Catawba Trading Post, sourcing authenticated Catawba and other native art, the Catawba Nation Archives, the only archive in the world dedicated solely to the preservation of Catawba historical and cultural materials, and the Catawba Community Library, providing a space for education, entertainment, and technological access and training for all ages.

Enhancing Catawba Cultural Educational Technology and Access

Project Justification:

This project will address several opportunities for the Catawba Indian Nation Cultural Services Division. First, the CIN Cultural Services Division website (<https://catawbaculture.org/>) and particularly, the Catawba Language Project's website (<https://catawbalanguage.org/>) are outdated, and can be difficult to navigate. Further, as the sites were built from custom code rather than a template such as WordPress, Squarespace, etc. access from the back end to make changes, even in terms of simple copy editing, is difficult. Finally, the sites are not in line with the design and branding of the Catawba Nation's official site (<https://catawba.com/>). We have determined the need for a full redesign of the sites based upon the increasing difficulty of editing access by Cultural Division and CIN IT staff, and repeated confusion and complaints regarding site navigation from Catawba citizens, and other CIN departments who have tried to access the resources on the site. This project would solve these issues by funding the creation of a new Cultural Division website and language website that will be easy to navigate, easy to edit, and mobile-friendly. While the Cultural Services website is primarily a landing page with links and a few integral department pages, the language website is much more complex. Updating the technology behind the language site will allow an expansion of the educational capabilities of the site, including full curricula, an updated, standardized dictionary, and both browser-based and downloadable lessons, and language-learning games. We have consulted with a design firm, Web Design Charlotte, who have examined the existing site, and provided us with a quote and specifics on what a redesign would entail (see supporting document 1).

Next, the Catawba Nation Archives has long desired the ability to create replica artifacts from our collections for use in citizen and public programming. This project would allow us to do this by funding the purchase of a hand-held 3D scanner, and modern 3D printer with the ability to print relatively large objects. The scanner and printer would allow the archives to create replicas of lithic artifacts, pottery, tools, etc. that could then be used in classes and programs, particularly with younger participants, who could then hold and manipulate the replicas for a "hands on" experience without risking the original materials. We also successfully used 3D printing last year to create replica box turtle shells which were then turned into rattles used for traditional dancing. Eastern box turtle shells were historically used by the Catawba for such rattles, but today the species is listed as a "species of special concern" as human encroachment on their habitats has resulted in a significant decrease in the population. 3D printing of the shells allows modern Catawba to continue a valuable cultural tradition without further endangering this species. The 3D printer purchased with these funds would also be used as the first piece of a "maker space" for the Catawba Community Library.

Third, this grant would provide partial salary support for three positions: archivist, community librarian, and language coordinator. While the Catawba Nation has developed new revenue streams in the past two years, the Executive Committee has asked the Cultural Services staff to continue to seek salary support to defray costs. We are therefore asking for support for these positions, which will be directly involved in the planning, management, and implementation of

this project. Additionally, this funding will support travel to ATALM/IMLS meeting for two years for at least two staff members associated with the project.

Finally, this project would provide funding for archive and library supplies, and for software subscription fees for services used by the Community Library and Catawba Nation Archives, including annual site hosting and maintenance fees for the archives' website (<https://catawba.maxarchiveservices.co.uk/>), Microsoft Blob glacial storage for digital preservation backups, subscriptions to Kahoot! for language learning trivia, Circuit Access for creation of language learning materials, Wondershare Filmora for editing video oral histories, and Glowforge Premium for the creation of exhibit cards and display materials.

Project Work Plan:

CIN Cultural Services Director Dr. Wenonah G. Haire will serve as project director for this grant, and Archivist Ensley Guffey will serve as project manager. Community Librarian Rachel Hooper and Language Coordinator Cheyenne Foxx will oversee the elements of the project related to their departments. Upon receiving this grant, we will immediately move to procurement of the 3D scanner, 3D printer, and website design & implementation service. The website design and implementation service will require us to assemble at least three written bids, and to follow CIN Procurement's policies and procedures for purchases of \$5000 and above. This process requires sign offs from multiple departments after we choose a vendor and can sometimes take 4 – 8 weeks to complete. Rachel Hooper and Ensley Guffey will collaborate in choosing a 3D scanner and printer for the project, with input from members of the CIN IT staff who have experience with these technologies. Cheyenne Foxx, Mr. Guffey, and IT staff will work together to meet with potential vendors and review quotes for the language website redesign.

During the procurement process for the new website, Mr. Guffey and Ms. Foxx will begin planning and creating content for the sites and determining what could potentially be migrated from the old sites to the new. Once the website design vendor has been chosen, Ms. Foxx will begin working with the vendor to provide content and copy for the sites and to oversee the design process and approve elements as needed. She will coordinate with other members of the language team, CIN IT, Mr. Guffey as project manager and Dr. Haire as project director as needed. Once the content has been determined, development and publishing of the websites will take an estimated 8 – 10 weeks. After this there will be a further period of 8 – 10 weeks as unforeseen kinks are ironed out, content is adjusted, and the websites are further refined. During this period, we hope to receive feedback from users about the sites and adjust accordingly. We will be working with the CIN IT department, the CIN Early Learning (pre-K), *Suuk Sarak* (K – 5th Grade after school programs and summer camp), *Suuk Yap* (Boys & Girls Club & Teen Center for 6th – 12th grades), and Senior Center to promote the sites, and encourage citizens to engage with them through regular language classes and on their own to access other Catawba cultural resources. Project results and lessons learned will be shared with the Catawba Nation through the Cultural Services Division's regular quarterly reports to the Nation, and to IMLS via regular programmatic reports as required by the agency.

When the grant is awarded, Mr. Guffey and Ms. Hooper will plan citizen access through the library and determine any fees for printer use if needed. Once the 3D scanner and printer are acquired and the relevant software installed, Mr. Guffey and Ms. Hooper will train on the technology and collaborate with the Citizen Classes Coordinator and Public Programs Specialist to begin creating replicas to align with their programming. The availability of the 3D printer for citizen use and the new Catawba language website will be advertised via social media, the Cultural Services Division weekly email newsletter, The Catawba Nation Citizens' web portal, and via in-house print advertising consisting of posters, flyers, and table-tent inserts to be placed throughout CIN properties on the Reservation.

Project Results:

This project will produce a new Language website consisting of a landing page and approximately 10 – 12 pages with a user-friendly interface, better access to language resources and educational materials, and will fit in smoothly with both Cultural Services Division and CIN branding. This project will also result in the acquisition of a hand-held 3D scanner and 3D printer for creating replica artifacts for cultural education, and citizen use through the Catawba Community Library. These products will achieve our goals of modernizing the language and Cultural Services Division websites, making them more user friendly from both the front and back end, making more language resources available to Catawba citizens, and incorporate CIN-wide branding to improve the sites' fit alongside other CIN sites. The 3D printer will allow citizen and public programs, particularly those focused on children, to interact with Catawba material culture through replica artifacts, thus bolstering cultural education while protecting irreplaceable materials.

Success will be defined by the creation of the new website, and its adoption by Catawba citizen users. This latter piece will be tracked quantitatively through built in analytics on the site measuring discrete users, new users, and engagement. Citizen access of the 3D printer and software will be evaluated by tracking the number of people using the technology. Project results and lessons learned will be shared with the Catawba Nation through the Cultural Services Division's regular quarterly reports to the Nation, and to IMLS via regular programmatic reports as required by the agency.

The ongoing costs of supporting these projects beyond the period of this grant are minimal as compared to the costs of implementation. For the website, annual fees for hosting and maintenance of the site will be available from the CIN IT and Cultural Services Division operating budgets, while maintenance of the 3D scanner and printer will consist mainly of purchasing spools of replacement filament and possibly charges for software upgrades after several years. Both costs are minimal and can be covered by basic supplies budgets.

Schedule of Completion: Enhancing Catawba Cultural Educational Technology and Access

[illegible]

Catawba Schedule of Completion 2

	Sept 26	Nov 26	Dec 26	Jan 27	Feb 27	Mar 27	Apr 27	May 27	Jun 27	Jul 27	Aug 27
Advertise New Sites & 3D Printer Access											
Print Materials for Programs											