

2019-2020 LSTA GRANT AWARD ABSTRACTS

Strengthening Capacity

Projects listed below address Goal 1 of the 2018-2022 LSTA Five Year Plan

Strengthening Capacity: North Carolinians will have libraries with essential resources and capable staff that enable them to provide exceptional library programs and services.

Albemarle Regional Library

ARL Long Range Strategic Plan

Award: \$39,654.00

ARL is seeking a LSTA Grant to hire a consultant to facilitate a comprehensive strategic planning process. The consultant will work with the ARL Strategic Planning Committee, library staff, elected and appointed officials, library supporters, and stakeholders to create a strategic plan for the next five years of library service. The library expects a strategic plan that includes prioritized goals, measurable objectives and activities to meet community needs for the next five years. Data gathered through this strategic planning process should present a comprehensive overview of the library service needs of ARL communities. The purpose of the strategic plan is to position the library to provide services that meet the needs of ARL communities. The plan will be driven by community input as well as staff expertise and be based on an understanding of the region's demographics and interests. The final document will serve as a management and advocacy tool, which will guide the organization to achieve the identified priorities.

Catawba County Library

Future Libraries Plan

Award: \$ 45,637.00

The Catawba County Library plans to align library services and spaces that address community challenges and reflect the needs of our diverse community—moving us forward collaboratively to empower lives and build community as a 21st century library and center of learning, innovation and creativity. In 2019-2020 the Library seeks to hire a consultant with significant experience in strategic and facilities planning for public libraries who will guide the library through a comprehensive planning process to enable the library to engage community stakeholders and evaluate library spaces to develop a robust and meaningful strategic and facilities plan, providing guidance and a touch stone for future services and outcomes.

Charlotte Mecklenburg Library

Improved Customer Experience

Award: \$140,104.00

To improve the overall customer experience and to increase the community impact and reach of Library programming, Charlotte Mecklenburg Library will convert its entire physical collection to RFID over 3 years. By leveraging this technology and automated materials handling at high

transaction locations, customers will have a streamlined checkout experience that ensures privacy and quick transactions, and the Library will be better positioned to increase capacity and meet customer expectations for one on one resource and reader's advisory, hands-on technological support, and have more opportunities to participate in innovative and engaging programming that support the Library's 2025 Blueprint vision. LSTA funds will support RFID conversion services and related supplies.

College of the Albemarle

Student Envois

Award: \$50,000.00

One of the most powerful ways to learn a new skill is through one-on-one assistance and support. This project strives to develop and implement a dynamic, student-driven learning environment in the library. These "Student Envois" will empathetically encourage other students to engage in active learning, collaborate with others to achieve course goals, utilize available college resources/technology/staff effectively, and ultimately be "empowered learners". To achieve this, the grant funding will support the hiring of a Mentor (staff) who will develop the program, assist in hiring the student envois, then train and guide the student envois in their duties. A cadre of students (10-12) will be chosen to pilot this project, also funded by the grant.

Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center

SPACE Youth Initiative

Award: \$48,271.00

Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center will provide enhanced astronomy programs through its SPACE Youth Initiative. STEM Programs Add Community Engagement or "SPACE" provides collaborative opportunities for underserved students and the larger Cumberland County community to participate in portable planetarium programming. Through partnerships with Fayetteville State University and Cumberland County Schools, this model incorporates science, technology, engineering, and mathematical (STEM) concepts through a culturally connected approach. Sessions utilize modules that demonstrate an inclusive view toward STEM learning through integrating narratives from traditionally underserved populations, including weaving African and Native American traditions into dynamic solar system presentations for children and teens. Students develop curiosity through discovering space and the natural world within immersive experiences reinforced within the elementary and secondary school curriculum.

Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center

Long Range Strategic Plan

Award: \$20,967.00

A new five-year plan will be needed to inform the library's priorities in services and programs into the next decade of the 21st Century. This year-long process will ensure that community input is integrated into meaningful goals and objectives and resources identified. The plan will be articulated to the staff and community and implemented in the next fiscal year. The plan will ensure that the library can remain focused on the needs of the community during times of change. The plan will allow for adaptation to changing conditions as needed. A consultant will be hired to facilitate this process.

Forsyth County Public Library*FCPL Branches RFID*

Award: \$82,373.00

Forsyth County Public Library (FCPL) is applying for Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) for both the Southside and Walkertown Branch libraries. This includes targets, conversion stations, self-checkout kiosks with disc media unlockers, staff conversion/workstations, and security technology for these branches. Implementing RFID at two additional branch locations will offer an up to date user experience, allow staff to provide better customer service, streamline functions, and enhance future developments in collection management. RFID installation will result in higher customer satisfaction, greater circulation accuracy, improved collection security, and more efficient use of staff time, as already seen at other branches.

Guilford College*The Mobile Edge*

Award: \$48,158.00

Guilford College's Hege Library seeks funding for The Mobile Edge, an initiative reimagining and expanding media services for enhanced mobility. This will support new academic priorities designed to increase student participation in study away and abroad experiences and community engagement. It will be vital for a new academic calendar featuring redesigned experiential curricula, and new Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) emphasizing the art of the narrative through digital storytelling; both stressing collaborative engaged learning, discovery, and critical creation by all students outside of the classroom.

Henderson County Public Library*Henderson County Library RFID*

Award: \$97,388.00

The Henderson County Public Library will install and implement radio frequency identification technology (RFID) in all 6 library facilities over a two-year period. Through the use of RFID compatible self-check machines, library users will experience reduced check-out wait times with a minimal rate of check-out error. RFID will allow staff to focus less attention on material check-out and more attention on solving users' more complex information needs. RFID technology will offer inventory tracking and security control that will result in a more accurate reflection of holdings and protect material investments.

High Point Public Library*Strategic Plan Project*

Award: \$14,693.00

The High Point Public Library's last strategic plan was created in 2012 and covered the years 2013-2016. Much has changed since then. In 2016, an enclosed outdoor programming space was constructed adjacent to the library, and in 2018, a total renovation of our parking lot was completed that allowed the space to serve as a flexible community gathering space year-round and a farmers market from April through October. Our first full-scale market occurred in 2018 and was highly successful. Concurrently, the City is undertaking large scale revitalization in the

library's surrounding neighborhood, including a multi-use stadium four blocks from the library, nearby apartments and retail spaces, and a children's museum one block from the library. A new strategic plan is needed to ensure that library services continue to align with our mission statement, meet our community's needs and support the City's strategic goals, especially in relation to the significant changes occurring in our City.

Iredell County Public Library

ICPL - Strategic Planning

Award: \$15,817.00

The Iredell County Public Library Strategic Planning project will provide the County, Library, and the Towns of Harmony and Troutman with essential information needed to make informed decisions regarding future needs of the Iredell County Public Library System. The strategic plan will be developed through an outside consultant who will assist the Iredell County Public Library in conducting a community survey, interviewing community leaders and stake holders, and utilizing the Aspen Institute Dialogue on Public Libraries to conduct public dialogues. The consultant will provide a facilities assessment that examines the adequacy of existing facilities to meet the service needs of the community and requirements related to proposed facilities. The Iredell County Public Library system is unique because the Towns of Harmony and Troutman own the physical buildings where the library branches are housed. The proposed strategic plan will be shared with all involved in order to make informed decisions regarding the future needs of the Library.

Nantahala Regional Library

Graham CREATES

Award: \$14,070.00

The Graham County Public Library seeks LSTA grant funds to continue two pilot programs started in June of 2018, Mountain Music and Sew N Sew. These successful programs align with the Nantahala Regional Library's Mission Statement to aid in the pursuit of education, recreation, and the development of creative capacities for leisure time. People from all economic levels and all ages come together weekly to learn and mentor. These programs have given back to our community through music and donations. We would like to expand the programs to offer focused programming so that our community members can gain skills to assist them in their life long goals. By continuing Mountain Music and Sew N Sew, the Graham County Public Library will continue to strengthen our community.

Onslow County Public Library

Materials Automation

Award: \$8,023.00

This project will provide the needed supplies to convert the automation system at Onslow County Public Library to one that is compatible for use within the NC Cardinal Consortium. When researching migration to NC Cardinal, it was discovered that the current ranges used at OCPL conflicts with another member library. If awarded the LSTA EZ Grant, OCPL will be able to convert its entire collection and patron database and allow for compliance for migration to NC Cardinal.

Pettigrew Regional Library*Engaging Teens Through Gaming*

Award: \$7,723.00

The Pettigrew Regional Library system seeks grant funding to encourage the teen population, ages 13-21, to come to the library through teen gaming programming to facilitate learning. One of the hardest age group to engage is the teens through young adults, and it is the hardest group to reach in our region. In conjunction with the Boys and Girls Club in Chowan County, we propose to introduce gaming programs, Virtual Reality programming and educational programs, like Minecraft and possible gaming clubs, in our four libraries. By supplying the libraries with game consoles, games and programming, we intend to engage this underutilized population.

Rowan Public Library*West Branch Info Services Lab*

Award: \$20,188.00

Rowan Public Library's West Branch Information Services Lab will provide free public computer access, Wi-Fi, and educational programs to a currently under-served community. The Lab will house four desktop PCs for adults and two iMacs for teens. While spatial constraints limit the incorporation of desktop computers, a mobile lab consisting of 12 laptops will expand the Lab's services by allowing mobility. Two of the 12 laptops will also be used by instructors, allowing educational programs to be held in the classrooms located in another area of the building.

Sampson-Clinton Public Library*Cultivate Your Connection*

Award: \$43,798.00

Sampson County's digital divide is growing at a rapid pace. To combat this, in March of 2019, the library partnered with Sampson Community College to offer basic computer skills classes using the library's public computers. All classes were filled within three weeks, and patrons asked for more. Every day, patrons enter our libraries seeking technology and training that we cannot provide. While Sampson-Clinton Public Libraries have attempted to stay abreast of our users' needs, it is obvious that we must offer more than our normal budgets have been able to provide. This grant seeks to purchase laptop computers, charging stations, a charging cabinet, a loading ramp, four color printers, wireless printing software, scanning/faxing services, and mobile wi-fi units to close this gap and make a technology plan and replacement schedule feasible for the future.

Western Carolina University/Hunter Library*Collaborative Planning*

Award: \$49,020.00

In order to increase access to and use of rare and unique items documenting the Southern Appalachian mountain region, Hunter Library of Western Carolina University is developing merged digital collections in partnership with the University of North Carolina at Asheville. Preliminary discussions have identified numerous technical challenges and the libraries have identified the need for an experienced consultant to assist in this effort. The consultant will aid in strategic planning; identify appropriate technology for shared collections, including a new content

management system; and develop processes for moving existing digital content, including metadata and image files, from CONTENTdm to the new system.

Wilson County Public Library

Digital Literacy Wilson

Award: \$28,905.00

Wilson County Public Library seeks funding to increase digital literacy by expanding and upgrading the Library's technology training efforts. This effort will extend technology training to the Library's branches, as well as increase the quality and quantity of offerings at the Main Library. Patrons of all ages will benefit from additional computer classes and trainings by learning 21st Century Skills, including but not limited to: Technology Literacy, Media Literacy, Communication, Productivity, and Creativity. With the addition of technology equipment at the Main Library, staff can accommodate up to 166% more learners each month per class. Library branches, which have not held technology classes due to lack of prepared content and updated equipment, can reach unserved populations. Larger class sizes will allow staff to increase their reach with less effort, providing additional time to create content between classes.

Wilson County Public Library

Expanding RFID System-Wide

Award \$68,627.00

Wilson County Public Library seeks funding to improve our service to our communities, system-wide, by expanding and upgrading the Library's Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology. The project would expand implementation of RFID to the Library's branches, as well as upgrade and expand its use at the Main Library. Customers would benefit from the additional staff time resulting from streamlined routine tasks, time that can be devoted to programming, collection development, and staff training. The addition of self-check machines in our three largest branches, as well as all Main Library public service departments, would allow for customer privacy when desired, and aid customers in becoming independent, self-sufficient library users system-wide.

Expanding Access

Projects listed below address Goal 2 of the 2018-2022 Five Year Plan

Expanding Access: North Carolinians will have expanded access to resources for learning and success in school, work, and life.

Alamance County Public Libraries

ACPL Mobile Library

Award: \$100,000.00

Alamance County Public Libraries (ACPL) mobile library will provide literacy and lifelong learning opportunities to community members of all ages in Alamance County. It will provide an empowering connection that has the potential to change the way people think, make decisions,

and structure their lives. Through the materials, services, staff expertise, programs, and connectivity opportunities we will serve the growing needs of our community and reach those not currently served through our physical locations. The flexibility incorporated in the vehicle will allow ACPL to offer programming for all ages, computer classes, access to technology, job and career skills, Wi-Fi, and more. Most importantly the vehicle must be adaptive enough to serve future community needs as they arise.

Appalachian Regional Library

Alphabet Ready

Award: \$31,007.00

Alphabet Ready provides direct literacy skills instruction through engaging and interactive story times to kindergarten and pre-kindergarten children in school classrooms. Our goal is to increase students' likelihood of becoming proficient in reading by providing story times with a focus on phonological awareness and alphabetic knowledge. Alphabet Ready story times teach children to recognize the letters of the alphabet and to know the, or one of the, main sounds the letters make. Alphabet Ready story times supplement and enhance teachers' classroom instruction. As part of Alphabet Ready, the project manager also oversees ARLE , a program in which volunteers provides modified Alphabet Ready story times directed to four year olds at child care centers.

Braswell Memorial Public Library

BML Bookmobile

Award \$100,000.00

A LSTA Project Grant will support the purchase of a new bookmobile. This new service is envisioned as a mobile library with an emphasis on children's services. The bookmobile will dedicate morning stops to day-care centers bringing programming designed to foster early literacy development. As a mobile library branch, the bookmobile will serve the general public in under-resourced neighborhoods in Rocky Mount and throughout Nash County. The bookmobile will deliver library services, materials, programs, technology, and internet access to community members in non-traditional settings.

Chapel Hill Public Library

Off-Site for On-Site

Award: \$99,600.00

Chapel Hill Public Library (CHPL) will expand user access by giving patrons the option to pick up and return materials from a location out in the community. Current library users from every demographic group routinely face a barrier to accessing library collections and services at 100 Library Drive because CHPL's parking lots are at capacity. After analyzing circulation statistics, visitor counts, and traffic data, CHPL proposes to deploy an off-site library kiosk as a convenient, 24/7 alternative to a vehicular trip to the library. The goal is to shift "grab-and-go" users – those who make brief visits and choose self-service transactions – to the off-site kiosk. By meeting this user group's needs elsewhere, CHPL will make room for more people to engage in a wide range of experiences and resources on-site at the library.

Durham County Library*Practicing Inclusivity*

Award: \$106,062.00

Practicing Inclusivity: Establishing a Multi-Sensory Environment, Inclusive Playroom, and Mobile Adaptive Technology and Sensory Units for Transformation Main provides programs, services, resources, and spaces for all members of the community, with special emphasis on individuals with special needs. The goal of Practicing Inclusivity is to focus on individuals with special needs, including, but not limited to: autism, developmental delays, emotional disabilities, hearing impairments, intellectual disabilities, orthopedic impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech and/or language impairments, traumatic brain injuries, vision impairments, and other health impairments. The Multi-Sensory Environment, Inclusive Playroom, and Mobile Adaptive Technology and Sensory Units at the renovated Main Library allows for Durham County Library to expand and improve services, spaces, and programs for individuals with special needs, an important part of the Durham County community who have largely been underserved in the library.

East Albemarle Regional Library System*Early Literacy Success*

Award: \$30,990.00

Research continually emphasizes the impact of early literacy skills, school readiness, and grade level reading as they are early indicators of the future success of our youth, yet there are very few resources in the East Albemarle Regional Library System's rural service area to support these critical developmental needs. While storytime providers within the East Albemarle Regional Library system are avidly working to promote early literacy skills through public library programming, we are falling short of our goals due to the lack of experience and knowledge of early literacy and child development. Working with an early literacy consultant, East Albemarle Regional will create a specific project outline that will strengthen capacity of library programs and services through staff training, expand the access of resources for learning and success in school, and address a critical community need.

High Point Public Library*Mobile Library Purchase*

Award: \$50,000.00

Funds are requested for a new Mobile Library (30-foot bookmobile). Existing service for the Mobile Library is on the road five days a week and serves fifty daycare and preschool facilities located in High Point. These facilities are primarily home-based and small institutions often with limited resources. In addition, the Mobile Library regularly participates in parades, festivals, and other events and is a very recognizable symbol of the library in the community. The library recently added a full-time library associate in Children's Services to focus on community outreach, which will require greater use of the Mobile Library beyond its current schedule.

Johnston Community College*Off-Campus Student Support*

Award: \$34,848.00

The Johnston Community College (JCC) Library will support student success by expanding access to library resources and services at the College's off-campus locations. These include but are not limited to: Johnston County Public High Schools, the Workforce Development Center, Howell Woods, Cleveland Center, and several other county locations where JCC classes are held. The JCC Library will support student learning and achievement, by bringing access to academic resources and services through physical, digital and social media platforms. A part-time Off-Campus Librarian will assess student knowledge of services and needs for instruction and develop digital content to bridge the knowledge gap. High school media specialists and off-campus center liaisons will receive training to enable them to provide ongoing instruction on accessing the library's resources and services as well as disseminating information which students need to be successful.

Lincoln County Public Library*Silver STEAM*

Award: \$50,000.00

As part of its mission, the Lincoln County Public Library is committed to lifelong learning. In an effort to better serve seniors in Lincoln County, the library plans to expand its programming to meet the unique needs of this population. The library will partner with Lincoln County Senior Services to offer monthly programs that incorporate elements of STEAM to battle depression, dementia, immobility, and memory loss. Virtual Reality/Augmented Reality will provide seniors opportunities to explore the world without leaving their environment. Spheros and video gaming technology will engage seniors in physical and mental activities that promote social interaction and improve cognitive abilities. Seniors will also learn about circuitry through arts and crafts projects that incorporate STEAM technology. This initiative will build on the existing STEAM programs currently offered by the Library and enhance library services for a growing population.

Mitchell Community College/Huskins Library*Collaborative Spaces*

Award: \$50,000.00

The Huskins Library at Mitchell Community College will establish multiple collaborative spaces to support students, faculty, staff, community, and alumni. The creation of these collaborative spaces within the library will foster interdisciplinary partnership, cooperation, and exploration. In addition to being flexible and multi-functional, the collaborative spaces will enhance the ability to master 21st century learning skills necessary to work cooperatively. The collaborative, technology-rich spaces will be innovative in order to foster success in school, work and life. By establishing the "Maverick Room", a partnership between the Mitchell Community College Office of Alumni Affairs, Huskins Library, and local historical societies, library staff will be able to preserve the heritage of our institution, which was first chartered in 1852 as a college for women. Patrons will be able to research and explore the rich history of Mitchell Community College and the surrounding communities.

Neuse Regional Library*STEM 4 All*

Award: \$28,890.00

The Neuse Regional Library System will offer onsite programming two times per week at public housing in Kinston, North Carolina that will increase the literacy and learning engagement of local students who live in the housing facility. The Library will hire a qualified Outreach Programming Coordinator to develop and lead these programming sessions. The Library will use this time to participate in STEM activities with the students, offer homework help, and give the students outlets for creatively expressing themselves through interactive activities and journaling. The program will also use mentoring to encourage students to increase the frequency of their reading in a group setting, at home with family members, and independently.

North Carolina State University Libraries*Open Education North Carolina*

Award: \$149,967.00

The Open Education North Carolina project will reduce the cost of higher education for students across North Carolina by providing, free, open textbook alternatives for 30 of the most frequently taught courses across North Carolina's 2 and 4-year institutions. Through this program, North Carolina students are projected to collectively save \$3.5 million dollars in the first two years. This project will replace expensive commercial textbooks with high-quality, faculty-selected, open electronic textbooks. Faculty members will be introduced to open textbook alternatives through a marketing campaign and statewide training and awareness sessions. These alternative textbooks will be hosted in a statewide open textbook hub and faculty members will be supported by grants to adopt them in their curricula. While the term of this grant project is two years, the Open Education North Carolina project is easily extensible, with an increasing ROI. Similar projects in Georgia, Mississippi and Virginia save students between \$6-8 million annually.

North Carolina Wesleyan College-Pearsall Library*Multimedia Production*

Award: \$29,940.00

The use of multimedia tools fits very well in library's role in higher education and therefore, an important imperative in library support services. In institutions of higher learning, faculty members integrate the use of multimedia tools in their course offerings, which are embedded and disseminated to the students within the course shells of institutional learning management systems. As an academic library, Pearsall Library must uphold its status as the custodian of knowledge and campus information hub by providing convenient and efficient use of multimedia/digital production services to the students, faculty, and staff. Therefore, the purpose of this grant is to enhance the Library's Media Production Lab by adding 2 Mac desktop computers for use within the library and 10 Mac laptops for checking out. This will certainly add media-rich technologies in the Media Production Lab for use within and outside the library.

Orange County Public Library*Outreach Specialist*

Award: \$50,007.00

The Orange County Public Library seeks to expand the reach of resources and services to children from birth to third grade in underserved rural communities in Orange County. A Children's Outreach Specialist will develop partnerships and create collaborations with community centers, schools, childcare centers, and organizations such as Head Start and the Health Department to meet the literacy and educational needs of Orange County's youngest residents. Through the creation of a "Boxmobile" the Outreach Specialist will be able to take books and programs out into community spaces where children and families gather - bridging the access divide for children in Orange County.

Person County Public Library

Person County Bookmobile

Award: \$100,000.00

The Person County Public Library has operated a bookmobile program since 1941. In 2001, the bookmobile began having maintenance and repair issues becoming cost-prohibitive to maintain or replace. To continue outreach services, the bookmobile program was revamped using a staff minivan as its mobile unit. Person County Outreach Services visit daycares, assisted living facilities, homebound individuals and after-school care programs. The library seeks to replace the van with a bookmobile to increase community outreach, broaden the scope of our audience by providing additional stops to schools, rural locations (i.e. parks, churches), and at special events. The vehicle would be outfitted with shelving for materials and include WI-FI capabilities to increase literacy and digital access to citizens. Person County has one physical locale. Outreach staff could provide additional resources and programming through the bookmobile essentially becoming a mobile branch.

Rutherford County Library

NC Cardinal Migration

Award \$10,000.00

NC Cardinal is a growing consortium of North Carolina public libraries with the goal of sharing resources and expanding opportunities through using a single online catalog. The State Library provides initial startup/migration funding for participating libraries to join the consortium. Hardware, software support, and training contracts are funded by the LSTA Grant.

Sandhill Regional Library

NC Cardinal Migration

Award \$10,000.00

NC Cardinal is a growing consortium of North Carolina public libraries with the goal of sharing resources and expanding opportunities through using a single online catalog. The State Library provides initial startup/migration funding for participating libraries to join the consortium. Hardware, software support, and training contracts are funded by the LSTA Grant.

Southern Pines Public Library

24X7 Library Kiosk

Award: \$100,000.00

The population of the Town of Southern Pines is expanding away from the center of town where the library building and fire station are located. A new fire station is being constructed in the area where this development is occurring to decrease response times and reduce insurance rates for homeowners. While the Town administration is not supportive of building a branch library, they are open to incorporating service delivery through other planned construction. In addition to the opportunity to provide programs in the community room at the new station, design plans include a location for a 24-hour self-service library kiosk. If the library can secure funding for the kiosk, we will be able to better serve this outlying area, where diverse communities include low-income housing, apartments, a new day-care center, the community college, and a historically African American neighborhood annexed into town with the assistance of a Community Development Block Grant that extended water and sewer lines to residents.

Surry Community College Library

Church in Community

Award: \$42,433.00

Church in Community is a collaborative digital history project to continue the Saving Our Communities project. Churches are (and were) integral elements of life in communities in Surry County, NC. There are at least 165 churches in Surry County and the history of these churches is important in documenting community life in the 19th and 20th centuries. This project will preserve both the written histories of churches in Surry County and will also add a photographic-rich record to the Surry Digital Heritage website. Surry Community College Library is the coordinator for the digital history project. Principal partners in this project will be: the Mount Airy Museum of Regional History, three Surry County branches of the Northwestern Regional Library, Surry County African American Historical and Genealogical Society, Surry County Genealogical Society, and the Surry County Historical Society.

Transylvania County Library

NC Cardinal Migration

Award \$12,550.00

NC Cardinal is a growing consortium of North Carolina public libraries with the goal of sharing resources and expanding opportunities through using a single online catalog. The State Library provides initial startup/migration funding for participating libraries to join the consortium. Hardware, software support, and training contracts are funded by the LSTA Grant.

University of North Carolina at Wilmington/Randall Library

Makerspace in the Classroom

Award: \$41,715.00

The Digital Makerspace at the University of North Carolina Wilmington's William Madison Randall Library, in collaboration with the Technology Assistance Center, provides access to all UNCW students and faculty, regardless of major, discipline or department affiliation, with new and emerging technologies such as virtual reality, 3D printing, and 3D scanning. Less than a year old, the Digital Makerspace seeks to better integrate with classroom activities through development and implementation of programming and additional technologies for the purpose of: 1) assisting faculty with the design and development of learning experiences that leverage these technologies;

2) supporting faculty in their efforts to integrate these technologies in their courses and in their classrooms; 3) creating applied learning experiences by the creation of a Digital Makerspace Student Fellows program; 4) adding technology that can be brought to the classroom in the form of a “mobile makerspace”; 5) sharing with other libraries the outcomes of these activities for adoption at their institutions.

University of North Carolina Greensboro - Teaching Resources Center

Moss Street Outreach

Award: \$50,000.00

The Teaching Resources Center (TRC) at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) proposes a partnership with the Moss Street Partnership School (MSPS) in Reidsville, N.C., to provide a series of literacy-based and STEM-focused programs at the partnership school. The project will use the MSPS library and makerspace to engage the Moss Street community with children’s education through programs addressing reading at home, building home libraries and creative making with siblings and parents. The MSPS community will benefit from greater access to local library resources, books for the home and a greater connection to a child’s education in the crucial early years. The TRC, a model school library media center housed in UNCG’s School of Education, will benefit from pre-service teachers and future librarians gaining first-hand experience with program planning, implementation and book selection for elementary students. The proposed project expands a partnership between UNCG and MSPS, which opened in August 2018 as a UNC Lab School.

Community Engagement

Projects listed below address Goal 3 of the 2018-2022 Five Year Plan

Community Engagement: North Carolinians will have libraries that are more effective because they cooperate, coordinate, collaborate, and communicate to help the community address its needs.

Chapel Hill Public Library

Chapel Hill Music Project

Award: \$44,250.00

The Chapel Hill Music Project will create a platform for local musicians to share their content with library users and for library users to discover local music, past and present. In addition to providing content to our users, this digital music hub will position the library as a supporter of the local music scene and local arts ecosystem. This project will also enhance the library’s reputation as a leader in and convener of community history and heritage. The project has three focus areas that engage different community partners. First, we will work directly with local musicians to license albums and share their music freely to library card holders via the hub. Second, we will partner with UNC-Chapel Hill to curate and make available historical content such as concert posters, oral histories, and band biographies. Finally, we will partner with local arts agencies to create capacity-building workshops, resources, and networks for local musicians and music-related businesses.

North Carolina Independent Colleges & Universities

NCICU Collaborates

Award: \$80,970.00

This project will support NCICU libraries as they build an effective framework to support collaboration in the libraries, the NCICU Library Collaborative (NLC). This project will allow for a staff member to serve as NLC Coordinator, NCICU library staff to travel across the state for face-to-face meetings to plan and set up new affinity groups, development of projects and resources to share among the libraries, and extension of the NLC's reach. Through collaboration, we can share knowledge and skills, and work together to resolve common issues. Libraries on our 35 campuses have the capacity to accomplish more for our users together and we have an opportunity to assist our students succeed in their academic work and complete their degrees with the skills they need to be successful in life and work. The goal is to have a long-term impact on students' lives and communities.

UNC Asheville

UNC Monograph Retention

Award: \$48,242.00

Thirteen partner-libraries in the UNC system seek a project grant to sustain the cultural legacy of the print record by embarking on a shared print monograph retention project. This project would address several current and long-term needs. Through analysis of overlap and uniqueness of titles, a framework for identifying, marking, and sharing titles tagged for long-term retention will be developed. This "collective collection" concept that will be developed as a result of this project will lead to cost-effective, collaborative preservation strategies and collection development strategies.

Special Projects

Special Projects are those that arise on an ad hoc basis which meet the requirements of the LSTA plan and priorities and that have a clear benefit for the libraries of a community of interest or for all of the state's libraries.

UNC Chapel Hill

Digital Heritage Center

Award: \$491,393.00

The North Carolina Digital Heritage Center supports community engagement and lifelong learning by promoting and increasing access to North Carolina's cultural heritage. The Center does this by helping libraries, archives, and museums throughout the state to digitize selected materials from their local and family history collections and make them freely accessible online. The Center also helps North Carolina institutions share information about their digital collections with a national audience through the Digital Public Library of America. The Center is committed to providing fast and flexible services that meet the changing needs of North Carolina's libraries and other cultural heritage institutions.

Statewide Leadership

Statewide Leadership Projects are those with broad, statewide impact and are developed by the State Library in response to emerging or broad-based needs that are consistent with the LSTA plan and priorities. The projects listed below are 2019-2020 projects.

21st Century Libraries will provide access to the LibGuides platform for the State Library of North Carolina, 58 community college libraries, and 82 public library systems across the state. This platform allows library staff to easily create online content for users in a hosted environment.

#EverythingNC will focus on free online access to content not previously available, community engagement through personal digital archiving and crowdsourcing, and the feasibility of digital preservation of digital content. #EverythingNC will make content freely available via the North Carolina Digital Collections online by digitizing approximately 40,000 pages of publications relating to North Carolina. Additionally, the project will continue its work to add new content to “A North Carolina Online Resource”, ANCHOR, a digital textbook focused on North Carolina history and engage educators and professionals to ensure content can and will be used in the classroom. The articles will be enhanced with multimedia content including video and audio and links to lesson plans and primary sources. GHL will expand its offering of workshops on Personal Digital Archiving and offer a minimum of 7 additional workshops on site as well as partner with local public libraries to offer the workshop--one in the east and one in the west.

Adult Services will explore avenues that the State Library could take to assist public libraries in the state in providing services to adults in their communities.

Building Partnerships will provide teachers the opportunity to attend workshops delivering expert instruction on primary sources that can be customized to the needs of school districts statewide. Through this project, and in consultation with an advisory group that will be established, the planning committee will identify K-12 district partners, create workshop curriculum and assessment tools, and develop application and selection criteria. Once K-12 partners are identified, schools in the district or region will be invited to send teams of teachers (Media Specialist, English Language Arts, and Social Studies) to the workshop; this team attendance format will help schools develop their own multi-disciplinary approach to implementing the knowledge gained in the workshop. The K-12 partners will come from regions of highest need and will be identified through the Hometown Strong Initiative and NC Department of Commerce County Distress Rankings.

Community Connections will provide a streamlined grant opportunity for libraries to hold unique, interactive, community-oriented events or programs. These events will promote the culture or history of participating communities and should be designed to strengthen relationships between people from different backgrounds through diverse learning experiences. Libraries will be asked to submit applications that relate to the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources’ She Changed the World initiative and for universal design.

Continuing Education will support and provide professional development opportunities for North Carolina library staff in order to improve services and access to resources. The Continuing Education program provides access to in-person learning opportunities and online resources that enhance library services and promote excellence and innovation. This project will also support scholarships for library staff to attend relevant regional, state, and national conferences, as well as scholarships to online courses that meet the continuing education needs identified through the 2018-2020 Continuing Education Survey.

Evaluation and Assessment seeks to empower library staff to implement formative and summative evaluation strategies to improve service to library users by facilitating and supporting a peer learning cohort focused on assessment and research in libraries. This group will meet in-person twice and virtually once throughout the year. Additionally, this project will offer two trainings related to evaluation, professional collection materials and access to LibPAS, the software used to report Public Library Survey data.

MOOC Planning investigates the need for a freely available online lifelong learning course on North Carolina history for the general public. The state's educational and cultural institutions have developed a wealth of historical content in print publications, exhibits, repositories, and websites. However, this content remains siloed and unconnected, and apart from higher education, the public does not have free online access to an engaging and guided history of the state. This planning project will gather targeted field data to answer the question of whether there is a justifiable need for this educational product designed to promote cultural and historical competence in the history of North Carolina for its residents, and it will investigate and answer the question of what would be the relevant platform for content delivery.

NC Cardinal provides North Carolina residents with greater access to North Carolina resources by providing the tools, framework and expertise necessary to administer a common, online catalog, share catalog items among member libraries and expand opportunities for optimization of cost efficiencies and collaborative collection development. NC Cardinal seeks to improve resource sharing throughout the NC Cardinal consortium by conducting a consortium-wide assessment of resource sharing activities, focusing on the mechanisms and procedures used for resource sharing, analysis of the return on investment that a shared integrated library system and shared materials offer to Cardinal member libraries, and any possibilities for shared collection development.

Public Library Standards Assessment will bring together public library stakeholders to share input through facilitated conversations about public library standards. A series of meetings will be held to gather data and feedback from public library directors and stakeholders to determine the best course for creating new public library standards. At the conclusion of this project, the State Library will have a clear vision for the needs of public libraries regarding standards.

Scholarships will fund the attendance of public, academic, community college, and special library staff to local, state, and national conferences of their choice as it relates to their positions within libraries. On a quarterly basis, State Library staff will review the applications submitted to ensure

that applications illustrate the relevance of the conference and how attendance ties to the State Library's LSTA Program 5-Year Plan priorities

SLNC Connect will enhance the support provided by Library Development through programming, resources, and support in six (6) key areas - youth services, adult services, continuing education, library management, data measurement and federal grants and programs. This project complements these six (6) areas by providing additional, focused resources and training for public library senior staff, an area where most public libraries have minimal funding.

Youth Services will provide professional development opportunities centered around services for birth through teens which will result in improved programs and resources in North Carolina libraries. Both in-person and online continuing education opportunities will be provided to maximize impact. The project will also provide travel for the project manager to attend a national conference for teens services in public libraries. Continuing education opportunities will be evenly spread across the age spectrum.

LSTA Program Administration funds the majority of LSTA administrative costs incurred by the State Library.