

2019 Grant Awards, Washington Digital Heritage

The Washington Digital Heritage (WDH) grant program for the 2019-2020 federal fiscal year was developed to support public, tribal, and academic libraries in carrying out a variety of digital initiatives focused on archival and special collections. Proposals receiving priority consideration for award included those demonstrating: broad accessibility of project outputs to the general public; a desire to develop sustainable local digital programs; and adoption and/or dissemination of regional standards and approaches to digitization.

The WDH Grant Review Committee awarded grants to 13 institutions in July, 2019. Progress on the grant projects will run through August 28, 2020 (grant deadline). Several of the awarded projects will be part of the Washington Rural Heritage program (<http://www.washingtonruralheritage.org>) maintained by the Washington State Library (WSL). Other project outputs will be hosted and maintained locally by awarded institutions.



This grant was awarded by the [Office of the Secretary of State, Washington State Library Division](#), funded by the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) through the [Institute of Museum and Library Services \(IMLS\)](#).

Total Requested: \$91,902

Total Awarded: \$83,509

Organization: Asotin County Library (Clarkston, WA)

Award: \$5,100

Abstract: The Asotin County Library will digitize photographs held in the private collection of Rick Wasem, a descendant of two of the founding families of Clarkston, Washington. The Dustan family farmed and ran a cannery which employed many people in the area. The Wasem family owned one of the early pharmacies in Clarkston, which is still operating today. The photos cover a period ranging from roughly 1910 through the 1940s; they depict local buildings, give a lively feel for the culture and fashions of the 1910s and 1920s, and provide a look at leisure activities of the time, including backpacking, picnicking, automobile and plane travel, Boy Scouts activities, etc. The Asotin County Library will also use this grant to continue digitization of collections originating with the Holy Family Parish (school photographs collection) and the monthly newsletters of the Canyon Birders (Clarkston-Lewiston area club).

Organization: Denny Ashby Library (Pomeroy, WA)

Award: \$5,000

Abstract: The Denny Ashby Library will partner with private contributor Jennifer (Baldwin) Ashby, the director of the Asotin County Library, who recently inherited the Baldwin family trunk which contains letters, postcards, photographs, and assorted memorabilia pertaining to Garfield County, Washington. Her great-grandfather, Zenas Baldwin, came to Garfield County in 1875 and was one of the first settlers. His son Charles Baldwin served in the WA State Legislature for several years in the 1920s and many of his other ten children were influential in the area. The Denny Ashby Library will create a digital collection of these materials, preserving them and making them available for research.

Organization: Evergreen State College, Daniel J. Evans Library (Olympia, WA)

Award: \$5,000

Abstract: The Evergreen State College will publish online digitized images, moving images, audio, and textual documents related to the history of equity and inclusion at the College. Additionally, an online exhibit to showcase the material, along with interpretive text, will be developed. Finally, a lesson plan intended for first-year students will be created using items from the digital collections.

Organization: Kalama Public Library (Kalama, WA)

Award: \$6,632

Abstract: The Kalama Public Library will continue its local history digitization efforts by: 1) digitizing photographs from the private collection of the Wilson family which documents Kalama's strawberry harvest; including materials from the McMenamin's Kalama Harbor Lodge collection; and digitizing photographs and newsletters held by the Port of Kalama; and 2) continuing its oral history creation and transcription efforts, with a focus on interviewing long-time Kalama residents who can speak to subjects including: the history of the Kalama Library; fishing on the Columbia River; the Kalama Fire Department; the strawberry-growing industry; the history of the Port of Kalama; the Kalama Police Department; and the Kalama Bulletin (local newspaper).

Organization: Lower Columbia College Library (Longview, WA)

Award: \$6,982

Abstract: The Lower Columbia College will digitize photographs that feature college events from the time period ranging 1948 to 1990. Once digitized, these photographs will be uploaded to collection management software (PastPerfect). Metadata will be added to each photograph, and the database of digitized images will be made accessible to the community through the College's website. This project will be part of a larger multi-stage plan to provide safe storage, long-term preservation, and access to the College's institutional memory through the proper creation of an Archive collection.

Organization: North Central Regional Library (Wenatchee, WA)

Award: \$8,000

Abstract: The North Central Regional Library (NCRL) will work with the Initiative for Rural Innovation and Stewardship (IRIS) to prepare a digital archive for the latter's multi-platform book project, *Thinking Like a Community, a Citizen's Guide to Connecting Stories to Shape our Future*. This project showcases nearly 700 stories of success in North Central Washington, nearly half of which have been collected in recorded interviews. This project will focus on: 1) Completing transcripts for 120-50 un-transcribed interviews of the current 300-interview collection (gatheringourvoice.org); 2) Modifying controlled language developed for other book content, for use in cataloging and indexing the interviews, and 3) Making the digital interviews accessible to the public via the Oral History Metadata Synthesizer file interface and Omeka content management system (20 interviews minimum will be processed through OHMS; all transcribed interviews will be accessible through Omeka).

Organization: Ocean Shores Public Library (Ocean Shores, WA)

Award: \$3,360

Abstract: In anticipation of the City of Ocean Shores, Washington's 50-year anniversary in November 2020, the Ocean Shores Public Library will capture life story oral histories from a number of city residents. The project will focus on the first 30-40 years of the history of Ocean Shores (roughly 1960-2000). Small adjacent communities along Washington's North Coast (Oyehut, Moclips, Ocean City) will also be included in the project. The project will record the important stories of residents who lived through a period of massive change, and will document early land and infrastructure development, resort and recreation services, and local politics and government.

Organization: Ritzville Public Library, East Adams Library District (Ritzville, WA)

Award: \$4,759

Abstract: The East Adams Library District will work with the public to digitize privately-held family collections, expanding the existing Adams County Community Archive. The Library will also work with the Adams County Historical Society, Washtucna Museum, and Ritzville Museums to identify items of historical interest to digitize, including but not limited to photos, physical objects, and ephemera.

Organization: Seattle Central College Library (Seattle, WA)

Award: \$8,000

Abstract: Seattle Central College Library will digitize selected items from the Broadway High School (BHS) Archive, which documents Seattle's first high school (1902-1946). This project will build upon work performed in 2019 by a group of University of Washington library science students to inventory and organize the BHS collection. The collection includes school records, yearbooks, school newspapers, and ephemera.

Organization: Seattle Public Library (Seattle, WA)

Award: \$8,000

Abstract: The Seattle Public Library will digitize 500 photographs from its Northwest Photograph Collection, which includes an assortment of material from the late 1800s through the 1960s by photographers such as Asahel Curtis, Webster & Stevens, and Frank Jacobs. The subject matter of the collection includes portraits of Native Americans and early settlers; scenic views of locales such as Mount Rainier and Snoqualmie Falls, and World War I-era views of Camp Lewis.

Organization: Timberland Regional Library, Aberdeen Library (Aberdeen, WA)

Award: \$6,217

Abstract: The Aberdeen Library (Timberland Regional Library) will digitize the handwritten archives of a century-old local women's organization, the Review Club of Aberdeen. The club, which celebrates its 129th year in 2020, has been honored by the Washington State Legislature as a cultural organization for its longevity, service, and value to the community. These documents present a singular insight into the lives of women and their social norms against the

backdrop of national, regional, and local history in a small Washington town for more than a century.

Organization: University of Puget Sound, Collins Library

Award: \$8,000

Abstract: The Archives & Special Collections in the Collins Memorial Library at the University of Puget Sound will digitize, transcribe, and make available nine journals in the Abby Williams Hill collection, which documents the life and times of a female landscape artist and activist living in Tacoma, Washington during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Hill's journals focus on her travels throughout the United States between 1895 and 1906 and provide a unique female perspective into significant issues that were affecting the nation as a whole during that time, including the westward movement, African American and Native American rights, early childhood education, and the preservation of federal lands.

Organization: Whitman County Library (Colfax, WA)

Award: \$5,752

Abstract: Whitman County Library will digitize three local collections of historic significance. Project partners providing these materials will be The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), local author and photographer George Bedirian, and the Pine City Historical Society.