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Utah Rep Report
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Mining Utah's Cultural Heritage: The Mountain West Digital Library

A relatively new partnership among cultural heritage institutions, libraries, and other organizations in Utah and Nevada is building a digital collection of unique and rare resources of special regional interest. The Mountain West Digital Library is a consortium of digital collections from universities, colleges, public libraries, museums, and historical societies in Utah engaged in digitizing selected special collections. Its purpose is to support and promote life-long learning for Utah and Nevada students at all levels.

Four hosting institutions operate specialized servers that support their own digital collections, and also support client institutions or organizations by providing scanning and hosting services. A multi-site aggregating server automatically harvests metadata from the hosting institutions on a regular basis and provides the search engine. These hosting institutions are:

- Marriott Library, U of U
- Merrill Library, USU
- Gerald Sherratt Library, SUU
- Harold B. Lee Library, BYU

Client institutions to date include:

- Great Basin Association
- Murray City Library
- Uintah County Library
- Museum of Fine Arts, U of U
- Utah State Historical Society

Current digital collections from the clients above may be viewed at
<http://www.lib.utah.edu/digital/mwdl/collect.html>

The Mountain West Digital Library is funded by the Utah Academic Library Consortium (UALC), by grants from the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Utah State Library Division, and by individual institutions. The UALC Special Collections/Digital Library sponsors the Mountain West Digital Library.

The Mountain West Digital Library, through the UALC Collection Development Committee, has developed content and selection criteria for digitizing resources and guidelines for submission of collections for digitization.

Libraries interested in applying for LSTA funds this fall to support their digitization project should investigate these requirements at <http://www.lib.utah.edu/digital/mwd/about.html> before submitting an application to the State Library Division.

The Utah LSTA Advisory Council, the State Library Board, and the State Library Division will make recommendations and funding decisions with regard to specific grant requests independently. Positive judgments from a regional digitization center will be taken into account for a given grant request, but the final decision to fund a particular digitization project will depend on the merits of the application in competition with all the other requests.

Grand County Library Becomes a Grant Resource Center

Recently, the Grand County Library became one of The Foundation Center's 200 Cooperative Collection sites across the country. The Foundation Center, based in New York City, is a premier resource for non-profit funding. The Grand County Library will house a core collection of the Center's materials, print and CD-ROM directories and how-to-guides on corporate, foundation and individual giving as well as an online database to search for donors based on need, project or geography.

Until now the closest locations of member sites have been the Salt Lake City Public Library and the Denver Public Library. This resource will be a boon to Moab and the Four Corners area that includes more than 1,000 non-profit organizations. Grand County has 132 designated "501.C.3" non-profit groups that encompass administrative entities, educational, youth and arts groups. These groups will now have convenient access to the library's Foundation Center materials. Current directories and indexes will expedite non-profit organizational efforts in searching for funding.

The collection costs the library \$850 a year, but \$600 of the first year's fee has been subsidized by many of the local non-profits. The materials will benefit the entire community, particularly those organizations that succeed in obtaining funds for their projects.

Library Director Eve Tallman received initial training in New York this summer and will provide two grant-seeking sessions a year and instruction in the use of the materials to members of non-profits groups in the community.

Kearns Library Wins National Award

Salt Lake County's Kearns Library is one of twenty-five nationwide to win an award in the Excellence in Library Service to Young Adults Project. Recognized for its after-school program for at-risk youths, Kearns Library receives a \$250 stipend from the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Kearns' staff members are also invited to showcase their program at the American Library Association's 2004 Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida, June 24-30.

The after-school program at Kearns Library offers innovative activities to preteens and teens whose aggressive behavior has caused numerous problems. The youths fought with one another

and intimidated staff and patrons, both verbally and physically. Working with Salt Lake County's Youth Services Division, Kearns' staff solicited help in designing the program from an unlikely source - the kids themselves.

Harmonica lessons, make-up demonstrations, skateboarding and rock wall climbing are just a few of the activities included in the program which has substantially improved the youths' behavior. "Involving the kids in the process made all the difference," said Youth Services Librarian Trish Hull.

Meeting the needs of the young adult audience was among the criteria for judging the Excellence in Library Service award applicants. Other criteria, according to ALA, included originality, quality and the degree to which the program impacts and improves service to young adults.