

Tribal Libraries, Archives and Museums

Library and Archives assisted the Indian Nations in several ways. Archives' Library Development staff worked with each of the Tribes, the following summarizes that work:

- The Hopi Tribal Education director submitted an IMLS application to establish a mobile library
- The Pascua Yaqui Tribe submitted an IMLS application to enhance their current library resources
- The Tribal Library Gathering Group is contemplating establishing a special interest group with AzLA or possibly form a 501(c)(3) organization
- The Ak-Chin Indian Community is currently in the construction phase of building a new library
- The Navajo Nation Library is in the process of providing library services at the Kayenta and Chinle Chapter Houses. The Books for Arizona Libraries programs is being used to acquire books for these locations
- Melanie Sturgeon, Archives, and Mary Villegas, Library Development Division, worked with the Navajo Nation on an LSTA planning grant that will enable the tribe to develop strategies to preserve approximately 1000+ reel to reel tapes of interviews done in the 1960s with Navajo elders (some of whom were children of those who made the Long Walk) and to apply for larger federal grants that deal with the preservation of endangered languages.
- The narrators spoke in Navajo and the tapes contain language, phrases, and inflections that have been lost during the 40+ years since the interviews took place. The tribe plans to utilize a consultant expert

in oral histories who will train tribal members to evaluate the condition of the tapes and to inventory their collections. They will then have the tapes digitized and make transcriptions in Navajo from the digital files.

- An independent group of tribal librarians has formed a working group to promote their own education and networking. The tribal consultant has played a significant role in leading this development.
- The national conference, Guardians of Language, Memory and Lifeways: Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums, provides a network of support for tribal cultural institutions and programs. This unique event brings together people who share the common goal of tribal cultural preservation. The 2007 conference builds on two previous conferences that were held in Arizona during 2003 and 2005.

Who should attend?

- Archivists
- Librarians
- Museum Staff
- Support Staff
- Tribal Leaders
- Elders
- Students
- Educators
- Foundation Staff
- Exhibitors
- Individuals with an interest in tribal culture

The conference is: Monday, October 22, 2007 - Pre-Conference Sessions
Tuesday-Thursday, October 23-25, 2007 - Conference