



## ***Year 2017 RBDB Member Project Grant Proposals Summary Descriptions (\$40,000 in RBDB available in member grant funding)***

### ***Background***

RBDB is a formula funding program established by New York State in Chapter 917 of the Laws of 1990. If fully funded, the WNYLRC would receive \$229,967. The calendar year for the program runs January 1 – December 31. The 2017 RBDB member grant proposal budget was reviewed by RAC in August 2016. \$40,000 was budgeted for member grant proposals and \$800.00 for the Reading Team. Member proposals must satisfy one or more goals as stated in the *WNYLRC 5-Year Plan of Service* (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2021) and meet annual Member Grant Guidelines as provided.

Funds for the Regional Bibliographic Data Bases and Interlibrary Resources Sharing Program may be used for a variety of purposes with the primary goal being the promotion of resource sharing throughout the region. RBDB is a state grant program provided to the NY 3Rs and whose regionally funded projects and activities are overseen by WNYLRC's Regional Advisory Committee (RAC). Projects funded under RBDB include WNYLRC regional programs such as Ask Us 24/7 and participation in New York Heritage as well as WNYLRC member projects that contribute to regional resource sharing, coordinated services, and professional development. Requested RBDB funding for all projects, including ongoing WNYLRC programs and initiatives and WNYLRC member grant projects, need to show how the project will enhance access to information within the region. All programs funded through RBDB must adhere to the WNYLRC Guiding Principles and regional purposes as stated in *WNYLRC's Strategic Plan of Service: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2021*. A copy of the complete plan is available on our web site at: <http://www.wnylrc.org> and includes the following goals and objectives that RBDB member grants may adhere to:

### **Element 1 - Resource Sharing (4.0 – 4.9)**

#### **6. Other – Reciprocal Sharing (4.9)**

*Goal:* Monitor existing programs (i.e. WNYLRC's InfoPass program, AcademicShare, EmpireShare Program) and seek out potential partnerships to expand programs outside the region to widen the access to collections and information.

*Intended result:* Borderless access to library collections in at least New York State. Programs developed by WNYLRC committees (e.g. Resource Sharing Committee, Regional Advisory Committee) and staff will help to increase access for patrons of member libraries to other library collections and information that exists within the region and/or other geographic areas in New York State.

### **Element 3 - Professional Development and Continuing Education (4.12)**

#### **1. Members**

*Goal:* Provide WNYLRC members and the wider Western New York library community with high-quality in-person and online training on a variety of topics that will contribute to both professional and personal growth through WNYLRC's CE program, through WNYLRC committees, and through programs developed by or with other organizations.

*Intended result:* Topics covering current trends in the field, best practices, and other relevant areas of interest to our members will increase regional expertise and knowledge base. Topical guides may also be developed to provide pathways to information and resources.

### **Element 4 - Consulting and Development Services (4.13)**

#### **2. Other: Research and Development**

*Goal:* Explore, identify, and incubate innovative technologies, services, theories, methods, original



research, and programs through WNYLRC sponsored grant funds and initiatives that impact member libraries and that adhere to WNYLRC's established guiding principles.

*Intended result:* With assistance from WNYLRC Committees (i.e. Continuing Education, Regional Advisory Committee, Resource Sharing Committee, Preservation, High School to College, WNY Library Assistants) WNYLRC will provide a testing environment for new and relevant technologies, programs, and pilots for WNYLRC member libraries to improve outreach, workflows, or services to its own patrons and member libraries. By assisting in developing survey tools for specific issues and/or audiences, WNYLRC will provide a valuable service to specific member groups as well as gather pertinent data on library-related issues.

#### **Element 5 - Coordinated Services (4.14-4.16)**

##### 2. Digitization - New York Heritage and New York Historic Newspapers (4.15)

*Goal:* Continue to support digitization and creation of finding aids for Western New York historical collections; make collections freely available online through cooperative statewide portals (eg. New York Heritage, New York Historic Newspapers, and Empire Archival Discovery Cooperative).

*Intended result:* WNYLRC members will reach a wider statewide audience by sharing digitized collections online allowing library users to access collections from across New York State through one web site.

#### **Development**

The following process has been used to develop the WNYLRC proposal:

- Following the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) guidelines for RBDB applications, applications were made available to all WNYLRC member libraries and library systems between July and October and proposals received shortly thereafter. The RBDB Reading Team reads the proposals sometime in the fall. The Reading Team is comprised of individuals from outside our region who have experience with automation projects in other Councils.
- Once the RBDB Reading Team reviews the grant proposals, they forward their recommendations to the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC). RAC reviews the RBDB Reading Team recommendations and continues the approval process for funding. RAC then forwards their recommendations to the WNYLRC Board of Trustees for final approval. WNYLRC's Executive Director includes the grant proposal summaries in application for RBDB funding in May.

#### **Member Grants Proposals**

##### **1. Buffalo & Erie County Public Library – “Digitization of Buffalo City Directories”**

**Requesting: \$19,336**

**Funded: \$8,000**

*(Goal 1 and 5)*

Proposal to digitize city directories for years 1894-1902 and upload to NY Heritage. The directories are a valuable source of information for local and genealogical researchers.

*Summary: The RBDB Reading Team felt that this is a worthwhile project but due to the limited funds available is recommending partial funding in the amount of \$8,000. The Reading Team hopes that the member library is able to digitize as much as possible with the decreased funding. RAC supported this recommendation and funded this project for \$8,000.*

##### **2. Buffalo Public School Library System – “Digitization of High School Yearbooks”**

**Requesting: \$34,129**

**Funded: \$7,900**



(Goal 1, 5)

Proposal to digitize high school yearbooks from several Buffalo highs schools including City Honors, and Masten Park, Fosdick-Masten.

*Summary: The RBDB Reading Team had some concerns over copyright but feel, although new territory for WNYLRC, that the project is worthwhile. They are recommending partial funding due to the limited funds. Funds should go to digitizing the Masten Park High School Yearbook. The Reading Team also recommended that in the future, the member be cognizant of the total funding pool before submitting a grant with such a high dollar amount. RAC supported this recommendation to fund \$7,900.*

**3. Chautauqua Cattaraugus Library System (Olean Public Library) - "Digitization of Early Olean Newspapers"**

**Requesting: \$9,902**

**Funded: \$6,000**

**(Goal 1 and 5)**

Proposal to digitize 58 rolls of microfilm of historic newspapers from Olean (1852-1909 excluding the 1860s and 1879s).

*Summary: The RBDB Reading Team felt that this is a worthwhile project but due to the limited funds available is recommending partial funding in the amount of \$6,000. The Reading Team hopes that the member library is able to digitize as much as possible with the decreased funding. RAC supported this recommendation and funded this project \$6,000.*

**4. Niagara County Community College, "Digitization of NCCC Historic Photograph Collection"**

**Requesting: \$2,400**

**Funded: \$ 0**

**(Goal 1 and 5)**

Proposal to digitize selections of their historic photograph collection and publish them to NY Heritage. The photographs date from NCCC's founding in 1962 through the early 21<sup>st</sup> century. The collection depicts a wide variety of subjects.

*Summary: The RBDB Reading Team felt that this is a worthwhile project but due to funding for another NCCC request which will be fully funded and the limited funds available is recommending partial funding in the amount of \$1,200. The Reading Team hopes that the member library is able to digitize as much as possible with the decreased funding. RAC felt that this project was more NCCC focused and had limited value to the library community. RAC is recommended not funding this.*

**5. Niagara County Community College, "Digitization NCCC Yearbooks"**

**Requesting: \$2,600**

**Funded: \$ 2,600**

**(Goal 1 and 5)**

Proposal to digitize a collection of 15 yearbooks and publish them to NY Heritage. The yearbooks span from 1965 to 1979.

*Summary: The RBDB Reading Team felt that this is a worthwhile project and is recommending funding this project in full. RAC supported this recommendation and funded the project \$2,600.*



**6. Nioga Library System, Niagara Falls Public Library, "Niagara Falls City Directories, 1886-1920"**

**Requesting: \$9,668**

**Funded: \$0**

**(Goal 1 and 5)**

Proposal to digitize Niagara Falls City Directories, 1886-1920 and publish them to NY Heritage. The directories are a vital source for researching people or the city's history for historical and genealogical research. Due to the condition, age and other factors, the library is in danger of losing this collection for research.

*Summary: The RBDB Reading Team felt that this is a worthwhile project and the grant was well written, but due to the limited funds is recommending not funding this project at this time. The Reading Team hopes the member library will submit a grant application next year. Concerns were also raised regarding lack of library leadership that could impact the success of this project. RAC supported the Reading Team's decision not to fund this in 2017.*

**7. Nioga Library System, Lee-Whedon Memorial Library, "Newspaper Digitization Project"**

**Requesting: \$4,000**

**Funded: \$4,000**

**(Goal 1 and 5)**

Proposal to digitize an additional 50 rolls (1959-1981) of the *Medina Daily - Journal Register* to publish to NYS Historic Newspapers.

*Summary: The RBDB Reading Team felt that this is a worthwhile project but due to the limited funds is recommending partial funding in the amount of \$3,600. The Reading Team hopes the member library is able to fund the difference. RAC recommended full funding in the amount of \$4,000.*

**8. University Libraries, University at Buffalo, "Empire Shared Collection, Phase 2"**

**Requesting: \$11,000**

**Funded: \$5,120**

**(Goal 1)**

Proposal to purchase OCLC tool to do collection analysis of to assess the uniqueness, overlap, and distribution of the aggregate collection. They are requesting \$11,000 to be applied to the \$16,995 cost of a one year subscription to the OCLC WorldShare Analytics Collection Evaluation tool. Access to this tool will allow for comparison of unique serial title holdings among current member libraries. It will also allow for the overlap of serial titles held in the current collection with potential members.

*Summary: The RBDB Reading Team felt that this is a worthwhile project and is recommending full funding. However, the Reading Team did have some concerns regarding earlier phases and RBDB funding of this project. The person submitting the grant was able to provide adequate responses to the Reading Team's concerns. After further communications with UB, it was learned that they would accept partial funding for this project. Due to the complexity of the EmpireShare project and its impact on several WNYLRC members and partners from outside the region, RAC felt it should be supported to assist in moving the project forward and is recommending partial funding in the amount of \$5,120.*

**9. University Libraries, University at Buffalo, "Local Women's History Portal Phase Four: League of Women Voters of Buffalo Niagara"**

**Requesting: \$6,680**

**Funded: \$ 6,680**



## WESTERN NEW YORK LIBRARY RESOURCES COUNCIL

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### ***(Goal 1 and 5)***

Proposal to digitize 200 photographs archival documents, and ephemeral items documenting the important people and events associated with the League of Women Voters of Buffalo Niagara and its distinguished history of service and advocacy as one of the earliest organizations for the empowerment of women via the political process.

*Summary: The RBDB Reading Team felt that this is a worthwhile project but due to the limited funds available and because this would be the fourth funding request for this collection is recommending not funding this project at this time. The Reading Team hopes that the member library is able to locate alternative funding and would still consider putting the collection in NY Heritage. RAC felt that with the anniversary of the women's suffrage movement in 2018, that it would be negligent on WNYLRC's part not to support the digitization of this collection. RAC is recommending full funding in the amount of \$6,680.*

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