

Single Number of Grants Funded: 0
 Single Total Awarded: \$0

Special Library Grants

Number of Libraries Submitting: 0
 Number of Applications: 0
 Total Requested: \$0

Total Libraries Receiving Grants: 0
 Total Number of Grants Funded: 0
 Total Awarded: \$0

Parent Libraries Receiving Grants: 0
 Parent Number of Grants Funded: 0

Child Libraries Receiving Grants: 0
 Child Number of Grants Funded: 0
 Parent/Child Total Awarded: \$0

Single Libraries Receiving Grants: 0
 Single Number of Grants Funded: 0
 Single Total Awarded: \$0

Multi-Type Library Grants

Number of Libraries Submitting: 0
 Number of Applications: 0
 Total Requested: \$0

Total Libraries Receiving Grants: 0
 Total Number of Grants Funded: 0
 Total Awarded: \$0

Parent Libraries Receiving Grants: 0
 Parent Number of Grants Funded: 0

Child Libraries Receiving Grants: 0
 Child Number of Grants Funded: 0
 Parent/Child Total Awarded: \$0

Single Libraries Receiving Grants: 0
 Single Number of Grants Funded: 0
 Single Total Awarded: \$0

SLAA Library Grants

Number of Libraries Submitting: 1
 Number of Applications: 10
 Total Requested: \$1,116,986

Total Libraries Receiving Grants: 1
 Total Number of Grants Funded: 10
 Total Awarded: \$1,116,986

Parent Libraries Receiving Grants: 0
 Parent Number of Grants Funded: 0

Child Libraries Receiving Grants: 0
 Child Number of Grants Funded: 0
 Parent/Child Total Awarded: \$0

Single Libraries Receiving Grants: 1
 Single Number of Grants Funded: 10
 Single Total Awarded: \$1,116,986

Section 2 | OBE Summary

Q1: What progress did you make in implementing OBE during this reporting period?

The Maine Regional Library District Consultants have continued to require that workshop/meeting/continuing education attendees complete evaluation forms following each event. These evaluation forms ask attendees to list the changes they anticipate making in their library programs to best meet the needs of their patrons as a result of attending the session(s). Upcoming continuing education events will be more specifically outcome-based. Several post-event surveys have been done to learn what changes actually took place following a C.E. event. This will be done more systematically during the next reporting period. Outreach Services conducted a Books-By-Mail patron survey about the impact of this service upon the lives of users. The results are described in the Books-By-Mail "outcomes" program report below. The Maine Humanities Council continues to develop a logic model evaluation protocol for "Let's Talk About It". The results of the Cultural Affairs Committee survey and focus group meetings held in the fall of 2008 were presented to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs in a January 31, 2009 report, "Enhancement of Maine's Cultural Assets; Report of the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council, Prepared in response to Resolution Chapter 182, 123rd Maine State Legislature". Results of this study are shown in the "outcomes" section of the Cultural Affairs Committee report below.

Q2: Briefly describe your state's results in meeting its identified OBE goal(s) this reporting period.

Please see above.

Section 3 | Project Reports

Project Code:	2008-ME-33530
Project Title:	Project Number:
Administration	
Library Name:	Project Director:
Maine State Library	Linda Lord
Phone Number:	Email:
207-287-5620	linda.lord@maine.gov
Library Building:	
Maine State Library	
LSTA Funds Expended:	Cash Match:
\$43,032	\$587,087
In Kind Contributions:	Total Cost:
\$	\$630,119
Number of Persons Served:	
LSTA Purpose:	State Goal:
Services for lifelong learning	1. Partnering for expansion of library resources & services
IMLS Primary Performance Category:	IMLS Secondary Performance Category:
Provide access to information, resources and ideas	Enhance a lifetime of learning opportunities
Primary Users:	Secondary Users:
Statewide public	
Primary Services:	Secondary Services:
SLAA LSTA Administration	
Start Date:	End Date:
10/2/2008	9/30/2009
Statewide? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partnership? <input type="checkbox"/>
Exemplary? <input type="checkbox"/>	OBE-Related? <input type="checkbox"/>

Project Purpose:

The following information is from the State of Maine Administrative and Accounting Manual, Section 50.20.60.: "The Statewide Central Services Cost Allocation Plan (STACAP) is used to identify and assign central services costs. Most government units provide certain services such as accounting, computing, payroll, service, motor transport, etc. to operating agencies on a centralized basis. Since federally supported awards are performed within the individual operating agencies, a process is necessary to identify these central service costs and assign them to benefiting activities on reasonable and consistent bases. The federally reviewed and approved, statewide, central service cost allocation plan (STACAP) provides that process.

Project Activities/Methods:

The following information is also from the State of Maine Administrative and Accounting Manual, Section 50.20.60: "The Financial Reporting and Analysis

Division of the Office of the State Controller prepares, administers, and submits to the federal government an annual central services cost allocation plan (STACAP) for the State. One part of the plan justifies and reconciles the activities of the billed State central services (internal service and self-insurance). A second part allocated the allowable costs of other State central services benefiting agencies expending federal awards." It is this second part that pertains to the Maine State Library's acceptance of LSTA funds.

Project Outputs:

The purpose of the STACAP is to defray the cost of State of Maine central services. The Maine Department of Administrative and Financial Services is responsible for services that provide hearing and electricity, as well as protecting, cleaning and maintaining the Maine State Library facility.

Project Outcomes:

Other Results:

Anecdotal Info:

Exemplary Reason:

Project Code:	2008-ME-33539
Project Title: Books By Mail	Project Number:
Library Name: Maine State Library	Project Director: Christopher Boynton
Phone Number: 207-287-5650	Email: chris.boynton@maine.gov
Library Building: Maine State Library	
LSTA Funds Expended: \$160,769	Cash Match: \$115,669
In Kind Contributions: \$	Total Cost: \$276,438
Number of Persons Served: 4,770	
LSTA Purpose: Services to persons having difficulty using libraries	State Goal: 2. Improving library services to citizens with special needs
IMLS Primary Performance Category: Provide access to information, resources and ideas	IMLS Secondary Performance Category: Enhance a lifetime of learning opportunities
Primary Users: People with special needs, Rural populations	Secondary Users: Homebound persons
Primary Services: Information Access and Services, Outreach Services	Secondary Services: Books-by-mail, Homebound services
Start Date: 10/1/2008	End Date: 9/30/2009
Statewide? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partnership? <input type="checkbox"/>
Exemplary? <input type="checkbox"/>	OBE-Related? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Project Purpose: The Books by Mail (BBM) program is one of the Outreach Services of the Maine State Library. This service helps to meet the library needs of the more than 200,000 citizens in our large rural state (33,125 square miles with a population of 1.321, 574) who live in towns without local libraries or in towns with public libraries open less than 15 hours a week. More details about the program may be found at http://www.maine.gov/msl/outreach/booksbymail/	
Project Activities/Methods: Rural and disabled/home bound Maine residents utilize the Books by Mail service from their homes. Patrons who do not have Internet access may make selections from paper catalogs. These are mailed to patrons upon request. Those who have the capacity to go on line can request and renew materials	

via an online public access catalog (OPAC) that is part of a state-wide consortium, MINERVA. Users are able to request anything available from the shared database through the OPAC. A formal reader advisory service allows users to request a specialized, recommended, reading list; the method for requesting is a form which is mailed to users and which may also be completed online. A summer reading program is conducted for the benefit of children enrolled in the Books by Mail program. MSL pays postage to and from homebound patrons. All others have to pay return postage only. A toll free phone number is provided to users. Materials selection and information about the program are available online. All state-wide licensed on-line databases are available to Books by Mail Patrons. Promotion of this program has taken place at the Common Ground Fair. Over half of the people visiting the information booth asked questions about the Books by Mail program. Over 50,000 people attended the fair this year. Staff also attended the town of Whitefield's "Education Celebration," where the Books by Mail service to that community was also promoted.

Project Outputs:

4770 residents (3109 adults and 1661 juveniles, K-12) who can not access library services because of limited local library service, geographic isolation and/or disability have been able to request materials and resources from the Maine State Library's Books by Mail program. This number is significantly lower than last year's because inactive patrons have been removed. The increase in inactive patrons is largely due to the new requirement to provide return postage for Books by Mail items. 23,934 titles and 44,223 copies are in the Books by Mail collection. Materials are also available to users from other libraries through the state's Minerva system. These numbers are not counted in the BBM circulation figures. 16,944 items were loaned by the Books by Mail program to the Maine State Library's BBM patrons. 6,438 items were sent out through Minerva's interlibrary loan service. 13,318 items were borrowed from the Maine State Library's Books by Mail collection by the Minerva system.

Project Outcomes:

The recreational and informational needs of Maine's rural and homebound residents are met by this program. Many home-schoolers also rely on materials from this program. An online and snail mail survey of Books by Mail users was conducted in summer (June, July, August, September) 2009. 305 users responded to the survey which asked them to respond "agree, disagree, N/A, strongly agree, strongly disagree" to 11 statements. 123 responders left narrative feedback. 95% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "Using Books By Mail improves the quality of my life. 82% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "If I didn't have Books By Mail I would not have access to the library materials I need." 85% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "With Books by Mail, I feel that I am part of a statewide community." 89% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "Books by Mail supports my continuing education." 73% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "If I didn't have to pay for return postage, I would use Books by Mail services more."

Other Results:

MSL Outreach Services frequently receives feedback from users who find that access to interlibrary loan vastly increases the usefulness of the program.

Anecdotal Info:

Feedback from surveys, notes, cards and other correspondence to the Books By Mail program: "I rely on Books By Mail for our homeschooling. It saves me

more money than I can possibly imagine and allows my children access to quality books that we would otherwise not be able to use." "Books By Mail is one of the best resources (for people) living in rural Maine." "Thank you for your great service. It has really enriched my family's life." "We love the Books By Mail program. It provides us with a huge selection of reading and craft material without having to travel and having to pay to join a library in another town. The kids use it often for information for school projects and books to read for book reports." "We love your service! It is wonderful to live in a small Maine town and still have access to all of these books! Your staff is more than courteous and your library service is invaluable! Our entire family uses this service for education as well as recreation." "Minerva and Books By Mail is our lifeline... Our son's school only had two of the textbooks that they used for my son's 7th grade Maine Studies class and through Minerva I was able to borrow one long term, what a godsend." "Books By Mail is vitally important to Maine. We're too rural, and for towns with no library, it's a critical service." "Great service! We use this service to get not only recreational but also educational materials for our homeschooling family. Living in disadvantaged area (Washington County) this service gives us opportunities to materials we could otherwise not dream of." "I find it hard to believe this service is available to the citizens of Maine. It is one of the finest uses of technology to enrich our lives." "The staff is always very helpful. Thank you." "Books by Mail really helped me to get started to read and love books." "I am a homeschooling mother of a son with dyslexia. Being able to get the audio books, review the catalogs and the online list really helps us to learn and read comfortably at his pace!" "I have a lot of medical problems and reading is my entertainment. Thanks again!" "We brag to our friends and family out of state about this valuable resource." "I am disabled and have no way to obtain books other than through the State Library. It gives me something to read and occupy my time. I am thankful for the helpfulness of the staff." "Really appreciate the state library system and the great staff that works there." "If we didn't have to pay postage, I would use Books by Mail." "I understand how the cost of mailing the books back has stretched the budget of your program, but poor children should not be without good books because Mom and Dad can't afford to pay postage." "The postage is too much and I have not used the service since then, but I sure did appreciate it prior to that event! It was good seeing our tax dollars helping so many people in this rural area... wish it could be that way again." "I stopped using Books by Mail when you started having us pay for postage. It is very unfortunate that you had to do this and prevent some family to be able to use your service. Most people around me stopped also since the postage issue." "We enjoyed it better when it didn't cost us so much for postage." "I have slowed down on borrowing since I have to pay the return postage. We used the service much more before." "I have pretty much stopped using Books by Mail because I can't pay the return postage. Prior to that change I used the service a lot, and it made a big difference in my quality of life." "Since we live so close to the edge I have been unable to use Books by Mail, and I've had to pay the return postage. I now make lists and wait until I get to a big town and look things up there. I hope someday you will once again have the funds for return postage." "I want you to know your services are so very important to me and I am sure many other homebound people."

Exemplary Reason:

Project Code:	2008-ME-33537
Project Title:	Project Number:
Cultural Affairs Council (Maine Cultural Agencies Partnership)	
Library Name:	Project Director:
Maine State Library	Linda Lord
Phone Number:	Email:
207-287-5620	linda.lord@maine.gov
Library Building:	
Maine State Library	
LSTA Funds Expended:	Cash Match:
\$13,818	\$29,986
In Kind Contributions:	Total Cost:
\$	\$43,804
Number of Persons Served:	
1,000,000	
LSTA Purpose:	State Goal:
Services for lifelong learning	1. Partnering for expansion of library resources & services
IMLS Primary Performance Category:	IMLS Secondary Performance Category:
Enhance a lifetime of learning opportunities	
Primary Users:	Secondary Users:
Statewide public	
Primary Services:	Secondary Services:
Cultural Heritage Programs, Intergenerational Programs, Literacy Programs	Preservation
Start Date:	End Date:
10/1/2008	9/30/2009
Statewide? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partnership? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Exemplary? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OBE-Related? <input type="checkbox"/>
Project Purpose:	
Maine's Cultural Affairs Council is an alliance, authorized by the state Legislature, of Maine's seven statewide cultural agencies. Five of these agencies are public: the Maine Arts Commission, Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Maine State Archives, Maine State Library, and the Maine State Museum. The other two are private 501 (c) (3) organizations: Maine Historical Society, and the Maine Humanities Council. The Cultural Affairs Council serves as a primary forum for interagency cooperation and planning. This structure improves communications, enhances coordination of work, and facilitates planning and administration for each of the participating agencies.	
Project Activities/Methods:	

The Council membership includes the chairman and vice-chairman of the governing body of each of the seven member agencies, and a chairman who is appointed by the Governor. Ex-officio members include the agency directors and a liaison from the Office of the Governor. The Council meets at least quarterly, often in the Governor's mansion, the Blaine House, and Maine's First Lady, Karen Baldacci, frequently attends. Agendas include the work of each agency, common goals, and discussion of how agencies can support one another in achieving their goals. The following is a quote from the enabling legislation that created the Cultural Affairs Council:

<http://www.maine.gov/cac/legislation.htm> "Statewide cultural planning. To meet jointly and at least annually with the directors of humanities councils in the State, the Maine State Archives, the Maine State Film Commission and the State Law Library and others as considered appropriate for the purpose of exchanging information and coordinating statewide cultural planning." In 2008 the Joint Legislative Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs mandated that the CAC gather information from the citizens of Maine about the role and future of Maine's cultural agencies. In October and November 2008, three public forums were held in Portland, Augusta and Bangor and included several people participating via video from Presque Isle and Machias. A professional facilitator was present at these sessions to organize attendees into groups to answer a set of questions that all cultural agency chairs had helped prepare. A state-wide online citizen survey was also conducted to gather information for this report. This information was submitted in a report to the legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on Jan. 31, 2009.

Project Outputs:

The Cultural Affairs Council administers the New Century Community Program of matching grants. Funded by the Legislature since 1999, the New Century program has delivered, without reductions for administrative costs or overhead, more than \$5.7 million dollars in matching money for a wide range of cultural projects, from building restorations and library development to family literacy programming. The grants have leveraged more than three times the number of State dollars in private and federal funds. The Maine State Library works with Maine Historic Preservation (MHP) to ensure that all library construction/renovation projects of libraries on the National Register of Historic Places are approved by the MHP before work begins. The Maine State Library's work with the Maine Humanities Council is described in a separate project. The Maine State Library assisted in the preparation and is assisting in the implementation of a successful IMLS grant for digitization. The following is from the Maine Historical Society's web site:

<http://www.mainehistory.org/news/news/1/detail/> "The Maine Historical Society Awarded \$852,000 National Leadership Grant to Launch the Maine Community Heritage Project in 16 Towns and Cities throughout the State" Portland, ME – The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has awarded Maine Historical Society (MHS) a National Leadership Grant of \$852,000 over the next three years. The grant is enabling MHS, in partnership with the Maine State Library, to launch the Maine Community Heritage Project in 16 towns and cities throughout the state. Eight projects were completed last year and the second group of eight communities is working this year. "The Maine Community Heritage Project will foster working partnerships among local libraries, historical societies, teachers and students—all toward the end of creating vital online presentations of community history and culture," noted Richard D'Abate, Executive Director of Maine Historical Society. "Out of this project will come a number of new models: for community partnership, for the innovative use of technology, for engaging youth and building intergenerational cooperation, and for using local history as a community

development tool." Maine Historical Society preserves the heritage and history of Maine: the stories of Maine people, the traditions of Maine communities, and the record of Maine's place in a changing world. The Maine State Library is honored to be a partner in this project and to see Maine libraries at the center of the work being led by the Maine Historical Society.

Project Outcomes:

The Cultural Affairs Council (CAC) submits annual requests for legislation to support the work of Maine's cultural agencies. Member agencies report activities and future goals at monthly meetings and mutually support one another's projects whenever possible. The Governor has allowed the lay Chair of the CAC to sit in on cabinet meetings for the past six months. Since each of these agencies is independent and reports to a Commission, none has had representation at the Governor's cabinet level. The following information is from the January 31, 2009 "Enhancement of Maine's Cultural Assets" report.

1. 89% of (survey) respondents thought it was very effective or effective to develop partnerships with private and non-profit organizations to make cultural affairs a part of their mission
2. 61% of respondents recommend as effective or very effective more effort by the cultural agencies to communicate with the general public through increased use of the Internet.
3. 85% of respondents urged promoting ways to involve residents in public art and cultural projects within communities.

The following represent a few of the ways The Maine State Library is addressing these recommendations:

- By developing a closer relationship with the Maine Development Foundation (MDF). The Foundation Director addressed a meeting of Public Library directors in December and is offering a greatly reduced membership fee for public libraries. MSL and the MDF are collaborating on a grant application to study the economic impact of Maine public libraries.
- By continuing to update and expand its 100% accessible web site.
- By sponsoring a panel of librarians at the state-wide Juice Conference.
- By contributing to the Maine Humanities program "Let's Talk About It".

Other Results:

Focus groups regarding the public's perception of the CAC were held in the fall of 2008.

Anecdotal Info:

From the "Enhancement of Maine's Cultural Assets" report: "The legislative Resolve order renewed a sense of the value and uniqueness of the collaborative citizen-based structure of the CAC. As a forum for interagency public/private planning, cooperation and program implementation, the CAC is unparalleled in state government and remains to this day a nationally recognized model for statewide cultural development. Public forums and comments have affirmed that the structure has excelled but have been most critical about the lack of sustained funding and staffing. These two areas were viewed as the most significant challenge for the future."

Exemplary Reason:

"The Cultural Affairs Council is a unique public-private partnership of seven statewide cultural agencies working together to provide arts and cultural development programs and assistance to Maine Communities". This collaboration may still be unique; if not, it is unusual. Maine is a small state in terms of population and this type of mutual support is vital for all the cultural agencies to succeed in fulfilling their missions for the people of Maine.

Project Code:	2008-ME-33533
Project Title:	Project Number:
Maine Regional Library System	01
Library Name:	Project Director:
Maine State Library	Linda Lord, Acting State Librarian
Phone Number:	Email:
207-287-5620	Linda.lord@maine.gov
Library Building:	
Maine State Library	
LSTA Funds Expended:	Cash Match:
\$425,307	\$1,698,240
In Kind Contributions:	Total Cost:
\$	\$2,123,547
Number of Persons Served:	
800,000	
LSTA Purpose:	State Goal:
Services for lifelong learning	1. Partnering for expansion of library resources & services
IMLS Primary Performance Category:	IMLS Secondary Performance Category:
Provide access to information, resources and ideas	Enhance a lifetime of learning opportunities
Primary Users:	Secondary Users:
Library staff and volunteers, Statewide public	
Primary Services:	Secondary Services:
Information Access and Services, Interlibrary Loan, Staff Development Education and Training	Information & referral (I&R), Reference services, Document and materials delivery, Resource sharing, Customer services skills , Library science education and skills, Technical skills
Start Date:	End Date:
10/1/2008	9/30/2009
Statewide? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partnership? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Exemplary? <input type="checkbox"/>	OBE-Related? <input type="checkbox"/>
Project Purpose:	
The purpose of the Maine Regional Library System is to promote improved service for the constituents of member libraries. It was created by Public Law 626, enacted in 1973, which established three library service districts based on population to improve library service for the citizens of Maine. Membership consists of public, school, academic, and special libraries. The Maine Regional Library System is administered by the Maine State Library in Augusta; however, each district has its own board that sets goals and plans activities. There is one library consultant for each district. The SMLD district consultant	

retired August 1, 2009 and that position has been left vacant due to a state mandated hiring freeze for budgetary purposes. The overarching goals of the three regional district consultants are to: Goal 1: Increase public awareness, use and support of Maine libraries Goal 2: Facilitate professional development for library staff (and trustees) Goal 3: Encourage resource sharing and regional cooperation Goal 4: Foster increased opportunities for literacy programs Goal 5: Expand communication with libraries, library organizations and the public

Project Activities/Methods:

In accordance with P.L. 626, An Act Creating Regional Library System, three Area Reference and Resource Centers (ARRCs) were created, one for each of the three service districts. Bangor and Portland Public Libraries receive state aid for the purpose of making their resources and services available without charge to all residents in their Districts...." The Maine State Library serves as the ARRC for the Central Maine Library District. ARRCs are also District hubs for the following services: Interlibrary loan - The interlibrary loan service supports libraries of every size and type. It insures that the state as a whole has the library resources it needs to meet the needs of all its citizens. ARRCs provide ILL service to member libraries by borrowing requested material from other libraries in the state, and if necessary by requesting materials from libraries beyond the state's borders. Reference Service - Reference and information service provided by the ARRCs is another important service of the District. Contact with ARRCs can be made via the fax, telephone, email or a toll-free telephone line. District Consultants - Each ARRC contains an office for the District's regional district consultant. The District Consultant provides professional library guidance to libraries in the district. The District, in cooperation with the Maine State Library and the District Executive Board/Council, provides technical assistance to cooperative interlibrary projects designed to promote equal access to library materials to all Maine people regardless of geographical location. The District Consultant maintains ongoing communication with library members and performs the following duties:

- Serves as a professional consultant to libraries within the district or districts
- Studies the needs of the district and makes recommendations to the district council
- Coordinates services among libraries of all types
- Acts as a liaison between the district, other districts and the Maine State Library
- Fosters opportunities for continuing education and encourages librarians, library staff, library trustees and friends to participate and to attend state and regional workshops and other educational opportunities
- Encourages local initiatives and commitment to regional cooperative library service (such as cluster groups and local consortia)
- Helps evolve a district plan of service
- Continues to promote and support cooperative purchases among member libraries including books, databases and library supplies.
- Helps the District Executive Board/Council develop and refine its five-year district plan of library service in order to meet the intent of the law establishing the regional system.
- Maintains communication with district librarians--something essential to promoting interlibrary cooperation and meeting the individual needs of libraries of all types--thus bringing better service to the state's library patrons.
- Serves as a liaison between the Executive Board/Council and the Maine State Library and ensures smooth and effective cooperation and coordination of the regional library system programs. Cooperation among all libraries and librarians despite type of library and background of librarian's preparation is important to offering the most effective access to resources for patrons. The three District Executive Boards formed the Regional District Liaison Committee (DLC) in November, 2008 to look at library issues on a statewide basis. The committee is composed of all three District Consultants, 2 members of each

district's board and the State Librarian. The focus of the DLC's work is to explore how library service is delivered in the State of Maine and on how the three districts can work together to improve cooperation and resources.

Project Outputs:

The three District ARRCs (Area Reference and Resource Centers (Bangor Public Library in the Northeastern Maine Library District (NMLD); Maine State Library in the Central Maine Library District (CMLD); and Portland Public Library in the Southern Maine Library District (SMLD) are responsible for serving all Maine residents in their district and for interlibrary loan and reference services for libraries in their districts. ARRC Interlibrary loans: Bangor Public Library - Borrowed 17,857 books from other libraries and loaned 24,672 books to other libraries. Bangor's collection size is 515,088 and their adult circulation for this reporting period was 267,073 volumes. The reference staff responded to 38,073 questions. Maine State Library (MSL) - Borrowed 11,347 items from other libraries and loaned 12,056 items to other libraries in state FY08. MSL's collection size is 279,897 not including government documents and serial subscriptions, and it circulated 43,344 items during FY08. The reference staff responded to 11,301 questions in state FY 08. Portland Public Library - Borrowed 12,480 items from other libraries and loaned 13,950 items to other libraries. Portland's collection size is 634,817 catalogued items (which includes government documents) and its total circulation for this reporting period was 763,178. The library was closed during March 2008 for construction. The reference staff responded to 64,309 reference questions from October 2008 - September 2009. District Consultants organized 41 continuing education programs and events attended by 1,523 Maine library staff. These C.E. sessions focused on a variety of topics related to technology and to reaching the underserved, e.g. how to teach library patrons the use of Maine's virtual library (MARVEL databases); using Open Source software for automation; using a content management system for library websites; and how to complete the Annual Report online. Many of these applied a train the trainer approach so that libraries could pass information on to their patrons with confidence and appropriate techniques. The Coordinator of Learning and Technology Services held workshops on Open Source Software, Content Management Systems and presented a Technology "Petting Zoo". The Joint Council meeting this year featured national speaker Joan Frye Williams who presented "Beyond Information to Transformation - Rethinking Library Services for the Future". The program focused on the "civilian" trends and expectations that are shaping the future of libraries. Participants learned about new service models that can update and improve their offerings without sacrificing their principles or sanity. The districts consultants have committed to bringing one national speaker per year to these joint council meetings. When the Maine Library Commission (MLC) announced plans to evaluate the mission of the state library, the District Liaison Committee offered to help with information gathering and to provide the Commission with a "state of libraries" report. This report was delivered to the MLC in June 2009 and included recommendations to the Maine State Library and the Maine Library Commission. Consultants also respond to e-mail, telephone calls and site visit requests, related to all the LSTA goals.

Project Outcomes:

State-wide continuing education opportunities are provided through the coordination and collaboration of the three district consultants and their seven-member Executive Boards. The district consultants work with the Maine State Library's Coordinator of Learning and Technology for statewide events. Maine's interlibrary loan counts are very high -- especially when one realizes

that the entire state's population is 1.3 million -- fewer people than many cities. Resource sharing, a direct responsibility of the ARRC's and the District Consultants, is a success in Maine because the Regional Library System provides the smaller libraries with the education and tools to provide this service to the public. Maine's district consultants are highly regarded by the libraries they service. Their counsel, advice, training, and experience enable libraries to improve services to their patrons and to reach more un-served and underserved patrons. Online opportunities through webinars have increased participation in continuing education this year. After a national speaker presented a Reader's Advisory workshop several of the smaller libraries started a passive readers' advisory by making a display of good reads. Patrons are signing these books out. Libraries are pulling DVDs and audio books as part of these displays. Some have taken the online readers' advisory course through WebJunctionMaine. Over 200 have signed up for the readers' advisory listserv. In addition, libraries have started book club cards where each of the genres is featured, e.g. January is mystery month. At the end of the year, patron cards are turned in for a drawing for a gift certificate. This is getting patrons to read outside their comfort zone and exposes them to new forms of literature.

Other Results:

The District consultants collaborate with Maine libraries to work on SCOOP a purchasing consortium that negotiates vendor contracts for discounts on library materials and supplies for all Maine libraries. The District consultants also work on statewide programs such as Reading RoundUp, the Maine Library Excellence Award, an annual Public Library Directors' Institute; and a training session for new Maine public library directors. The Maine Regional Library System along with the District Liaison Committee is working diligently on cross-district collaboration, consolidating resources and regional CE events.

Anecdotal Info:

Webinars for database training has been very successful. Over 250 library staff attended webinars sponsored by the districts. E-mail to the Coordinator of Learning and Technology Services: "Thank you so much for your excellent overview yesterday morning. You did a wonderful job demonstrating the most predominant open-source ILS options, and I appreciate your taking the time to learn them so you could show them off to us!" Comment on webinar evaluation: "This was a wonderful way for me to learn more about Novelist. I think that signing up for training forces us to sit down and take the time to learn about the resources available to us. I had no idea that Novelist could do so much. And left to my own devices, I probably would not have found the time to explore this database. Thank you for this opportunity. I look forward to more training sessions." E-mail to member of MSL reference staff: Thank you so much. Not only have you given me a fish, you have taught me how to catch my own! This is a wonderful gift, and I appreciate it so much. Your instructions were clear, easy-to-follow, and you responded much more quickly than I expected. To me, this is like magic, and I hope that you get as big a kick out of your obviously remarkable skills as I did! This is a great service - and will save us subscribing to yet another \$500 journal..... Please forward this to your boss and all the powers-that-be over at the Maine State Library. You have never failed to come through for the State Forensic Service when we've had queries like this - you're the BEST!"

Exemplary Reason:

Project Code:	2008-ME-33535
Project Title:	Project Number:
Partnership with Maine Department of Education and Maine Public Utilities Commission	03
Library Name:	Project Director:
Maine State Library	Linda Lord
Phone Number:	Email:
207-287-5620	linda.lord@maine.gov
Library Building:	
Maine State Library	
LSTA Funds Expended:	Cash Match:
\$27,636	\$31,890
In Kind Contributions:	Total Cost:
\$	\$59,526
Number of Persons Served:	
LSTA Purpose:	State Goal:
Library technology, connectivity, and services	1. Partnering for expansion of library resources & services
IMLS Primary Performance Category:	IMLS Secondary Performance Category:
Provide access to information, resources and ideas	
Primary Users:	Secondary Users:
Statewide public	
Primary Services:	Secondary Services:
Information Access and Services, Technology Infrastructure, Virtual Library Services	Database access, Telecommunications and networking hardware and software, Portals and related Web projects
Start Date:	End Date:
10/1/2008	9/30/2009
Statewide? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partnership? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Exemplary? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OBE-Related? <input type="checkbox"/>
Project Purpose:	
The Maine State Library partners with the Maine Public Utilities Commission, the Maine Department of Education, the Maine State Government Office of Information Technology, Networkmaine, and the Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance to administer the Maine School and Library Network (MSLN) which provides Internet Connectivity and technical support at no cost to Maine's schools and libraries.	
Project Activities/Methods:	
The Maine School and Library Network has undergone reorganization this year. The Maine State Library and the Maine Department of Education with the	

Maine State Government Office of Information Technology have partnered with Networkmaine (a unit within the University of Maine System) to enhance services and opportunities for high speed connections for libraries and schools in the state. The Maine State Librarian serves as a voting member of the Networkmaine Council which oversees planning and budgeting for the Networkmaine infrastructure required for future growth and success. Maine State library staff has responsibility for previous MSLN E-rate applications but Networkmaine assumes these responsibilities for 2010 forward. Demand for bandwidth has grown and the University has the resources and expertise that will be a real benefit to the statewide Maine School and Library Network and specifically to public libraries in Maine. An RFP was released this fall and contracts are being negotiated by Networkmaine for Internet Access and Telecommunications services for 2010-2013. Approximately 68% of MSLN is supported by the federal E-rate program and the remaining 32% is financed by the Maine Telecommunications Education Access Fund (managed by the Maine Public Utilities Commission).

Project Outputs:

236 of Maine's 272 public libraries are on the Maine School and Library Network. Currently 175 libraries have a T-1 connection and 58 have two T-1 connections. One library shares a DS3 with its school district, Bangor Public Library has a DS3 connection and Portland Public Library has 4 T1s at the Main Branch. The new contracts will offer most libraries a minimum bandwidth of 10 MB with even greater bandwidth for our larger libraries. The Maine State Library will also receive additional bandwidth to support video conferencing.

Project Outcomes:

The Maine School and Library Network currently provides adequate bandwidth to meet the needs of MSLN public library patrons accessing on-line databases, On-line Public Access Catalogs, and other electronic resources (Web 2.0 and emerging technologies). MSLN, through the Circuit Rider and MSL staff, provide support and guidance for technical problems, E-rate application assistance, and general technology information. The new partnership with Networkmaine will greatly enhance bandwidth so Maine libraries will have more opportunities for video conferencing for meetings and online learning.

Other Results:

All public libraries in Maine have equal access to electronic communication and information - from the smallest offshore island to the largest city - thanks to MSLN. MSLN is the electronic conduit through which all Department of Education and Maine State Library electronic services flow. Online library management systems, online public access catalogs, electronic ILL and renewal services, "Ask A Librarian" on the maine.gov web site, reference assistance via e-mail, and access to library web sites and online databases would not be possible for many Maine libraries without MSLN.

Anecdotal Info:

219 of Maine public libraries now offer wireless access to patrons. Some of our smallest libraries with limited hours are able to expand access to library services for patrons with wireless connectivity made possible by MSLN. This service is not only appreciated by Maine residents but also by the state's large summer population and visiting tourists.

Exemplary Reason:

All Maine public libraries (and schools) are connected to the Internet at a T-1 speed or better at no cost to the local taxpayer. Charges for the Maine Telecommunications Education Access Fund are assessed on individual phone

bills and average around 12 cents per month. Networkmaine just received a federal BTOP/ARRA grant of 25 million dollars for Maine's Three Ring Binder Project. The project consists of three "rings" of high-capacity fiber-optic cable that would serve as the central arteries for high-speed Internet traffic in Maine. This project will have impact on over 75 public libraries in Maine.

Project Code:	2008-ME-33534
Project Title:	Project Number:
Partnership with Maine Humanities Council	01
Library Name:	Project Director:
Maine State Library	Linda Lord, MSL; Lizz Sinclair, Maine Humanities Council
Phone Number:	Email:
207-287-5620	linda.lord@maine.gov
Library Building:	
Maine State Library	
LSTA Funds Expended:	Cash Match:
\$25,000	\$8,805
In Kind Contributions:	Total Cost:
\$	\$33,805
Number of Persons Served:	
671	
LSTA Purpose:	State Goal:
Services for lifelong learning	1. Partnering for expansion of library resources & services
IMLS Primary Performance Category:	IMLS Secondary Performance Category:
Enhance a lifetime of learning opportunities	Strengthen communities
Primary Users:	Secondary Users:
Adults	
Primary Services:	Secondary Services:
Continuing Education for the Public, Cultural Heritage Programs, Literacy Programs	Lifelong learning, Adult literacy
Start Date:	End Date:
10/1/2008	9/30/2009
Statewide? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partnership? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Exemplary? <input type="checkbox"/>	OBE-Related? <input type="checkbox"/>
Project Purpose:	
<p>"Let's Talk About It" is a reading and discussion program for adults offered by the Maine Humanities Council in partnership with the Maine State Library and other libraries across the state. Each of the 45 topical series in "Let's Talk About It" consists of 4-5 theme-based titles. The project purpose is to have participants share ideas, perceptions, and learning from what they have read under the guidance of a trained facilitator. To quote from the ALA Public Programs web site, http://publicprograms.ala.org/ltai/, "The program model involves reading a common series of books selected by a nationally known scholar, and discussing them in the context of a larger, overarching theme. Reading and discussion groups explore the theme through the lens of the</p>	

humanities - that is, by relating the readings to historical trends and events, other works of literature, philosophical and ethical considerations...It is hoped that the reading and discussion programs developed through "Let's Talk About It" will help participants come to see firsthand the ways in which the humanities give profound meaning to the human experience.

Project Activities/Methods:

Again from <http://publicprograms.ala.org/ltai/> The format for a "Let's Talk About It" program involves a 10-week series on a given theme. A discussion group meets with a local humanities scholar in the library. Every two weeks the group comes together to discuss a theme-related book they have all read. The scholar opens the program, bringing the book to life, provoking the group's curiosity with insights and background on the author and the work. At the same time, the scholar relates the reading to the theme, raising questions and creating a catalyst that sparks discussion. The audience breaks into smaller groups to talk about the book, share ideas and raise more questions. The large group reconvenes for final discussion and closing comments. The Maine State Library (MSL) contributed \$25,000 toward the cost of this program (which also receives \$24,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities; \$2,415 from individuals; and \$5,000 from private foundations) in addition to in-kind donations. MSL also stores the "Let's Talk About It" books, schedules and ships them, and pays the postage involved in doing so. Public libraries apply to participate in the "Let's Talk About It" program and provide meeting spaces. The Maine Humanities Council (MHC) asks participants to fill out evaluations asking about the effectiveness of the facilitator and series, as well as the time and setting, why they attended, and what they liked about the program. MHC is beginning work on a more detailed, logic-model based evaluation instrument to use with the participants, linking the goals for the program more closely with the questions asked in the participant evaluation form. Both librarians and participants speak of this being a way to build and maintain community, as well as for intellectual stimulation.

Project Outputs:

In 2009, 32 libraries participated in "Let's Talk About It" programs involving 550 participants.

Project Outcomes:

The intellectual stimulation and camaraderie made possible by this program are significant in the lives of the participants. Rural Maine winters are long (and all but a few areas of Maine are rural). Providing an opportunity for people to leave their homes and engage with others in meaningful discussion is enriching and much appreciated. "Let's Talk About It" is a major factor in life-long-learning for participants. The following quotes are also very representative of Maine: "We suffer from a lack of diversity. The series [on Cuban literature] opened our eyes to Hispanic culture and the political and artistic part of Cuba. It brought in people from way outside our community." —Damariscotta There are many Indians in the field of medicine... like my doctors. I would like to know more about their culture. (in reference to a series on South East Asian literature)—York

Other Results:

The number of entitles and funding sources that make this program possible show collaboration, and how much this program is valued, in a very concrete way. It has also helped build community by strengthening, and even creating, new partnerships between the local libraries and other organizations within their communities. Several libraries partner with local historical societies,

museums, schools, ecological groups, and assisted living facilities. Senior College, a program offering affordable classes to senior citizens across the state, has also been a valuable partner for several of the libraries offering "Let's Talk About It." Libraries in small towns near one another have also offered the program jointly, allowing rural towns with fewer people and/or resources to offer the program.

Anecdotal Info:

Comments from librarians: In a small rural community our citizens do not often have the opportunity for the kind of stimulating conversation and interaction with scholars that this program provides. Having Maine Humanities Council make this program available in our libraries is invaluable since most of us could not afford this kind of quality programming from our own resources.

—Norway In rural communities such as ours, we realize the value of being able to offer such a quality service to our patrons. A library is a logical place to not only receive information, enjoy literature and widen a knowledge base, but as these programs have shown, it is also the place for an exchange of ideas. We heard many a lively debate and saw not a few friendships form and develop over the weeks of the program.

—Calais It's certainly brought some of our patrons together and made them feel part of the library. We also had a high school student join us this time and the older members LOVED what she brought to the discussions. Bringing generations together brings the community together.

—Pittsfield Each time [we have a program] I have witnessed townspeople who didn't previously know each other come together and develop great friendships in the course of discussing literature. The scholars that have hosted these series have, without exception, been welcoming, encouraging, and of a caliber that would not otherwise be available to us. The program provides each library with multiple copies of each of the books in a series, removing economic barriers that might prevent some of our patrons from participating.

—Blue Hill We have had very good experiences with the Let's Talk About It programs. As soon as we complete one, our patrons are asking us what we are planning for next year. Most of our participants have had varied work experiences, and quite a few are from different parts of the state or different states. The one thing we all have in common is our love of books, reading, and the sharing of ideas. As I said last year, "The camaraderie of the participants makes this a highlight of our summer." I think that the growing number of participants makes this evident.

—Greenville What made people want to participate? * The winter blues! * I like expanding my mind. * Talking about books deepens the reading experience. * Because of good book choices relevant to an interesting theme. * I like the idea of a thematic book discussion group. * I like having the opportunity to exchange ideas, opinions, and interpretations of books being read. * I like to see how other people interpret what we've read. * I enjoy the company of others and the facilitator. * Hearing opinions that were different than mine. They made me stop and re-examine the plots. * Group interaction and seeing how differently we read the same book through our own individual filters. * The previous programs have been stimulating and great to attend and participate in. * The willingness of everyone to share. No one tried to be the only one whose opinion counted. * I have attempted to follow the politics [of the Middle East] but need a lot of help. Different points of view are important for me to help me understand. * I participated because of my desire to be a better-informed citizen... [This was] a much deeper examination of the Middle East than I get in more mainstream media.

Exemplary Reason:

Project Code:	2008-ME-33536
Project Title:	Project Number:
Partnerships with the University of Maine	04
Library Name:	Project Director:
Maine State Library	James Jackson Sanborn
Phone Number:	Email:
207-581-3083	james.jacksonsanborn@maine.edu
Library Building:	
Maine State Library	
LSTA Funds Expended:	Cash Match:
\$59,865	\$404,504
In Kind Contributions:	Total Cost:
\$	\$464,369
Number of Persons Served:	
900,000	
LSTA Purpose:	State Goal:
Library technology, connectivity, and services	1. Partnering for expansion of library resources & services
IMLS Primary Performance Category:	IMLS Secondary Performance Category:
Provide access to information, resources and ideas	Provide tools for the future
Primary Users:	Secondary Users:
Library staff and volunteers, Statewide public	
Primary Services:	Secondary Services:
Digitization and Digital Library Projects, Technology Infrastructure, Virtual Library Services	Digitization, Integrated library systems, Virtual union catalogue
Start Date:	End Date:
10/1/2008	9/30/2009
Statewide? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partnership? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Exemplary? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OBE-Related? <input type="checkbox"/>
Project Purpose:	
Maine InfoNet is an umbrella term covering the partnership of Maine libraries dedicated to improving information and library service to all Mainers through online systems and technology. Supported by the Maine State Library and the University of Maine System, it develops and manages services that unite electronic and physical resources to form a digital library for Maine.	
Project Activities/Methods:	
Seven major components comprise Maine InfoNet. 1. MaineCat The MaineCat Statewide Catalog links 8 large online catalogs, Minerva, and SOLAR into a single, powerful, dynamically updated statewide library database for Maine. 2.	

Marvel: Every Maine citizen has access to MARVEL!: Maine's Virtual Library, which provides every resident of Maine with free access to a collection of full text and abstracts from magazines, newspapers and reference books that are credible, reputable resources. MARVEL is funded by the Maine Legislature, the University of Maine, and the PUC-supervised Maine Telecommunications Education Access Fund. Annual decisions on purchases are made by a committee from Maine InfoNet, the Maine State Library, and the University of Maine. 3. URSUS: This consortia automated library system serves the University of Maine System libraries, plus the Maine State Library, Bangor Public Library, Maine Law and Legislative Reference Library and Maine State Archives. 4. Minerva: Minerva is a statewide, integrated library system started by the Maine InfoNet Project and maintained cooperatively by participating libraries in association with the Maine State Library. Libraries apply for membership and pay \$3,750 annually. 5. SOLAR: Libraries not using another compatible library automation system can participate in the MaineCat Statewide Catalog by contributing records to the SOLAR database. 6. Digital Library Projects and Technologies: Building on work done at the University of Maine, Maine InfoNet is creating and expanding access to digitized information resources statewide. The Maine State Library and Fogler Library at the University of Maine have recently collaborated to digitize town reports. 7. Downloadable Audio Project: In the fall of 2008, Maine InfoNet implemented a project providing online access to downloadable audio books, eBooks and other popular digital media. Patrons of libraries joining this partnership are able to checkout downloadable digital content via the Internet utilizing state-of-the-art digital copyright protection technologies for free, 24/7, from a statewide collection of audio books. For additional information regarding the project please see <http://www.maine.gov/infonet/digital/audio.shtml>

Project Outputs:

MAINECAT: The more than 8 million items in MaineCat represent the holdings of 113 libraries. 3.9 million unique titles are listed in the MaineCat online catalog. During the reporting period, 54,853 items were borrowed via the MaineCat interlibrary loan requesting system. MARVEL: The number of logins and searches on the MARVEL databases has increased steadily from year to year. Statistics for the last two years: Logins for FY08-FY09 were 1,987,596 and Searches for FY08-FY09 were 7,757,042 MARVEL is comprised of 54 research indexes and databases. URSUS: 16 individual libraries belong to the URSUS network. 4.1 million items are listed in the URSUS online catalog. During the reporting period, 734,299 items were checked out or renewed using the URSUS system, of those, 26,582 items were borrowed between URSUS libraries, via the URSUS interlibrary loan requesting system. MINERVA: 62 libraries belong to the Minerva library management system (LMS). 2.8 million items are listed in the MINERVA online catalog. During the reporting period, 4.5 million items were checked out or renewed using the MINERVA system of those, 362,059 items were borrowed via the MINERVA interlibrary loan requesting system. SOLAR: 31 libraries contributed 129,000 records to MaineCat using the SOLAR system. During the reporting period 12,033 items were borrowed using the SOLAR interlibrary loan requesting system. Digital Library Projects and Technologies: The University of Maine and the Maine State Library have collaborated to digitize 150 town reports spanning years from 1850 to 1950. The Maine State Library has been supplying the Optical Character Recognition indexing for the town reports once they have been scanned. Downloadable Audio Books: Maine InfoNet received a \$40,000 grant to offer libraries everywhere in the state the opportunity to provide their patrons online access to downloadable audio books, e-Books and other popular digital media through OverDrive. The grant paid for the configuration

and license fees for three years and for one year of maintenance fees. Libraries that join this new project are asked to pay an annual fee to purchase content. Patrons are able to checkout downloadable digital content via the Internet utilizing state-of-the-art digital copyright protection technologies for free, 24/7, from a statewide collection of audio books. Audio books can be downloaded in full or in segments, burned to a CD (where permitted by publisher) and/or transferred to hundreds of supported audio devices such as MP3 Players, IPods (where permitted by publisher) or Zune players. 130 libraries statewide representing academic, public, and school libraries have joined this partnership. Since March 2009: Purchased Titles in Collection (counting each format of a title only once): 907. Purchased Copies in Collection (counting each copy of each format of a title): 1,101. Checkouts: 28,741.

Project Outcomes:

MaineCat: MaineCat provides the most comprehensive, searchable database of library materials available statewide throughout Maine. Library members search across all of the holdings and can request materials that will be delivered to their local library, often within just a few days. Depending on their library affiliations, many patrons can request items directly using their service, while all others are able to make requests mediated by their local libraries.

MARVEL: MARVEL provides a wealth of research information to every citizen of the State of Maine through the online collection of databases and research indexes. Users connect to the MARVEL databases from their libraries, workplaces and homes.

URSUS: URSUS provides online searching, borrowing, and requesting for all of the University of Maine System Libraries as well as Bangor Public Library and the Maine State Library. Patrons are able to search and directly request materials from other URSUS and MaineCat libraries and receive those items delivered to their local library in a matter of days.

MINERVA: MINERVA provides online searching, borrowing, and requesting for 62 libraries across the state. Patrons are able to search and directly request materials from other MINERVA and MaineCat libraries and receive those items delivered to their local library in a matter of days.

SOLAR: SOLAR provides mediated borrowing and requesting to the materials located in MaineCat to the patrons of member libraries. Items can be requested with the help of librarians and are delivered to the patrons at their local library within a matter of days.

Digital Library Projects and Technologies: Online access to digitized town reports help historians, genealogists, and town employees. Towns are required to mail copies of their annual reports to the Maine State Library. They may be used here, but do not circulate. Now all citizens can access them via the University of Maine's Fogler Library web site.

Downloadable Audio Books: This program will allow any library in Maine that chooses to participate to give its patrons access to a large digital collection. This service would not be possible for many small libraries. This collaboration will also benefit larger libraries since each library will not have to contract for basic set up and pay the annual maintenance fees.

Other Results:**Anecdotal Info:****Exemplary Reason:**

This is an exemplary example of collaboration among various types of libraries. The University of Maine and the Maine State Library have a memo of understanding that allows joint hiring, supervision, and salary responsibility for the Administrative Director of Maine InfoNet. A 12-member Executive Board representing the types of libraries in Maine InfoNet meets monthly with

the Administrative Director. Private colleges, community colleges, school libraries, special libraries and public libraries representatives plus the University of Maine IT CEO and the State of Maine OIT (Office of Information Technology) Director serve on this Board. It is a remarkable bringing together of various types of libraries for the common good of meeting the needs of Maine library patrons.

Project Code:	2008-ME-33541
Project Title:	Project Number:
Summer Reading Programs	
Library Name:	Project Director:
Maine State Library	James Roy
Phone Number:	Email:
207-287-5650	jroy@mestate.lib.me.us
Library Building:	
Maine State Library	
LSTA Funds Expended:	Cash Match:
\$1,039	\$5,417
In Kind Contributions:	Total Cost:
\$	\$6,456
Number of Persons Served:	
1,241	
LSTA Purpose:	State Goal:
Services for lifelong learning	1. Partnering for expansion of library resources & services
IMLS Primary Performance Category:	IMLS Secondary Performance Category:
Strengthen families and children	Enhance a lifetime of learning opportunities
Primary Users:	Secondary Users:
Children, Young adults and teens	Disadvantaged children
Primary Services:	Secondary Services:
Education-Related Services for Children and Teens	Summer reading programs
Start Date:	End Date:
10/1/2008	9/30/2009
Statewide? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partnership? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Exemplary? <input type="checkbox"/>	OBE-Related? <input type="checkbox"/>
Project Purpose:	
<p>The purpose of the Summer Programs is to encourage children to enjoy reading during the summer, to discover some of the many wonderful children's books available, and to help create healthy, lifelong learning habits in young people. All Maine children can join a reading program at their community's participating public library or school library through the state-wide Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) or through the Maine State Library's Outreach Programs (Books by Mail, Talking Books/Large Print). A variety of research projects has demonstrated that participation in summer reading programs help cut down on the phenomenon of summer reading loss, where critical skills are diminished through lack of use.</p>	
Project Activities/Methods:	
<p>For the summer of 2009 the Collaborative Summer Reading Program (CLSP)</p>	

program (theme "Be Creative @ your library" was co-sponsored by the Maine Library Association's Youth Services Section (MLA/YSS). MLA provided publicity about the program to the state's libraries. MLA/YSS acted as the fiscal agent for libraries wishing to purchase the \$10 summer reading manual. Outreach Services of the Maine State Library provided delivery service for the manuals. Outreach Services also provided summer reading materials to children who participate in any of the three Outreach Services programs (Books by Mail, Taking Books and Large Print Books). A one page informational letter including a registration form was mailed to all program participants in April 2009.

Project Outputs:

CLSP manuals were distributed via van delivery service or U.S. postal mail to 142 public libraries. A conservative estimate is that a minimum of ten children participated in the summer reading program at each of these libraries for a total of 1420. 158 children participating in the Books by Mail program signed up for summer reading and 65 completed the program by reading five books and submitting these titles to MSL/OS. 9 Large Print/Talking Books child participants registered and 5 completed. Children not served by local libraries or in areas served by very small libraries with limited staff and hours have the opportunity to participate in a summer reading program with thoughtfully developed themes, graphics, and programming ideas. For other outcomes, please see the anecdotal information below.

Project Outcomes:

The following responses came from participating libraries: "I have to say that the theme fueled lots of creative activities and interest in my library. The program was broad enough to allow personal interpretation and the manual was focused enough to provide specific ideas." "Weld Public Library increased participants by almost 50%! Of course the weather was lousy, the lake too cold to swim in. I had many children that returned from the previous year, and those that caught my advertising, or were brought with a friend!! My aim was a 10% increase, so we did Great!!"

Other Results:**Anecdotal Info:****Exemplary Reason:**

Project Code:	2008-ME-33540
Project Title:	Project Number:
Talking Books Plus (Large Print, Talking Books, and Descriptive Videos)	
Library Name:	Project Director:
Maine State Library	Christopher Boynton
Phone Number:	Email:
207-287-5650	chris.boynton@maine.gov
Library Building:	
Maine State Library	
LSTA Funds Expended:	Cash Match:
\$348,520	\$310,673
In Kind Contributions:	Total Cost:
\$	\$659,193
Number of Persons Served:	
2,495	
LSTA Purpose:	State Goal:
Services to persons having difficulty using libraries	2. Improving library services to citizens with special needs
IMLS Primary Performance Category:	IMLS Secondary Performance Category:
Provide access to information, resources and ideas	Enhance a lifetime of learning opportunities
Primary Users:	Secondary Users:
Adults, Children, People with special needs	Disadvantaged children, Blind and visually-impaired persons
Primary Services:	Secondary Services:
Education-Related Services for Children and Teens, Information Access and Services, Outreach Services	Summer reading programs, Reference services, Special needs services
Start Date:	End Date:
10/1/2008	9/30/2009
Statewide? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partnership? <input type="checkbox"/>
Exemplary? <input type="checkbox"/>	OBE-Related? <input type="checkbox"/>
Project Purpose:	

The Talking Books Plus program includes these components: 1. Large Print Books. The program purpose is to directly or through public libraries meet the informational and recreational needs of residents of Maine who are certified as being blind, visually impaired, or physically handicapped. 2. Talking Books and Descriptive Video. The program purpose is to act as Maine's regional library system for the National Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) providing talking books statewide. This program equalizes services statewide to the blind and physically handicapped. Outreach Services of MSL also provides descriptive videos to these individually enrolled patrons.

3. Recording of Maine materials not recorded by the Library of Congress.

Project Activities/Methods:

A patron handbook explaining the Talking Books Plus program is automatically distributed to all newly enrolled patrons. Each new registrant is contacted by phone and helped through the registration process. New patrons are asked about the number of books they would like to receive at one time; if they would like books automatically selected or not; and if they would like to be able to request books online. A summer reading program is offered to all juvenile patrons. The Coordinator of Outreach Services provides liaison functions with the National Library Service. Publicity and promotional activities continue in an effort to reach more readers. NLS has a national radio ad that provides an 800 number. This number in turn provides contact information for the nearest NLS regional library, distribution of NLS and locally produced brochures and bookmarks, displays and collaboration with other Maine State Library activities, public libraries, and other organizations including: Common Ground Fair (a huge three day country fair that draws over 50,000 people and has a special area reserved for community action agencies) Elder Fairs: The Outreach Services director provided displays and spoke at eight Elder Fairs. Business and community groups are invited to display at these fairs aimed at providing knowledge of services for senior citizens. The increase in presentations this year was due to the new digital players being introduced by NLS. Poster Session: The Director did a poster session at the Southern Maine Library District annual Council meeting in May, 2009 where he displayed and demonstrated the new digital books and machines. He is also the representative for AIM/NIMAS - Accessible Instructional Materials (Maine-based) and National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard (NIMAS). This is a program designed to obtain textbooks and classroom materials for K-12 students with disabilities. The Director continues to serve on the Vocational Rehabilitation Council for the State of Maine Division for the Blind. He is also the Vice President of the Consortium of User Libraries (CUL) - a national organization. Outreach Services continues to maintain a functional, Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) through its participation in the CUL. The Outreach Services of the Maine State Library is piloting the CUL OPAC and remote, off-site hosting for the CUL circulation tool. Maine is the first in the country to do this.

Project Outputs:

87,112 talking books, 185 descriptive videos, 173 digital books and 10,578 large print books were distributed to individuals in the past year. Public libraries, schools and retirement homes received 3,541 talking books, 21 descriptive videos, and 16,207 large print books. Materials sent to institutions may circulate to more than one patron. 449 new patrons enrolled in Talking Books Plus services in the past year for a total of 2,495 active patrons. If a patron is not active for a 12 month period, his or her record is deleted from enrolled status. 629 active institutions receive materials via the Talking Books Plus program.

Project Outcomes:

The informational and recreational reading needs of blind and visually impaired Maine residents are being met through this program. A survey of users was completed in 2007 will be repeated in 2010.

Other Results:

Maine is a geographically large state with areas that are remote and sparsely settled. It is a relatively poor state whose local governments often struggle to

support basic library services. The Talking Books Plus program offers materials state-wide that local libraries can not begin to acquire or distribute. The anecdotal information below reflects the value of this program in enriching peoples' lives.

Anecdotal Info:

"Any time I ask for anything, someone is ready to help me, with a friendly smile and conversation! You don't know how much we appreciate that service from all of you." "My husband...depended so much on the Talking Books because of his total blindness. You were outstanding and my husband and I appreciated it greatly." "This tape player...has been a wonderful set of eyes in the world where mine have failed. I don't know how I'd got through the solitary hours otherwise." "My mom's days are filled with the books you send; and as her caretaker, I can't thank you enough for the joy this service is bringing to her old age." "Reading is the love of my life! Thanks for keeping my love alive!" "I can't tell you how much I love this program. It's wonderful and makes such a difference in my life. Thanks to all of you who make it happen." "I developed scotoma and have bouts of having to lie in a dark room with lightning bolts across my vision and an enlarging black spot on my retina, followed by a migraine headache... I have a choice of escapes on my bedside table from the MSL. I almost look forward to an excuse to spend time in my bedroom in the dark, travelling to some exotic destination or trying to solve an English mystery." "An avid reader, (the patron's) failing eyesight was a constant frustration. Your Talking Books program was truly a godsend!" "My life would be so much less pleasant without Talking Books. Bless you all!" "It would be difficult not to exaggerate the enjoyment when I receive the terrific new digital player unit... combined with your super Talking Book staff, provides an answer to a blind man's prayer." "My life has been so enhanced by Talking Books since I first had a vision problem years ago and through several surgeries since - there have always been my companions, the readers, the books I could not read myself to amuse and console and entertain me. Thank you, thank you!"

Exemplary Reason:

Project Code:	2008-ME-33538
Project Title:	Project Number:
Van Delivery System	
Library Name:	Project Director:
Maine State Library	Dean Corner
Phone Number:	Email:
207-287-5600	dean.corner@maine.gov
Library Building:	
Maine State Library	
LSTA Funds Expended:	Cash Match:
\$12,000	\$223,517
In Kind Contributions:	Total Cost:
\$	\$235,517
Number of Persons Served:	
LSTA Purpose:	State Goal:
Services for lifelong learning	1. Partnering for expansion of library resources & services
IMLS Primary Performance Category:	IMLS Secondary Performance Category:
Provide access to information, resources and ideas	Enhance a lifetime of learning opportunities
Primary Users:	Secondary Users:
Adults, Children, Statewide public	
Primary Services:	Secondary Services:
Information Access and Services, Interlibrary Loan	Reference services, Document and materials delivery, Resource sharing
Start Date:	End Date:
10/1/2008	9/30/2009
Statewide? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partnership? <input type="checkbox"/>
Exemplary? <input type="checkbox"/>	OBE-Related? <input type="checkbox"/>
Project Purpose:	
The Statewide Interlibrary Loan Van Delivery Service is a voluntary service where participating libraries use a courier to deliver library books and materials to facilitate interlibrary loan and resource sharing throughout the State of Maine.	
Project Activities/Methods:	
The Maine State Library, issues an RFP and contracts with a courier to provide delivery of interlibrary loan materials for Maine libraries. All types of libraries - public, school, academic, special, and medical - are eligible to participate in this voluntary service. Each participating library pays a fee based upon the number of stops per week. All material must be contained in special totes. Records Management System, Bangor, Maine, is the current courier; they also provide service for the URSUS consortium (University of Maine campuses, Bangor and Portland Public libraries, The Maine Law and Legislative Reference	

Library and the Maine State Library) as well as Bates, Bowdoin and Colby Colleges. Open enrollment periods to join the van delivery system are May and November. Libraries are required to fill in all fields in the form below to request joining the ILL van delivery service. They must also add the days of the week they want pick up (Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, and/or Fri) and library hours. Filling in and submitting this form constitutes a six month commitment to the delivery service.

Join Interlibrary Loan Van Delivery Service:

Request Information Purpose:

Join Interlibrary Loan Van Delivery Service

Contact Person:

Email Address:

Library Name:

Library Phone #:

Street Address:

City/Town: Zip

Days of Week: Mon: | Tues: | Wed: | Thurs: | Fri:

Number of totes:

Library Hours:

Comments:

There is a billing online form for questions related to billing as well as an "edit van delivery information form". Fees are based on the # of deliveries per week. Participants determine how many days a week, from Monday to Friday, they need pick up and delivery. The current rates are:

Yearly Rate by Number of Stops Per Week

One Stop: \$442.00

Two Stops: \$884.00

Three Stops: \$1,326.00

Four Stops: \$1,768.00

Five Stops: \$2,210.00

Libraries receive a bill from the Maine State Library at the beginning of each quarter (Jul-Sept; Oct-Dec; Jan-Mar; Apr-June). The bill credits libraries for official State of Maine holidays. If a library's delivery is skipped or is not able to receive a delivery due to weather, etc., those credits appear on the following quarter's bill.

Project Outputs:

164 Maine libraries, university college centers and ITV sites are currently participating in the van delivery system.

Project Outcomes:

Interlibrary loans are processed more quickly (as the material is placed in totes rather than being packaged for U.S. mail). The materials reach the requesting library in as few as one or two days rather than up to a week or more, which was often the case when the U.S. postal system was used. Libraries are saving significant money in postage as using the van delivery service not only requires less staff time and provides faster delivery, but is also less expensive than U.S. postage for most libraries (i.e. those that do any amount of ILL). Using 2008 delivery costs, a library in a Maine city with a population of 15,402 reports the following savings: "We are on track to complete 25,466 ILL transactions this fiscal year. 25,466 (projected ILL activity) X \$2.12 (this is minimum cost to mail one item) = \$53,988. \$53,988 / 248 (5 days X 52 weeks -12 holidays) = \$217/day 217.00 - 11.50 = \$205.50 savings per day \$205.50 X 248 = \$50,964 savings per year. This is more than 12% of our operating budget". Another smaller library (town's population 7252)) reports the following: "SBPL in the last 6 months has

handled approximately 287 ILL's (sending and receiving). Of that number approximately 229 items went by van. If each book was mailed at an average of \$2.45, the total shipping expenses for would be \$560.05. Instead, with a weekly fee of \$11.50, we spent a total of \$299.00. That is a savings of \$261.05. I bet the savings would be even more if calculated on a yearly basis as the six-month period used includes July and August, which had fewer ILL requests than in other months. I figure that we have to send out 4.69 books per pick up to break even each week (\$11.50/\$2.45)."

Other Results:

Librarians love the speed and convenience of this service. Patrons are delighted to receive material so quickly. ILL's can be requested on-line directly by patrons. They do not need to go through their home libraries thus saving time and money, and materials are received more quickly. During the summer of 2009, the newly contracted delivery courier reneged on its obligations which caused the entire interlibrary loan system to grind to a halt. While the universities and colleges used UPS or the mail system, the public libraries and community colleges had to suspend interlibrary loan services. This library crisis was reported statewide via newspapers and television stations. The importance of resource sharing between libraries large and small and between urban, suburban, and rural areas was spotlighted. The delivery system is a crucial piece of the interconnectedness of libraries of all types in Maine.

Anecdotal Info:

A participating library reports: "We could not do anywhere near the volume of ILL we do without the delivery service. It is a tremendous bargain." Another comment: "The delivery not only saves money otherwise spent on postage buy it also saves us two trips to the post office every week."

Exemplary Reason:
