

IUPUI University Library and the Indianapolis Museum of Art Community Project Executive Summary

This is the revised proposal from University Library/Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis and the Indianapolis Museum of Art (IMA) for funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to support our unique Library/Museum collaboration.

University Library will provide access to digital image/text resources for the greater Indianapolis area K-12 Schools and general public. Our project provides a unique mechanism to test various access models to digital images and related content for urban K-12 educational communities (Indianapolis) and public library lifelong learners'.

The libraries of central Indiana have a special collaborative relationship which has been developed over the past several years among all types of libraries, public and private. The proposed distribution of the digital images/text can share the structures, both technical and political, that exist.

The project activities have been segmented into four distinct phases which are detailed in the narrative. A pre-planning phase included a focus group to explore area educators' interest as well as seek consultation on proposed project objectives and goals (March 19, 1999). Please see the appendix for minutes from the focus group meeting.

University Library will provide the technical support needed to deliver the electronic resources in three distinct intensity levels, Models I - III. An analysis will be completed at the end of the project to evaluate the level of use of these digital resources and their effect on instructional goals and educational programming.

The University Library/IMA demonstration project objectives include:

- Demonstrating how a local University Library can provide access to emerging technologies and demanding networked services to regional schools and public libraries.
- Exploring the viability of cost-sharing among regional institutions to provide licensed access to resources that might otherwise be beyond the reach of some local institutions.
- Blending content of educational programs and curriculum, digital images/text, and museum resources to provide enriched experiences for learners of all ages.
- Documenting generalized practices and products of a model program of cooperation between libraries, schools and museum with emphasis on how the community is served, technology is used, or education is enhanced.

Our project provides an unique collaborative model between a major art museum and an academic library to serve multi-use needs of the K-12 schools, public libraries, and

museums throughout the greater Indianapolis area by implementing the most efficient and appropriate technologies. This project meets the growing need within the educational community to harness the benefits of technology while providing content-rich curriculum to the K-12 educational community. The project enriches instructional contributions to the community as well as those activities which relate to education. It offers creative solutions to delivering information over the web to the educational community and serves a leadership role for other organizations to emulate. Finally, it provides explicit attention to development of models and guidelines that will be applicable to other metropolitan-area university/community collaborations.