

The State Library of Ohio will celebrate its bicentennial in 2017. As part of our celebration, the State Library is undertaking two major projects: the creation and promotion of an interactive online exhibition and design an exhibition of a physical display within the State Library of Ohio. The focus of both projects is the history and legacy of the State Library of Ohio and its relationship to the evolution of Ohio's libraries over the past two hundred years. This includes documenting the cultural shift of libraries in society as well as identifying how the State Library of Ohio and Ohio's libraries have pioneered innovation nationally in the library profession. Also, it will document the foundations of libraries in Ohio and how they have changed. The audience for this project is the general public.

This RFP is for a humanities professional to create written content for the interactive online exhibition. A humanities professional in terms of this project is an individual who generally has an advanced degree in a humanities area of study (e.g. MA, MLS, PhD) or has a wealth of relevant knowledge about a topic, but lacks advanced training in the humanities (e.g. a local historian or educator). The humanities professional will be selected on the basis of past writing, familiarity with the subject matter, and past effectiveness. This past writing will demonstrate competency in writing about the history of a library(ries).

Topics for the humanities professional will be assigned by the Bicentennial Research Team. Topics will include, but are not limited to the development of the State Library and its programs, prominent figures in the Library's history and the State Library's impact on trends and innovations in librarianship. All topics will document local, state, and national impact of the State Library and the profession of librarianship as a whole. The humanities professional will deliver no less than a total of 30 pages of 500-700 words each. Each page is on a separate topic. This contract will be for no more than \$4,000.

The selected individual will possess:

- Ability to communicate in a timely, professional, and effective manner.
- Ability to complete tasks on schedule.
- Demonstrated ability to write effectively for the general public on libraries and/or library history.
- Strong writing samples.
- Background in libraries, history of libraries. Special consideration will be given to a background in State Libraries or State Library history.
- Experience in working in a library, historical society, and/or museum.
- Experience in developing exhibits for a library, historical society, and/or museum.
- Experience in working with grants and the ability to comply with grant reporting requirements.
- An advanced degree in a humanities area of study (e.g. MA, MLS, PhD).

Two written samples, two professional references and a one page statement addressing the abilities and experiences stated above must be sent to Jamie Pardee (jpardee@library.ohio.gov) by June 1, 2016. Late proposals will not be accepted. Electronic submission of proposals is required. Any questions must be submitted to J. Pardee by May 15, 2016. Respondents to this RFP will be notified by June 15, 2016. Contracted work will commence on July 1, 2016 and end December 2, 2016. Three pages of 500-700 words will be due at the end of every two week period. Payment to the contracted humanities

professional will be contingent on the receipt and approval of the work by assigned State Library staff.

A committee of State Library staff will review submitted proposals and will make the final selection.