2024/2025 Access and Innovation Grants

To: WNYLRC Member Library and Library System Directors

From: Sheryl Knab, WNYLRC Executive Director

Date: October 23, 2024

Re: 2024/2025 Access and Innovation Grants

Member Project Grants Background Information

WNYLRC is soliciting WNYLRC member project grant applications for 2024/2025 Access and Innovation Grants. Application forms and instructions are available on http://www.wnylrc.org. Questions regarding the grant application should be directed to me, Sheryl Knab at sknab@wnylrc.org. **$50,000** will be available for WNYLRC member grant projects for 2024/2025.

The Access and Innovation Grants program are open to all WNYLRC Governing, Standard, and Patron Organizational members. Affiliate members such as system branches or individual schools must work with their system director prior to submitting a proposal. The system director must sign off on the grant proposal. Submitted member project grant applications are evaluated by an impartial Reading Team consisting of four members of the library community outside of our region. The Reading Team will forward its recommendations to the appropriate WNYLRC Committee who will make the final funding determination.

Request for changes or clarifications by WNYLRC regarding member grant applications often occur. WNYLRC will contact you if this happens. Although the projects are for the fiscal year 2024/2025, funds may be delayed depending on the state budget. If you choose to begin your project prior to the funds being received, you do so at your own risk.

Additional Information and Changes

Please review the 2024/2025 AIG Grant Guidelines, Project Completion Checklist, and other resources available to carefully ensure a quality application. Those members who plan on participating in the ESLN AIR project (Ubiquity Institutional Repository) are eligible to offset their set-up fees to join the project. Recipients of digitization grants are highly encouraged not to begin the project prior to consulting with WNYLRC's Outreach and Digital Services Coordinator, Heidi Ziemer (hziemer@wnylrc.org) and Research and Reference Services Coordinator (ckenney@wnylrc.org).

Please note: all grant application forms are only available on www.wnylrc.org. Once the grant is awarded, 75% of the grant award will be paid upon receipt of the letter of agreement and the final 25% of the awarded grant amount will be paid once WNYLRC receives the grant recipient's final report, Project Completion Checklist, and assurances that digitization projects are soon to be made publicly accessible.

The application form is in Wufoo to make it easier for you to submit. Any required documents or supplemental materials must be uploaded with the application. Any questions regarding the completion of the application itself or about the guidelines should be directed to Sheryl Knab, Executive Director by email at sknab@wnylrc.org or by phone at (716) 633-0705, ext. 121.

Submitting Your Library's 2024/2025 Access and Innovation Grant Application: The application is available as a Word document. Applications must be in WNYLRC's procession **by 12:30 pm on Friday, December 6, 2024.**