

# FOUNDATIONS

Wyoming Library

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## **ENDOWMENT ACTIONS LIVELY**

Laramie, Natrona and Park County Libraries and their foundations reached their fundraising goals to receive the full state matching funds. Several other libraries reported that the month of January was busy for them and submitted requests to the State Treasurer for part of their matching funds. During a recent meeting the State Treasurer advised representatives of the libraries that they could continue fundraising past their goal and use those gifts as match to earn the \$100,000 incentive earlier than just waiting until the collective fundraising reached \$2,300,000. As this is being written, the 23 county libraries are at the half way point to the incentive that would go to each endowment. Check the Endowment spreadsheet and all Endowment information through the Wyoming Library Association's website <http://www.wyla.org/endowment/>.

## **GRANT WRITING PAYS OFF**

A grant application written and submitted to the Wal-mart Foundation by Paul Heimer of the Albany County Library Foundation has paid off for all 23 county libraries. Each library was awarded \$1,500 as part of the \$34,500 given to the state. The award was made to the Wyoming Libraries Foundation, a 501(c)3 entity which has existed since 1995, and checks were then distributed to libraries. Each library will be able to use its \$1,500 as local endowment money raised towards the state match. Paul also developed a template application for seven libraries along the Union Pacific line. What first started in the fall of 2008 as a single application to the UP Foundation became applications submitted from Lincoln, Uinta, Sweetwater, Carbon, Albany, Niobrara and Goshen county libraries. The Foundation is committing to a \$4,000 grant to each of these library foundations for their endowments. That grant money will also serve as local endowment money raised to request state matching funds.

A special thanks to Paul Heimer on these two grant writing efforts. Let us know about your endowment fundraising successes to share with others.

## **BILL ON INSTITUTIONAL FUND MANAGEMENT MOVES THROUGH HOUSE**

The Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (House Bill 118) passed through the three readings of the House with only minor amendments and a final vote of 59 Ayes, 0 No, and 1 absent. The engrossed bill <http://legisweb.state.wy.us/2009/Engross/HB0118.pdf> is now assigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee. As of this writing the Committee has not placed it on their calendar for a hearing. This bill provides language on nonprofit fund management that is uniform throughout the country. It has been adopted by many other state legislatures.

### **DON'T LICK THAT STAMP**

Does your library foundation have large mailings from time to time? Do you purchase roles of first class stamps for those newsletter or supporter renewal mailings? As a nonprofit your library foundation may be eligible for special prices for nonprofit mailers through the US Postal Service. You can learn more at <http://pe.usps.com/businessmail101/rates/nonprofit.htm> or better yet talk to your local postmaster.

### **FOUNDATION CENTER OFFERS ECONOMIC CRISIS RESOURCES**

Whatever the economy, there are still always those who will give to causes they believe in. In fact, some foundations have even stepped up their giving to enable local organizations to provide services as the economy worsens. The Foundation Center ([foundationcenter.org](http://foundationcenter.org)) has put together a set of resources for fund raisers, "Focus on the Economic Crisis," at [foundationcenter.org/focus/economy/](http://foundationcenter.org/focus/economy/). Here you can find research advisories on how the economic climate is affecting giving, interactive maps, commentary, headlines, an RSS feed and more.

This **Wyoming Library Foundations** newsletter is sent to the Wyoming county library directors for distribution to their library foundation and library board members. Individuals interested in viewing this can bookmark <http://will.state.wy.us/slpub/foundations/index.html>. Comments on the content of this publication or contributions to share with other library foundation board members can be sent to Jerry Krois at [jkrois@state.wy.us](mailto:jkrois@state.wy.us) or Susan Vittitow at [svitti@state.wy.us](mailto:svitti@state.wy.us).