



IMLS is Under Threat

On March 14, an Executive Order from the White House directed the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to be reduced to only its “statutory functions,” threatening to eliminate key funding for libraries, archives, and museums nationwide. IMLS is the only federal agency dedicated to supporting library services, providing essential grants, research, and policy development that empower communities in every U.S. state and territory.

IMLS must submit a report within **seven days** outlining which functions, if any, are statutorily required. It also requires that “non-statutory components and functions shall be eliminated to the maximum extent...” This fast-moving process puts critical cultural heritage programs at risk of being eliminated, with no indication of how it would impact **current projects**.

IMLS plays and has played a crucial role in funding projects in our field, including AMIA’s Pathways Fellowship, the Autistic Voices Oral Histories, and CAW with two new community focused projects proposed this year.

What can you do?

IMLS was created by Congress, and **Congress has the power to protect it**. Contact your representatives **today** and urge them to preserve federal funding for libraries, archives, and museums. We are all aware of critical programs possible only because of funding provided by IMLS. Share your story when you contact your representatives and **how it impacts their communities**. Let them know that federal support for cultural heritage is not optional — it’s essential.

Call. Write. Advocate.

Find your [House representatives here](#).

Find your [Senators here](#).