



AMIA

AMIA RECEIVES IMLS GRANT FOR THE AMIA PATHWAYS FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship will support paid internships in combination with mentorship and professional development training for people from groups historically underrepresented in the profession

August 4, 2021 (Los Angeles). The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has awarded the Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) a \$249,000 grant from the **Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program** for the AMIA Pathways Fellowship.

The AMIA Pathways Fellowship will support paid internships in combination with mentorship and professional development training to forge pathways in the audiovisual preservation field for people from groups historically underrepresented in the profession. Building off a successful pilot, the program will enable fellows to engage in professional development through webinar training, remote mentorships, office hours with specialists in the field, onsite paid internships, and an alumni program to support ongoing engagement. Internship opportunities will include regional and community-based organizations that house nontraditional media collections and which could not otherwise support paid internships.

The successes of the Pathways pilot program (formerly AMIA's Diversity and Inclusion Fellowship Pilot) will be leveraged into an expanded model, featuring a similar programmatic design with a few notable evolutions. Because audiovisual collections are not unique to traditional LAM institutions but rather exist in diverse communities and cultural institutions in all areas of the country, Pathways Fellowship will shift into an expanded focus on connecting at least half of the fellows with internships in regional or community archives. In addition, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic forced the Pathways pilot to swiftly recalibrate many aspects of the original program pilot. This successful transition demonstrated the adaptability of the program and, more importantly, as we move increasingly into a virtually connected world, it proved that the program may be strengthened by the

incorporation of remote work and the breakdown of geographic barriers regarding optimal matching of participants with host sites.

CK Ming, AMIA Board member and Chair of the Pathways Fellowship's advisory board, says of the project, "The AMIA Pathways Fellowship is a critical program to increase diversity in the audiovisual archiving field. It is incredibly important that this field be inclusive to all voices in order to not only encourage creative thinking, but to ensure that the histories and stories of marginalized communities are told and preserved. The prohibitive cost of education to enter this field is a barrier that this program hopes to overcome. I am overjoyed that the IMLS has chosen to fund the expansion of this program to include not only more fellows, but more host institutions especially those in underrepresented communities."

The Pathways Fellowship is inviting interested institutions to partner with AMIA on paid internships and mentorships. Fellowship applications will open in early 2022.

About The Institute of Museum and Library Services

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums. We advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development. Our vision is a nation where museums and libraries work together to transform the lives of individuals and communities. To learn more, visit www.ims.gov and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

About AMIA

[AMIA](#) is a nonprofit, international association committed to the preservation and use of moving image media. An Association of professional media archivists, AMIA brings together a broad range of experts and institutions in a single forum to address the best ways to preserve our media heritage. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).