# CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT (LSTA) FISCAL YEAR 2017/2018 PITCH-AN-IDEA GRANT APPLICATION

**ELEMENT 1: BASIC INFORMATION (please see application instructions for additional information) Applicant Information** Library/Organization **Library's DUNS Number** Monterey County Free Libraries 120391552 **3. Legal Business Name** (must match name registered with Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN)) Monterey County Free Libraries 4. **Project Coordinator Name Project Coordinator Title** Cathy Andrews Librarian II, Literacy **Email Address Business Phone Number** 6. AndrewsCS@co.monterey.ca.us 831-883-7597 City State 8. **Mailing Address** Zip 188 Seaside Circle Marina CA 93933 **Project Information** 9. **Project Title** Worth a Thousand Words: Graphic Novels and Adult Literacy 10. **LSTA Funds Requested** \$5,600 11. Cash Match & In-Kind \$6,648 **12. Total Project Cost** \$12,248 **13.** California's LSTA Goals (Check one goal that best describes the project) Literate California **Bridging the Digital Divide** 21st Century Skills **Information Connections** 22<sup>nd</sup> Century Tools **Community Connections Content Creation/Preservation Ensuring Library Access for All** 14. **Primary Audience for project** (Select all that apply.) Adults **Pre-School Children Families Rural Populations ☐** Immigrants/Refugees **School Age Children Intergenerational Groups (Excluding Families) Senior Citizens ◯** Library Staff , Volunteers and/or Trustees **Statewide Public** Low Income **Suburban Populations** Non/Limited English Speaking Persons Unemployed **People with Disabilities Urban Populations** People with Limited Functional Literacy Young Adults and Teens

#### **ELEMENT 2: PROJECT BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY**

Describe how this project was identified as a need, how it relates to your library's strategic plan, what will be accomplished if this project is implemented, and how you will know whether your project is successful. Summary should relate to activities in the timeline (Element 4) and include statistical information to support the project.

The Monterey County Free Libraries, which serve a county of 3,125 square miles, is in our 30<sup>th</sup> year of offering Adult Literacy services as part of the Library Literacy programs linked to the California State Library. Read with MCFL, our Adult Literacy program, currently has 110 volunteer tutors helping 116 learners, with another 100 learners on the waiting list.

In a county where 25% of the adult population reads at less than a 4<sup>th</sup> grade level, and where over 50% of county residents speak a language other than English at home, there is a continuous demand for English language literacy services. The Adult Literacy program is a "learner-centered" program, so that tutors use their learners' goals, and their current literacy level, to guide the work they do together. Tutors use a variety of resources, from classic literacy books and workbooks, to the vast resources available on the Internet in order to help their learners improve their abilities with English language reading, writing, and conversation skills.

One of the biggest challenges facing tutors is to find reading materials that are appropriate for low reading skills, and yet still interesting to adults. Though reading a first Dr.Suess book can be a triumph, relying on children's books soon becomes old. The "high interest, low reading skill" books for adults have few publishers, and are difficult to find.

Enter graphic novels. Graphic novels can encourage reluctant or new readers by engaging interest and imagination, and the relative speed of reading (compared to prose) can give readers confidence and a sense of accomplishment. They also have a direct impact on reading skills and comprehension, as they reinforce left-to-right sequencing, and word and image association can increase recall. They help comprehension because the visual images provide visual, contextual clues, and convey tone and emotion, thus allowing a deeper understanding of stories as a whole. There are graphic novels of just about every genre of writing, from fiction, to science fiction, to literary classics, to history, and more.

You can't just place a graphic novel or comic book in the hands of learner, though, as the genre has conventions and style "rules" that need explanation in order to use effectively. Our extensive search has found that there are currently very few resources aimed at helping low-literacy adults access the fantastic resource of graphic novels.

We have developed a plan for a short-course that would expose learners to graphic novels, in the company of the tutor with whom they have a working relationship, so that the pair would be able to use graphic novels to promote reading skills long after the short course was over.

In our plan, 5 tutor-learner pairs would participate in each 4 week short-course, for 2 hours each week. The course would introduce participants to graphic novels, their conventions, and how to make the best use of them; participants will keep their books, so they can make notes, mark pages, or use them as needed. After an overview and the first look at style and conventions, the class will use "The Arrival", by Shaun Tan, as the first novel. This wonderful book has no words, so the learner and the tutor are in a sense on a level playing field as they start the exploration. It will be an effective way to learn the power of images and the conventions of the genre. The second book will be "March", the first in the three-part autobiography of civil rights hero John Lewis. Context is important here, and so the book will be started after an "explainer" about the Civil Rights Movement in the US in the 60s and 70s. For the final book, participants will each choose from a curated list of graphic novels. They will also be introduced to MCFL's graphic novel collection, and will develop a process for deciding if a book is one in which they will want to invest time. Participants will also receive a course manual we are creating, and use the binder it is in to keep the supplementary handouts and notes.

In class, pages of each novel will be projected as needed by a "document camera" (projects documents, pages from books, or even 3-D objects), letting participants view them together and discuss elements of the novels. One potential exercise will involve creating dialog for pages in "The Arrival", or creating one's own page of illustrations, and the document camera will assist with sharing this as well. The instructors will use PowerPoint presentations for instruction, and these will be projected for all to see, as well as offering a way to access resources on the Internet to share with the group.

We plan to offer the course in September, January, and April. After each course is offered, we will review the success of the curriculum, using teacher input and participant feedback, and will adjust things as needed.

We will also work with the tutors who attend, and anticipate recruiting several to help train tutors across the program so that others who might not have been able to attend the course will still be able to integrate graphic novels as they work with their learners.

## **ELEMENT 3: PARTNERSHIPS**

Please list all formal partners for your project here. Please attach (under Element 7) a copy of your signed agreement with each partner, which outlines the role the partner will play and the resources the partner will contribute.

Partner Name	Organization Type (see instructions for valid entries)	Legal Type (see instructions for valid entries)	Role on Project	Resources That Partner Will Contribute (materials/funds/staff)

#### **ELEMENT 4: PLANNING AND EVALUATION**

Please answer each area concisely and completely. For section A-F limit responses to four pages.

A.	. Project Intent (Check only one that best describes the project)				
	Lifelong Learning				
	Improve users' formal education				
	☐ Improve users' general knowledge and skills				
	Information Access				
	☐ Improve users' ability to discover information				
	Improve users' ability to obtain information resources				
	Institutional Capacity				
	Improve the library workforce				
	Improve the library's physical and technology infrastructure				
	Improve library's operations				
	Economic & Employment Development				
	Improve users' ability to use resources and apply information for employment support				
	Improve users' ability to use and apply business resources				
	Human Services				
	Improve users' ability to apply information that furthers their personal, family, or household finances				
	Improve users' ability to apply information that furthers their personal or family health & wellness				
	Improve users' ability to apply information that furthers their parenting and family skills				
	Civic engagement				
	Improve users' ability to participate in their community				
	Improve users' ability to participate in community conversation around topics of concern				

B. Project Purpose – Short statement which answers the questions: we will do what, for whom, for what expected benefit(s).

We will create a four-session short course, presented three times over the course of the grant, introducing tutors and learners in the Adult Literacy program to the genre of graphic novels. Graphic novels can encourage reluctant or new readers, and help fill the gap in literacy materials that are both manageable for low-literacy readers, and aimed at adult interests. Because graphic novels have conventions and styles that are not intuitive for those with low literacy, the introduction to the genre, and guided reading, will provide a foundation on which further reading success can be built.

C. Anticipated Project Outputs – Measures of services and/or products to be created/provided.

30 people participate in the course (15 tutors, 15 learners, in established pairs); 3 short-courses of 4 sessions each, with each class session of 2 hours (8 hours per short-course, or 24 hours total); 90 graphic novels distributed to participants; 1 curriculum devised for course; 1 course manual developed for participant use; handouts and supplementary materials developed for use during class; pre- and post-tests will be developed to assess "genre awareness" of the graphic novel genre and its conventions; 30 graphic novels added to MCFL system collection.

D. Anticipated Project Outcome(s) – What change is expected in the target audience's skills, knowledge, behavior, attitude, and/or status/life condition? How will you measure these outcomes? (for examples see attachment B of the application instructions)

75% of participants will raise their "genre awareness" test score (style conventions) by 1 or more levels; 95% of participants will complete 2 graphic novels during the short-course and participate in classroom discussions; 75% will complete at least 1 novel, post-course, including tutor-learner pair discussion; 75% of participants that attend all 4 class sessions will be able to discuss the genre with others not in attendance; 2 tutors will be confident enough in their understanding of the genre to participate in peer training of other tutors around using graphic novels with their learners. "Genre awareness" will be measured with pre- and post-tests of all participants. Other items will be measured by attendance, observation, and/or self-report.

E. Briefly describe how this project will be financially supported in the future.

As we offer this short-course in the future, we will use trained volunteers and staff to run the course, and use the expanded collection in the system to provide useable books for the class. We will be cultivating relationships with our local comic book stores and bookstores in pursuit of potential donations, as well.

Activity Information. Activities are action(s) through which the intent or objective of a project are

F.

will	carı	y out	Four activity types have been identified, each with select methods to help you describe how you this project. Indicate activity types that require a significant commitment of resources to the senting 10% or more of total project resources).
1.		expe	<b>ruction</b> - Involves an interaction for knowledge or skill transfer and how learning is delivered or rienced. ( <i>Check all that apply and provide a description including whether the format will be inon, virtual, or both</i> )
			Program - Formal interaction and active user engagement (e.g., a class on computer skills).
			Presentation - Formal interaction and passive user engagement (e.g., an author's talk),
			Consultation - Informal interaction with an individual or group of individuals (library staff or other professional) who provide expert advice or reference services to individuals, units, or organizations.
			Other
recrube he mem form norm Duri graph releventhe pas the environment of the way to was the control of the pas the environment of the pas	uitmoreld in the later of the l	ent. Linthe control the control to the content of t	Il learner-tutor pairs will be invited to apply for the short-course through email blasts and individual teracy Program staff will order and prepare all materials and resources for the course. The course will community room of a centrally-located branch. A high-skill volunteer and a Literacy Program staff resent the instruction. With 10 participants in each course, the size of the group will allow for both ion, group discussion, and pair work. Pairs will also be encouraged to use around an hour of their tutoring time each week while the course is running for further reading and discussion. CowerPoint presentations will be used to best advantage for instruction and illustration about the genre via the projector, tablet, and AppleTV device. This also makes it easy to access the Internet for and project the pages so everyone can follow along. The document camera, which is used to project traphic novel page under discussion by the group, can also be used for any work done by participants and explore the style points and creation of graphic novels. A welcoming, warm, and supportive important to the success of the course, as many adult learners feel cautious about sharing their ideas or ipants will also be made aware of the graphic novel collection in the library, as the group will take time the collection in the branch, and will be shown how to access the full listings in the online catalog.
2.		acces	assible. (Check all that apply and provide a description including whether the format will be <u>physical</u> , al, or both)
			Acquisition - Selecting, ordering, and receiving materials for library or archival collections by purchase, exchange, or gift, which may include budgeting and negotiating with outside agencies (i.e. publishers, vendors) to obtain resources. May also include procuring software or hardware for the purposes of storing and/or retrieving information or enabling the act of experiencing, manipulating, or otherwise interacting with an information resource.
			Creation - Design or production of an information tool or resource (e.g., digital objects, curricula, manuals). Includes digitization or the process of converting data to digital format for processing by a computer.
			Description - Apply standardized descriptive information and/or apply such information in a standardized format to items or groups of items in a collection for purposes of intellectual control, organization, and retrieval.

		Lending - Provision of a library's resources and collections through the circulation of materials (general circulation, reserves). May also refer to the physical or electronic delivery of documents from a library collection to the residence or place of business of a library user, upon request.
		Preservation - Effort that extends the life or use life of a living or non-living collection, the individual items or entities included in a collection, or a structure, building or site by reducing the likelihood or speed of deterioration.
		Other
over the has allow for prese awarene direction these thi beyond	last six wed us entation ess). The n, and a large are the cou	
	•	books for use in the course, and those on the curated list, we have used these criteria:
		haracters and themes that are diverse and inclusive
		re universal and familiar to our participants (immigration, family, etc)
		l us something about US history or culture
	•	rticipants could share with their children
-Classic		
_		show the diversity of the genre (memoir, cookbooks, poetry, literature adaptations, etc)
		ilt our familiarity with the genre, we have also relied on those with greater knowledge, including ces like those found at websites for ALA, Schoolastic Books, and others.
subjectiv	ve choi	part of what we are doing is holding true to the knowledge that this diverse genre allows for the ce normal to anyone's "favorite books", and helping our participants be able to develop their own sense es is central to the notion of the course.
_		ll be encouraged to make use of the graphic novel collection at MCFL, choosing books to borrow as the course and, with any luck, long after.
		pate that the curriculum (and the model as a whole) will assist other literacy programs and library ring their own short-course, and that many aspects of the project will be very relevant for young adults
3.	and v	<b>ning &amp; Evaluation</b> - Involves design, development, or assessment of operations, services, or resources when information is collected, analyzed, and/or disseminated. ( <i>Check all that apply and provide a ription including whether the format will be in-house or third-party</i> )
		Retrospective - Research effort that involves historical assessments of the condition of a project, program, service, operation, resource and/or user group.
		Prospective - Research effort that projects or forecasts a future condition of a project, program, service, operation, resource, and/or user group.
Descript	tion:	
4.	facili	<b>urement</b> – May only be used for projects with an Institutional Capacity Intent. Acquiring or leasing ties; purchasing equipment/supplies, hardware/software, or other materials (not content) that support real library infrastructure. (Provide a description)

Description:

### **ELEMENT 5: GRANT TIMELINE/ACTIVITIES**

Show each major project activity and when it will be started and/or completed throughout the project. The timeline should correspond to the activities

described in Planning and Evaluation. Please put an X in each pertaining month.

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July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
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### **ELEMENT6: BUDGET**

The budget should clearly identify the amounts requested and from what sources.

Budget Category	LSTA	Cash Match & In-Kind	Total
Salaries/Wages/Benefits			
Librarian II, Literacy	\$0	\$3,369	\$3,369
Library Assistant II, Literacy	\$0	\$496	\$496
High-skill volunteer	\$0	\$2,508	\$2,508
Library Assistant II, Support Services	\$0	\$75	\$75
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$0	\$6,448	\$6,448

**Description:** Librarian II, Literacy (70 hours @ \$48.13): promotion and recruitment of participants, assist with curriculum, order books and tech items, assist in course, train/mentor tutors, and tutor "peer trainers"

LAII, Literacy (20 hours @ \$24.81): order materials and supplies, assemble supplies and manuals, assist with recruitment and support

LA II, Support Services (3 hours @ \$24.81): process/catalog 30 graphic novels being added to the collection High-skill volunteer (96 hours @ \$26.13): research and design of the curriculum, selecting the books for use in class, teaching course, creating curated list of graphic novels, train/mentor tutors, and tutor "peer trainers"

Consultant Fees			
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$0	\$0	\$0

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Budget Category	LSTA	Cash Match & In-Kind	Total
Travel			
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$0	\$0	\$0

**Description:** 

Supplies/Materials			
126 Graphic novels @ \$29, distribute in class & add to collection	\$3,700	\$0	\$3,700
Document camera	\$200	\$50	\$250
Projector for teacher (and participant) presentations	\$600	\$50	\$650
iPad Pro, 9.7", for projector	\$600	\$0	\$600
Apple TV, a network appliance for use with projector and iPad	\$200	\$0	\$200
Materials for the three rounds of the course	\$300	\$100	\$400
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$5,600	\$200	\$5,800

**Description:** 30 people will participate in the class over the year, and each participant will receive 3 books for use and to keep. We will also have 2 "instructor copies" of each book, making a total of 96 books. The document camera will project pages of the books onto a screen during class so everyone can see and follow the points being made. The projector, iPad, and Apple TV device will allow the instructors (and the students) to do presentations about the books, the genre, relevant info to set the context for the books, and other aspects of class instruction. Materials for the course include supplies to make the course manual, and for handouts, exercises and other uses in instruction. We will add about 30 graphic novels aimed at adults to the MCFL collection to expand the options for continued use of graphic novels by tutoring pairs .

Budget Category	LSTA	Cash Match & In-Kind	Total			
Equipment (\$5,000 or more per unit)		W III IIIIU				
	\$0	\$0	\$0			
	\$0	\$0	\$0			
	\$0	\$0	\$0			
	\$0	\$0	\$0			
Subtotal Description:	\$0	\$0	\$0			
Services						
	\$0	\$0	\$0			
	\$0	\$0	\$0			
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	\$0	\$0	\$0			
	\$0	\$0	\$0			
Subtotal	\$0	\$0	\$0			
Project Total	\$5,600	\$6,648	\$12,248			
Indirect Cost Rate Applied 0.0 % Indirect Cost	\$0	\$0	\$0			
Check one:	ΨΟ	ΨΟ	ΨΟ			
	ate *	Indirect propose	d cost rate *			
* please attach supporting documentation if required						
Description:						
Grand Total	\$5,600	\$6,648	\$12,248			

## **ELEMENT 7: ATTACHMENTS**

If you have additional resources that support your grant, please attach after this page

ELI	EMEN	IT 8: INTER	NET CERTIFICATIO	N				
		e Appropriate e Library	e Library Type   Academic	☐ K-12	☐ Multi-Type	Special/Other		
		•		ž .	public elementary school libbrary is (check only one of t	• •		
A.		The applicar		ary, a public elemen	ary school library or public of the Library Services and			
В.		_	ng a group of applicants by are CIPA compliant.	. Those applicants	hat are subject to CIPA re	equirements have		
		application h Act. The libr who are subj	have complied with the reary submitting this appli	equirements of Section has collected s. The library will ke	d public secondary school li on 9134(f)(1) of the Library Internet Safety Certification sep these certifications on fi s.	Services and Technology s from all other applicants		
c.		The CIPA re		because no funds m	ade available under this LS7 to pay for direct costs assoc			
	SNATU		ut this I STA Cuant Am	nliastian				
1 IIa	ive rea	iu anu suppo	rt this LSTA Grant Ap	_	orth a Thousand Words: Gra	phic Novels & Adult		
Monterey County Free Libraries					Literacy			
Lib	rary/C	Organization		Pro	oject Name			
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