

**Brief Grant Proposal for New Projects
Library Services and Technology Act FFY2012**

This form is available for download in Microsoft Word on our web site via:
<http://www.oregon.gov/OSL/LD/grantmainalt.shtml>. Proposals not meeting the following conditions will be returned. The form must not exceed this cover page and two pages of proposal content. A page is defined as one side of a sheet of paper. Use 12 point Times New Roman with one inch margins. Do not alter the format of this form. The deadline for receipt of this proposal is **5:00 pm on Friday April 22, 2011. Use form Appendix D if applying for a second or third year of funding.**

General Information

Project Title: Listos para Aprender

Applicant: Multnomah County Library

Address: 205 N.E. Russell, Portland, OR 97212

Contact Person: Rita Jiménez, Neighborhood Libraries Phone: 503-988-4366

Email: ritaj@multcolib.org

Fiscal Agent (if different than Applicant):

Authorized by: Vailey Oehlke

Title: Director of Libraries

Signature:

Date:

PLEASE INDICATE THE ANTICIPATED LENGTH OF YOUR GRANT PROJECT:

(Check applicable boxes)

THIS IS THE 1st YEAR OF A ONE YEAR GRANT PROJECT.
 TWO YEAR
 THREE YEAR

For projects that are anticipated to be multi-year projects be sure to include an estimate of the funds anticipated to be needed for future years in the Section 4 budget discussion and Section 5 grid.

THIS IS PRIORITY 1 OF THIS ORGANIZATION'S PROPOSALS.

This form must be received at the State Library no later than **5:00 pm on Friday, April 22, 2011. Faxed copies will not be accepted.** Mail or deliver **one copy** of your proposal to:

Library Development Services
 Oregon State Library
 250 Winter St. NE
 Salem, OR 97301-3950

As a courtesy, the State Library asks that you email an electronic copy of your proposal, in rtf or Word format, to ann.reed@state.or.us. This does not substitute for the signed, mailed copy.

Project Proposal (insert your text after each section)

Section 1. Provide the exact text of the single most relevant goal and high-level outcome from the *Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Five-Year State Plan* that will be addressed by the grant project.

Goal #3 - Fostering the Joy of Reading; **High-Level Outcome** - School readiness and educational performance are improved through library programming for children and young adults.

Section 2. Describe the problem that will be addressed by the proposed grant project. Multnomah County Library serves nearly one-fifth of the state's population as it provides public library service to the 698,599 residents of Multnomah County, 10% of whom are Latino. (2009 American Community Survey). The U.S. Census reports that 7% of Multnomah County's population is under 5 years of age, 13% of the population is foreign-born (greater than the national average of 12%), and 18% speak a language other than English. According to this data, Multnomah County's increasing diversity has surpassed the national trend. However, in many areas, including education, there are measurable differences in outcomes based upon race and ethnicity. Latino children are underachieving at disproportionate rates. In 2010, Portland Public Schools, the largest district in Oregon, released a report about kindergarten readiness. Data collected in 2009 showed that only 55% of Latino children were ready for school as compared with 83% of White children, a 28% achievement gap that is the largest among all ethnic groups. Further, Portland Public Schools reports that this gap widens to 39% by the time Latino children reach third grade. Children's early experiences with books are among the most significant indicators for their success in learning to read in school, and supportive efforts that begin very early in life are the most successful. Children whose parents read to them become better readers and perform better in school. Although Multnomah County Library has significantly expanded its Spanish language programming and developed a Spanish language website that parallels the English version, attendance at Spanish storytimes (presently offered once a week at five library locations) is very low; the average attendance at Spanish storytimes in 2010 was seven as compared to an average attendance of 25 at storytimes in English. Despite the high value placed on education by the Latino community, a number of studies have also found that Latino families are less likely to read books and share stories with their children than parents from other ethnic backgrounds. This is a significant finding, given that book reading and storytelling are considered measures of language and literacy engagement—two important behaviors related to children's developmental outcomes. Evidence suggests that many Latino families do not realize the impact that early literacy has on education or what they can do to help their children get ready for school.

Section 3. Describe the proposed solution that the project will implement. Indicate the project goal, and the quantified objectives that will be used to measure whether the goal is accomplished. Describe briefly the activities that will be undertaken to meet each objective.

The goal of *Listos para Aprender* is to make our present Spanish storytimes more culturally appropriate programs that enhance the development of literacy among young Spanish-speaking children ages three to five, and empower parents by raising their awareness about ways to help their children get ready for school. To accomplish this goal, we propose to: 1) Hire a part-time Bilingual Library Outreach Specialist to conduct outreach to the Latino community and coordinate a pilot program at three neighborhood libraries serving large numbers of Spanish-

speaking families (Troutdale, Midland, Kenton); 2) Work with three bilingual staff at these locations to offer a series of three 16-week one-and-a-half-hour programs that include family activities, literacy-related parent education, and storytime segments; 3) Design a program model for each location that tests the benefits of a cohort/parent support group versus a drop-in model; the use of giveaway books as an incentive for participation; culturally appropriate branding in promotional activities; and whether weekdays, evenings, or weekends attract more families on a regular basis; and 4) Evaluate the results of the pilot program and share the lessons learned and findings with others at library conferences and workshops. Activities including: obtaining more input from the Latino community by collaborating with the Latino Network, Hacienda, and others; outreach efforts to Head Start programs, ethnic grocery stores, la pulga, and community fairs with promotional items that reflect Latino cultural values; 144 weekly programs delivered by bilingual staff working in pairs to share stories, parent literacy-focused skills-training on different topics each week (e.g., Brain development---¿Qué está pasando? / What is happening?); a graduation celebration at the end of each 16-week period; and evaluation/dissemination tasks.

Section 4. Provide specifics about the project budget.

The total one-year project budget is \$73,623. A LSTA grant of \$44,820 would be used to support the wages associated with the hiring of a part-time Bilingual Library Outreach Specialist to serve as the Project Coordinator (\$24,899) and benefits calculated at 64% (\$15,879). LSTA support of Travel (\$240) is directed at mileage reimbursement for project team meetings and library program observations; library materials (\$2,700) consisting of 180 Spanish/bilingual paperback juvenile titles as incentives to give to families attending the project's Spanish storytime sessions; and Indirect charges (\$1,102) at the approved rate of 2.52%. Local cash/in-kind contributions of \$28,803 include wages for 700 hours of five Personnel (\$16,902); their Benefits (\$10,851) calculated appropriately at 51-70%; Supplies of promotional fliers (\$250) and food at each sessions 'graduation' event (\$300); and a Contract (\$500) with a Latino graphic artist to design a culturally appropriate program logo.

Section 5. Proposed project budget summary (Use this format – do not alter it):

(Double click on the table to enter data. Before closing the table, be sure to scroll to the top of it)

Item	Local Cash	Local In-kind	LSTA	Total
Personnel		\$16,902	\$24,899	\$41,801
Benefits		\$10,851	\$15,879	\$26,730
Travel		\$0	\$240	\$240
Equipment		\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies	\$300	\$250	\$0	\$550
Contractual		\$500	\$0	\$500
Library Materials	\$0	\$0	\$2,700	\$2,700
Total Direct Charges	\$300	\$28,503	\$43,718	\$72,521
<i>Indirect Charges</i>	\$0	\$0	\$1,102	\$1,102
Total Budget	\$300	\$28,503	\$44,820	\$73,623

Proposed second year LSTA amount: N/A Proposed third year LSTA amount: N/A