Benefits of WHO Membership

• Communication. Plug in to a statewide network of cultural heritage organizations engage in digital projects. Discover opportunities for grants, interns, partnerships and other support.

• Marketing. Increase the visibility of your digital content through WHO’s coordinated marketing. Establish an online presence to maximize the findability of your organization.

• Learning. Work closely with WHO staff to plan and launch your digital project. Gain access to WHO’s professionally-developed standards and guidelines for digital content management.

• Collection administration. As a member, you’ll have access to our content management system as well as hosting services for your digital collection.

Key Partners

Major partners in the WHO membership collaborative include:

• Milwaukee Public Library. The central host for managing and storing digital content for small institutions.

• Wisconsin Library Services. WiLS serves as the coordinating organization and financial manager for WHO and maintains the Program Manager and Outreach Specialist positions.

• Milwaukee Public Museum. Provides technical expertise and knowledge about the museum community.

• Wisconsin Historical Society. Provides technical expertise and knowledge about the statewide network of local history organizations.

• Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning. DLTCL provides a source of funding for digital projects for libraries.

• Nicholas Family Foundation. A grant provides funding for the Outreach Specialist position and the development of training materials.

Forward Through Our Past

06/2009
Wisconsin Heritage Online
http://wisconsinheritage.org

Our Mission
The mission of Wisconsin Heritage Online (WHO) is to inspire education and discovery by making Wisconsin's cultural heritage available to everyone. A single online portal provides access to our state's history, culture, environment, government and economy through a variety of digital content. This digital material comes from universities, museums, libraries, archives, and historical societies across the state, all strong partners in preserving and sharing Wisconsin heritage.

Wisconsin Heritage Online also provides opportunities for the state's cultural institutions to join the digitization movement. WHO offers hands-on training and support for the many steps of the digitization process, from content selection to reformatting procedures to digital preservation. Our statewide network of partner institutions is a valuable resource bank of experience and expertise.

Discover Our State’s Heritage
The Wisconsin Heritage Online portal is intended for students, teachers, genealogists, history buffs, and anyone who values our state and its wealth of resources. If it’s a digital resource for Wisconsin’s history and culture, you’ll find it here, in one place. The diverse content includes photographs, artifacts, books, diaries, maps, audio files, and much more. The materials discovered through WHO might be used to write a research paper, refresh a syllabus, plan a visit to a museum or historic site, or discover your ancestors.

Contribute Content
Your organization and its collections will receive valuable exposure by contributing digital content to Wisconsin Heritage Online. You may reach audiences you never imagined. Your organization’s “brand” will be clearly identified. With WHO’s training and hosting services, developing a digital project does not have to mean reinventing the wheel. Our Outreach Specialist and Program Manager will help you select materials, choose equipment, and develop a work plan. Our data templates, standards, and other guidelines will help you streamline the digitization process.

How to Join
Wisconsin Heritage Online is a collaborative supported by membership fees. To learn more about becoming a member, contact Program Manager Debbie Cardinal or Outreach Specialist Emily Pfotenhauer at 608-265-2138, or email us at info@wisconsinheritage.org.

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