Dated: August 17, 2010.

P. Diane Rausch,
Advisory Committee Management Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

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THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES


AGENCY: Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Foundation for the Arts and the Humanities.

ACTION: Notice, request for comments, collection of information.

SUMMARY: The Institute of Museum and Library Service (“IMLS”) as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). This pre-clearance consultation program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. The purpose of this Notice is to solicit comments concerning the continuance of the Public Libraries Survey for Fiscal Years 2011–2013.

A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the individual listed below in the ADDRESSES section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the ADDRESSES section below on or before October 20, 2010.

IMLS is particularly interested in comments that help the agency to:
- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submissions of responses.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Kim A. Miller, Management Analyst, Office of Policy, Planning, Research, and Communication, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 1800 M Street, NW., 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20036. Ms. Miller can be reached by Telephone: 202–653–4762, Fax: 202–653–4600, or by e-mail at kmiller@imls.gov, or by teletype (TTY/TDD) for persons with hearing difficulty at 202/653–4614.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is an independent Federal grant-making agency and is the primary source of federal support for the Nation’s 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. IMLS provides a variety of grant programs to assist the Nation’s museums and libraries in improving their operations and enhancing their services to the public. IMLS is responsible for identifying national needs for, and trends of, museum and library services funded by IMLS; reporting on the impact and effectiveness of programs conducted with funds made available by IMLS; and identifying and disseminating information on, the best practices of such programs. (20 U.S.C. Chapter 72, 20 U.S.C. 9108).

II. Current Actions

Pursuant to Public Law 107–279, this Public Libraries Survey collects annual descriptive data on the universe of public libraries in the U.S. and the Outlying Areas. Information such as public service hours per year, circulation of library books, number of librarians, population of legal service area, expenditures for library collection, staff salary data, and access to technology, etc., would be collected. The Public Libraries Survey has been conducted by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the clearance number 3137–0074, which expires November 30, 2010.

OMB Number: 3137–0074.
Agency Number: 3137.