
Informational Webinar 2024

Innovator in Residence Program

Speaker: Jaime Mears, Senior Innovation Specialist, LC Labs

This session will be recorded.
Transcript and questions will be
published online for all applicants.
Additional questions can be emailed to
Loc-BAA@loc.gov by 02/09/24.



Agenda

- About the program
- Past Innovators
- What to expect
- How to apply
- Questions

About the program

The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world, with millions of books, recordings, photographs, newspapers, maps, and manuscripts in its collections. The Library of Congress (Library) established an Innovator in Residence Program (IIR) in 2017 to invite creative people with diverse perspectives and expertise to enable transformational experiences that connect the Library's digital collections with the American people. The residency is hosted by LC Labs as part of their efforts to demonstrate possibilities of how the Library relates to and enriches the work, life, and imagination of the American people.

Residents are required to do research with Library collections, create a unique digital work that may be hosted on the LC Labs website, host a public program, and serve as an ambassador for the Library during their tenure.

The Labs team seeks proposals for research and work that connects Library collections to new audiences through interpretation, discovery, or reuse.

Past Innovators 2018-2020

Jer Thorp, 2018: applied the idea of serendipity to the scale of LC collections through the podcast "Artist in the Archive" and a suite of playful search applications. His podcast is now part of the Library's permanent collection, and a version of his work "Library of Colors" is now a permanent installation at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign iSchool.



Brian Foo, 2020: created the application *Citizen DJ* for hip hop producers to discover and compose from free to use Library sound collections. The work was featured in O Magazine, NYT, and NPR's Morning Edition. Foo now works at the Library of Congress as a Senior Innovation Specialist.

Past Innovators 2020-2021

Ben Lee, 2020: used machine learning to identify images embedded in millions of historic newspapers and created an application to search them visually. His white paper was awarded “Best Resource Paper Runner-up” at CIKM and his dataset was awarded “Best Digital Humanities Dataset” for the 2020 DH Awards. Lee is starting the Lab for Computing Cultural Heritage at the University of Washington.



Courtney McClellan, 2021: designed and curated *Speculative Annotation*, a dynamic website presenting items from the Library’s collections for students and teachers to have conversations with history through annotation. The project was selected for the National Council of Teachers of English Summer Sandbox series and taught to teachers around the country.

Current Innovator in Residence



Jeffrey Yoo Warren, 2022-2024: using our collections to digitally reconstruct historic Chinatowns with 3D and virtual reality technologies. As part of *Seeing Lost Enclaves: Relational Reconstructions of Erased Historic Neighborhoods of Color*, Yoo Warren published a toolkit to share his methodology, empowering others to connect with their own ancestral enclaves through this creative process.

Key residency features

Innovator in Residence Program

- The largest Library in the world as your medium
- You propose the schedule and funding
 - 12 – 24 months, beginning 09/2024
 - Up to \$90k each year
 - Min 80 hours of on-site work in the first year
- You are a contractor, funded by taxpayer dollars

Deliverables & taxes

Innovator in Residence Program

- The selected individual will have a contractual relationship with the library. This is new for those used to grants!
- Structured around a “pay upon delivery” approach
- Option to sub-contract to others
- Tax implications – You must pay taxes on the payments you receive from the library
- IP implications for what you “deliver”

Intellectual property rights

Innovator in Residence Program

“The Library’s intention in this solicitation is that the works created are of maximum benefit to the American people. To that end, the products created because of this BAA (to include the creative work, public event recordings, blog posts and other project documentation) must be delivered to the Library to be made available on loc.gov properties at the Libraries discretion and published under a CC0 1.0 universal license. **The applicant must grant the Library and public an irrevocable, fully paid-up, royalty-free, non-exclusive worldwide license to reproduce, distribute, copy, display, create derivative works, and publicly post, link to, and share, the work(s) or parts thereof, for the purpose of promoting the residency, making it accessible to the American people and for any other purpose.**”

Broad Agency Announcement, page 8

The work

Innovator in Residence Program

- Research with our collections
- Produce a digital work(s) in the first year
- Outreach and extension in the second year
- First year work cannot be dependent on second year work, which is optional
- Serve as an ambassador for the library

Library support

Innovator in Residence Program

- Research support
- Administrative support
- Communications support with national reach
- Workspace when on-site
- Any overhead for travel, equipment, materials, stipends for collaborators, etc. must be included in your proposed estimate

How to apply

Innovator in Residence Program

Submit a concept paper by March 5th that is

- Focused on a particular user audience/ community
- Describes a digital work
- Enables a transformational experience with our collections through interpretation, discovery, reuse, or something else!
- Includes our collections

What happens next

Innovator in Residence Program

- All questions due by 02/09
- Questions posted on website by 02/16
- Submit concept papers by 03/05 by 2pm ET
- Invitations to follow, est 04/2024
- Award announcement in 08/2024

Let's look at the announcement itself



The Library of Congress

Innovator in Residence Program

Broad Agency Announcement

Submit by March 5th at 2pm EST

Applicant shall email project concept papers and, upon invitation, proposals to Loc-BAA@loc.gov. The email shall include this BAA number (030ADV24R0020) and “BAA Innovator in Residence” in the subject line.

Questions?

- Please submit your questions. We will answer as many as we can. If we do not have the answer, or we don't get to your question, **all questions asked here (and answers) will be posted on the website by February 16th, 2024.**
- Additional questions can be emailed to Loc-BAA@loc.gov by February 9th.

**We look forward to reading your
concept papers.**

Thank you!