

# **Mission and/or Vision Statements of Government Libraries Worldwide**

**By  
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of the  
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Within recent years the Government Libraries Section of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) was contacted by two libraries for viable examples of mission and/or vision statements for a government library, we responded by researching various posted and publicly accessible examples from the websites of some government libraries worldwide. This online publication of existing mission and/or vision statements is an outgrowth of that effort. This is a collaborative effort by the members of the Government Libraries Section of IFLA and will be continuously updated as additional statements are identified.

Why a mission statement? What is the purpose of a mission statement? How does a mission statement differ from a vision statement?

For-profit businesses and non-profit organizations have long had mission and vision statements that identify their direction, their purpose, the basic goals, characteristics, and philosophies that shape their businesses and organizations. The determination of these entities forms the backbone of the corporate mission and forms the culture that will guide the management and employees in their daily work and in their interaction with customers. As situations and focus change, it may become necessary to redefine the mission and/or vision statement. The revised or updated mission statement will most likely reflect the same elements and values as the original. The mission statement will still define the executive philosophy of the business, the self-concept of the business and even the desired public image.

For libraries the mission statement should convey the purpose and the means by which that purpose will be accomplished. The mission statement should also include the ultimate aims of the library within the confines of the parent organization, and thus, provide a unity of direction for managers, the shared expectations of employees, and convey to patrons and clients exactly what the library provides and represents.

In the United States, the Government Performance and Results Act (GRPA), Public Law 103-62, August 3, 1993 available at:

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=103\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:s20enr.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=103_cong_bills&docid=f:s20enr.txt.pdf)

required government officials of federal departments and agencies to write a mission statement. Several state legislatures have also required state agencies to write mission statements as part of their annual budget planning process or for their strategic plan. Colleges and universities, non-profit hospitals, publicly-funded arts programs, mental

health facilities, fire departments and more have also joined the ranks of those organizations with written and, often publicly displayed, mission statements.

The similarities as well as the differences between mission statements and vision statements are slight. The mission statement is more purpose directed and strategic. It inspires employees to meet specific expectations in order to arrive at the same goals. Mission statements are over arching and apply to the entire organization, business, or library. The vision statement is how an organization sees itself within its parent organization and in service to its customers. The vision statement aligns itself with the corporate mission statement and, at the same time, provides a direction by which employees will strive within their work units to meet the corporate goals and ultimately, the corporate mission.

In alphabetical order by country, we provide the mission and/or vision statements as recently retrieved from the library's public website or from an individual employed in the libraries listed. For some of the libraries listed here the mission and/or vision statement may not be the current one for these could change at any time as an institution makes that change. Clearly these libraries are not expected to contact the Government Libraries Section authors of this publication nor can those Section members check daily, weekly or even monthly to see if there is an update. Whether the mission and/or vision statements presented here are current is not the focus. The intent is simply to provide examples of such statements from government libraries worldwide and they do serve that purpose.

This is an on-going "live" publication and will be routinely updated as new statements are added to the publication. We know that the mission and/or vision statements of specific federal government agency libraries most likely appear on the agencies and libraries intranet to which we do not have access. If any institution would like to provide their individual government department library mission and/or vision statement for purposes of example for this publication, we would welcome that. Please go to the Government Libraries website at <http://www.ifla.org/en/government-libraries> on the IFLA homepage and click on "About this group" to obtain the email address of an officer and submit your listing.

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## **AUSTRALIA**

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### **State Library of Queensland (Brisbane)**

Mission Statement:

Creatively linking Queenslanders to information, knowledge and each other

Vision:  
Enriching the lives of Queenslanders

## **AUSTRIA**

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### **National Library of Austria**

#### Mission Statement:

As the central academic library of the Republic of Austria, the Austrian National Library (ANL) looks back over a history rich in tradition going as far as the 14th century. It is the living bridge between the rich heritage of the past and the future-oriented demands of a modern information society.

The Austrian National Library regards itself as a centre of information and research oriented toward serving the public, as an outstanding national memory institution and as a many-sided centre of education and culture.

As a service-oriented information centre, the Austrian National Library offers its users access and professional advice on its own holdings (almost eight million objects) and also on international data pools. In addition, it accepts commissions on scientific research, and operates documentation centers and service facilities, for example on literature specifically devoted to women's studies. Since the beginning of the digital age a steadily increasing part of the services are processed online via the home page of the ANL.

Because of the Austria law on media the Austrian National Library receives- as the only library in the country – copies (Legal deposit) of all publications appearing in Austria, including those from electronic offline media and dissertations approved by Austrian universities. Those obligatory items simultaneously serve as the basis for publication of the Austrian Bibliography. On top of that, the Library systematically selects and collects literature specifically concerning Austria but published in other countries, and literature on the humanities with special attention paid to works that are relevant to its own Departments.

In its nine Departments the Austrian National Library, as the heir to the Habsburg Court Library, conserves a significant part of the world's documentary heritage, and feels a duty to continue that conservation. Of exceptional international importance are the holdings of antique, medieval, and modern manuscripts from the most varied cultural areas and music autographs, incunabula and old printed works, historic maps, portraits and other pictorial documents, placards, exlibris and broadsheets, and of no less importance the literary estates of Austrian writers. Three museums belonging to the Library present to the public objects from the world's biggest papyrus collection, from a unique holdings of historic globes, and an impressive collection on the international language Esperanto. The Baroque Hall of State, constructed from 1723 till 1726 according to the plans of Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach, is regarded as one of the most impressive library buildings in the world and is reminiscent of the Imperial Library.

All of the Departments are places of lively scientific research in close contact with other scientific research institutes (sometimes on the basis of projects supported by the European Union). The precondition for that is the consistent processing of collection items that are constantly being added to. A special challenge is presented by the gradual digitisation of the holdings.

A goal of the Austrian National Library is to open itself up to as broad a circle of interested persons as possible. To fulfil that there are, among other things, regular exhibitions to make the holdings known and – partly in cooperation with other cultural and educational institutions – such events as readings, book presentations, symposia, and concerts. In the totality of these and other activities the Austrian National Library not only fulfils its legal commission to educate, but also expresses its own chosen role as a many-sided and multi-cultural centre of education and culture.

We, the staff of the Austrian National Library, take care to provide a prompt and accurate fulfilment of our work assignments "internally and externally". Professionally competent and pleasant treatment of our visitors from every part of the world is something we take for granted. We are happy to escort our visitors through a fascinating library world in which an atmosphere rich in history, modern library architecture, holdings that speak of the past and the present, and the latest technology create a vital symbiosis.

## **BELIZE**

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### **Belize national Library Service and Information System**

Mission Statement:

The Belize National Library Service and Information System is committed to the promotion of an informed, aware and literate society that fosters our national development and cultural heritage.

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## **BERMUDA**

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### **Bermuda National Library**

Mission Statement:

The Bermuda National Library guarantees patron satisfaction through organization and dissemination of information in a professional, courteous and enthusiastic manner.

We are committed to conserve and preserve the history and culture of Bermuda for present and future generations.

We will provide for the current and potential educational and recreational needs of our diverse community.

We pledge to do this in a nurturing environment promoting mutual respect and ensuring positive growth, enjoyment and success for all.

## **BHUTAN**

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### **National Library and Archives Bhutan**

#### Mission Statement:

The National Library of Bhutan has the goal that all Bhutanese, wherever they are, will have access to both Bhutan's documentary heritage and to the information resources of the world. To achieve this, the National Library builds up and maintains a national collection of Bhutanese materials with the aim to provide an effective gateway to national and international resources of information in the near future.

## **CANADA**

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### **Library and Archives Canada**

#### Mission Statement and Mandate

#### Mission:

The National Library is dedicated to building a world-class national resource enabling Canadians to know their country and themselves through their published heritage and to providing an effective gateway to national and international sources of information.

#### Mandate:

The National Library of Canada is a federal cultural institution located in Ottawa, established by Parliament in 1953, whose main role is to acquire, preserve and promote Canadiana which is part of the published heritage of Canada for all Canadians, both now and in the years to come. The Library serves as one of the nation's foremost centres for research in Canadian Studies and as a showcase for Canadian literature and music.

The National Library also plays a major role in fostering the development of library resources and services throughout the country, and facilitating resource sharing among Canadian libraries as outlined in the National Library Act (<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/showtdm/cs/N-12>).

The most comprehensive collection of Canadiana in the world--books, periodicals, sound recordings and other materials--can be found at the National Library. The National Library of Canada offers a wide variety of services to those in the library and information community so that they can better serve their users. The Library offers a reference service that is well equipped to handle a wide range of enquiries. A location service assists other libraries trying to locate items not in their own holdings. Moreover, with a few exceptions such as rare books, manuscripts, reference materials and most sound recordings, the

National Library will arrange to lend material to any library in the country or in the world.

## **CHINA**

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### **National Library of China**

Mission Statement:

The National Library of China serves as the repository of the nation's publications, a national bibliographic center, as well a national center for the preservation and conservation for ancient books. The major mission of the NLC includes: the collection and preservation of domestic and foreign publications; national coordination of document preservation and conservation work; provision of information and reference services to the central government, other governmental organizations, social organizations, and the general public; research in library sciences, and development of library services and programs, and guidance to other libraries in China with its expertise; the fulfillment of its role in international cultural exchanges through participation in the activities of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and other related organizations worldwide, as well as the promotion of exchanges and cooperation with other libraries in China and abroad.

## **COSTA RICA**

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### **Biblioteca Nacional de Salud y Seguridad Social - National Library of Health and Social Security**

Mission Statement:

Conserve and preserve the documentary heritage of the country, and create necessary support tools for knowledge and use of its funds to contribute to the development of the nation.

Vision Statement:

That the National Library to offer new technologies in information services in order to meet the demands of users, also allowing universal access to knowledge and preserving library collections in terms of safety, functionality and air conditioning.

## **DENMARK**

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### **Det Kongelige Bibliotek - The Royal Library and Copenhagen University Library**

**Mission Statement:**

The Royal Library is working for education, research and information in the present and future.

The Royal Library is Denmark's national library and university library of the University of Copenhagen.

As national library the institution manages the national heritage of both Danish and foreign origin in the form of published works (books, magazines, newspapers, småtryk), manuscripts, archives, maps, pictures, photographs and musicals in conventional or digital form. The institution offers the best possible access to the collections of contemporary conditions for research, studies and experiences, while the collections to be maintained, safeguarded and handed over to posterity. As a museum and cultural institution disseminates national library of knowledge and experiences based on tasks and collections.

As national library the institution performs research in the national library's tasks, functions, subjects and collections.

**Vision Statement:**

The Royal Library will be among the leading national and university libraries in Europe by

- to simplify, streamline and strengthen access to and use of any institution and its resources
- continue through national and international collaboration and partnerships to develop the hybrid of national and university library
- to develop the institution in view of rapid changes in knowledge production and dissemination of the convergence of different media types
- to develop the digital infrastructure for Danish research.

## **ETHIOPIA**

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### **National Library and Archives of Ethiopia**

**Mission Statement:**

Acquire, Organize and preserve information resources and create a national information system to avail the resources for research and study purpose to make the public beneficiary.

**Vision Statement:**

To be a world class national information center where information resources of the

country are systematically organized and the culture of utilizing information is developed in building democracy and development.

## **FINLAND**

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### **Kansalliskirjasto - National Library of Finland**

Mission Statement:

The National Library of Finland is the oldest and largest scholarly library in Finland as well as the largest independent institute at the University of Helsinki. It is responsible for the collection, description, preservation and accessibility of Finland's printed national heritage and the unique collections under its care.

The National Library also serves as a national service and development centre for the library sector and promotes national and international cooperation in the field.

## **FRANCE**

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### **Bibliothèque nationale de France – National Library of France**

Mission Statement:

The Bibliothèque nationale de France has four fundamental missions:

- The constitution and enhancement of collections
- Processing: the description of documents, their form, contents and when pertinent, their history
- Conservation: the restoration, reproduction and preservation of documents to ensure that they remain accessible to future generations
- Communications and promotion: developing awareness of the collections and making them available to the public.

## **GREECE**

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### **Ethnike Bibliotheke tes Hellados - National Library of Greece**

Vision:

The scope of the National Library of Greece is the concentration, organization and dissemination to the public of the written works of science and culture that is associated with Greece.

The NLG also:

- a) Develops and maintains the National Collection, which includes Material that is produced in Greece as well as Material that is produced abroad, but is connected with Greece in any language and form. For this aim NLG is acting to assemble, process,

maintain, safeguard and present the Material of each accessible Collection on an equal basis, preserving the freedom of knowledge, information and research.

b) Develops activities relative to with its aim to aid the cultural and intellectual life of Greece.

c) Operates as national bibliographic centre and is recipient of the law of deposit Material.

d) Draws up and publishes the retrospective and running National Bibliography as well as the lists of manuscripts (printed or many other form) that belong in its Collection.

e) Provides the national services of international numerations, particularly of books (ISBN), periodical publications (ISSN), music (ISMN).

f) Represents the country in relative international bodies.

## **IRELAND**

### **National Library of Ireland**

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Library is to collect, preserve, promote and make accessible the documentary and intellectual record of the life of Ireland and to contribute to the provisions of access to the larger universe of recorded knowledge.

## **JAPAN**

### **National Diet Library**

The National Diet Library's primary function is to assist Diet Members to perform their duties. At the same time, it has a mission to provide library services for the executive and judicial branches of the national government and for the general public. As the only depository library in Japan, the Library acquires all materials published in Japan, preserves them as national cultural heritage, compiles catalogs of these publications in a database or other format, and with these collections provides library services.

The National Diet Library strives to achieve the following seven goals under the slogan: "Through knowledge we prosper."

- Enhance our legislative support function by improving services for the National Diet
- Make an exhaustive collection of results of intellectual activities in Japan to preserve them as common resources of the nation

- Provide prompt and precise access or links to information needed by users
- Seek to provide equally good service to all users regardless of where they are
- Offer a variety of appealing services to society and increase NDL's visibility
- Promote closer cooperation with libraries of various kinds in Japan including public libraries
- Try to share and exchange information by maintaining close relationships with overseas libraries

## **ISRAEL**

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### **Jewish National and University Library**

Mission Statement:

To collect, preserve, cultivate and endow the treasures of knowledge, heritage and culture in general, with an emphasis on the Land of Israel, the State of Israel and the Jewish people in particular.

To serve as the National Library of the Jewish people, responsible for collecting the literary treasures of the Jewish people and preserve the continuity of Jewish and Israeli culture.

To serve as the National Library of the State of Israel.

To serve as the central research library for Israel and for the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in the Humanities fields, with an emphasis on Jewish Studies

## **JAMAICA**

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### **National Library of Jamaica**

Mission Statement:

The National Library of Jamaica is concerned primarily with the collection and preservation, organization and provision of access to all publications relating to Jamaica and Jamaicans. These include publications produced in Jamaica as well as those produced outside of the island.

## **KENYA**

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### **Kenya National Library Service**

Mission Statement:

Kenya National Library Service is committed to providing timely, relevant and accessible library and information services that consistently meet the needs of its customers.

We at Kenya National Library Service shall:

- Provide the necessary resources for effective implementation and continual improvement of the Quality Management System that conforms to the ISO 9001 standard.
- Ensure that we provide products and services that meet our customers' requirements and attempt to exceed their expectations
- Strive to be competitive, innovative and commit to always protect and uphold our customers' interests without compromising the set quality standard.

## **KUWAIT**

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### **National Library of Kuwait**

Mission Statement:

To collect, organize, control and document all forms of the national cultural heritage, in addition to all published compilations and documents about the Arab Gulf region, Arab, and Islamic culture particularly those documents which are related to Kuwait, its national cultural heritage and the relative affairs both in and outside of the country, and to keep various valuable international collections of interest to Kuwait, the Arab, and the Islamic area.

## **LEBANON**

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### **Baakleen National Library of Lebanon**

Mission Statement:

To meet the needs of scholars

To stimulate and develop the cultural movement

To contribute to social awareness

## **THE NETHERLANDS**

### **Koninklijke Bibliotheek – The Royal Library of Netherlands/national Library of the Netherlands**

#### Mission Statement:

The Koninklijke Bibliotheek is the national library of the Netherlands: we bring people and information together.

Our core values are: accessibility, sustainability, innovation and cooperation.

#### Vision:

- We offer everyone everywhere access to everything published in and about the Netherlands.
- We play a central role in the (scientific) information infrastructure of the Netherlands.
- We promote permanent access to digital information nationally and internationally.

## **NORWAY**

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### **Nasjonalbiblioteket - The National Library of Norway**

- Vision statement ( from 2008 annual report):  
The memory of the nation and a
- Multimedia centre of knowledge – in the forefront of future demand.

## **SAUDI ARABIA**

### **King Fahad National Library**

#### Mission Statement:

The library aims to the acquisition of intellectual production, organization and control, documented, and by definition, dissemination and include tasks: collection of everything published in the Kingdom, and published by Saudi nationals abroad, and published on the Kingdom and is one of the vital topics of the Kingdom of the production of a global think tank, the collection of Heritage books, manuscripts, drawings, rare prints. The documents selected, especially those related to the Arab-Islamic civilization, to record what has filed in accordance with regulations, issue national bibliographic indexes and other standard tools of documentation.

## **SCOTLAND**

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### **Solicitor's Legal Information Centre**

The Solicitor's Legal Information Centre (SLIC) co-ordinates legal information and research facilities for the Scottish Government Legal Directorate (SGLD) and the

Government Legal Service for Scotland (GLSS) and associated offices. It also acts as a forum for the development of knowledge management and legal information initiatives.

Mission Statement:

SLIC's aim is to provide the SGLD and GLSS with a legal information, library and research service which conforms to the highest professional standards in information management and provision.

In particular we wish to ensure that our users:

- have access to the right information in any format when it is required/needed
- experience an effective and proactive legal enquiry and research experience an effective and proactive legal enquiry and research

## **SEYCHELLES**

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### **Bibliothèque nationale des Seychelles – National Library of the Seychelles**

Mission Statement:

- providing public services for educational and recreational needs of all individuals, thus leading to a cultured nation  
- providing national services for standardization and bibliographic control of the country's literature, for posterity.

- service
- benefit from regular training in all aspects of legal information

In short we aspire to be a Centre of Excellence which fully supports our users in their work and in meeting business objectives.

## **SINGAPORE**

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### **National Library Board Singapore**

Mission Statement:

To provide a trusted, accessible and globally-connected library and information service so as to promote a knowledgeable and engaged society.

Vision Statement:

An inspiring beacon of lifelong learning, bringing knowledge alive, sparking imagination and creating possibility for a vibrant and creative Singapore.

## **SLOVENIA**

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### **Narodna in Univerzitetna Knjiznica - National and University Library**

#### Mission Statement:

National and University Library collects, documents, preserves and archives the written cultural heritage of the Slovenian nation and country. It provides ready access to its collection of human knowledge and culture of the past and current Slovenian generations, and thus makes it available to the citizens of Slovenia and other countries.

By fostering effective partnerships with Slovenian and international libraries, it makes the world's intellectual and cultural heritage accessible to everyone. It advances new knowledge by offering support and guidance to its users to enable them to locate, critically assess, manage and use information resources in different formats, forms and languages.

With its collections and services, it strives to support research, teaching and learning at the University of Ljubljana, and other higher education institutions. It serves as a centre of knowledge for the encouragement and promotion of lifelong learning, for raising cultural and educational level, and for the development of the information literacy skills of the Slovenian people.

Through research, development and education in the field of librarianship, it provides leadership in the development and delivery of library services across the country, and strives to make significant contributions to theory and practice of library and information science.

#### Vision Statement:

The complexity of the environment in which NUK carries out its operations and predictable or possible unpredictable changes occurring over the coming decades demand a clear vision of the future library operation.

In the first place, we strive to provide the widest possible access to Slovenian and world's intellectual, scientific and cultural heritage. NUK library collection and other information sources should become available to everyone on his/her virtual bookshelf through electronic access.

We will maintain and preserve our library collection, and we will take the initiative in digitisation of the existing library material and in collection and preservation of information sources in electronic formats. In so doing, we will continue to work in partnership with other libraries and relevant organisations at national and international level. We aim to provide users with ready access to the basis of global knowledge and to facilitate its use.

We aim for close collaboration with our users and the wider environment, and we will develop innovative services to meet their needs and expectations. We aim to become

more visible in our environment, and to make the Slovenia's citizens aware that NUK is important, useful and indispensable because it makes a major contribution to current and future cultural and intellectual development of our nation. We strive to bring NUK closer to the citizens - to every individual - to find and visit us, and use our services regardless of where and when he/she decides to do so.

The existing services will be reorganized towards digitisation, decentralisation and distribution. In order to create new possibilities for their development, we will continue to collaborate and develop partnerships with different national and international organizations. Building effective partnerships will bring benefits to our users and contribute to the development of cost-effective supply of our products and services.

Through the integration of its library collection into the national and international network of cultural and scientific sources, NUK becomes a part of ever more distributed network of knowledge. We will continue to operate as a central and primary resource for education, research and leisure of Slovenia's citizens.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

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### **National Library of South Africa**

Mission Statement:

The National Library of South Africa is a custodian and provider of the nation's key knowledge resources. We are mandated by the National Library of South Africa Act to collect and preserve published documents and make them accessible. We ensure that knowledge is not lost to posterity and that information is available for research.

## **SPAIN**

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### **Biblioteca Nacional de España – National Library of Spain**

Mission Statement:

The BNE aspires to be an essential centre of reference for research into Spanish culture. According to its Bylaw approved by R.D. 1638/2009 of 30 October, its main functions are as follows:

- To compile, catalogue and conserve bibliographic assets produced in any language of the Spanish state, or in other languages, for the purposes of research, culture and information.
- To foster research through the study, loan and reproduction of its bibliographic assets.
- To disseminate information on Spanish bibliographic production based on entries to the copyright library.
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## **Biblioteca de Catalunya - National Library of Catalonia**

### Mission Statement:

The mission of the Biblioteca de Catalunya is to gather, conserve and disseminate the bibliographical output of Catalonia and that production related with the Catalan linguistic field.

As an institution, it is open to the public for research and investigation, and it has some very clear objectives for the citizens, namely:

- To promote the intellectual growth of people
- To enrich the discovery, enjoyment and research of our collective heritage
- To be a reference point of social identity, facilitating knowledge about Catalonia and its language
- To offer tools that favour learning and training
- To be a place where cultural exchange is integrated, promoting communication and equality in the conditions of access to the culture.

The Biblioteca de Catalunya aims to fulfill its objectives of being open, reliable and useful to today's society, and that of tomorrow.

## **Agència Catalana de Protecció de Dades – Catalan Data Protection Agency (APDCAT)**

### **Documentation Centre**

### Mission Statement:

Its mission consists of satisfying the information needs of the APDCAT and its personnel, as well as disseminating information about the right to the personal data protection.

## **SWEDEN**

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## **Kunliga Biblioteket - The National Library of Sweden**

### Mission Statement:

The National Library is responsible for collecting and preserving all Swedish publications, and for making the material available to the public. This means that we offer people the opportunity to read and study everything printed or published in Sweden, including books, magazines, reports, newspapers, manuscripts, maps, pictures, posters, printed music, and ephemera such as mail order catalogs and theater programs.

### Vision:

The National Library's vision is to continue the collection of Swedish publications in an era when a growing proportion of them is being published in various digital media.

## **SWITZERLAND**

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### **Schweizerische Landesbibliothek / Bibliothèque Nationale Suisse - Swiss National Library**

#### Mission Statement:

The fundamental mission of the Swiss National Library (NL) is to collect, inventory and make available Swiss cultural heritage in written form. Thus this institution is a valuable source of written documents, which allow a better understanding of Switzerland and its inhabitants.

## **TAIWAN (REPUBLIC OF CHINA)**

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### **National Central Library**

#### Mission Statement:

The National Central Library (NCL) is the sole national library of Taiwan. Its mission is to acquire, catalog, and preserve national publications for government, research and general public use. The library also assists research, sponsors educational activities, promotes librarianship, carries out international exchange activities, and strengthens cooperation between domestic and foreign libraries. The library also supports Sinological research through the affiliated Center for Chinese Studies (CCS). As a research library, the NCL encourages staff members to conduct research in specialized fields. The NCL also cooperates with publishers and other libraries to develop its role as a leading center for knowledge and information resources and services in Taiwan.

## **TURKEY**

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### **Millî Kütüphane - National Library of Turkey**

#### Mission Statement:

The mission of the National Library of Turkey is: to support national cultural researches; in line with this purpose, to gather all the works and documents in the country and to follow the publications abroad that belong to Turkish culture; to follow and provide the publications around the world that are concerned with our country; to serve the researchers and readers in order to make any kind of art and scientific work easier; as the center of the national information, to provide information transfer at home and abroad; and related to all these, to help the national culture politics to be led independent of the politics.

The National Library of Turkey is the mirror of the Turkish culture, the repertory of the national culture and the memory of the Turkish people.

Vision Statement:

The Vision of the National Library of Turkey is to support the cultural and economic growth of the society and the creation of an information society by being the center of a national information network.

## **UGANDA**

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### **National Library of Uganda**

Mission Statement:

To collect, preserve and disseminate Uganda's documented intellectual and cultural heritage, provide professional leadership in library and information delivery and promote a reading culture.

## **UNITED STATES**

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### **The Library of Congress (USA)**

Mission Statement:

The Library's mission is to make its resources available and useful to the Congress and the American people and to sustain and preserve a universal collection of knowledge and creativity for future generations.

Vision:

We will foster a free and informed society by building, preserving and providing resources for human creativity, wisdom and achievement. We continually strive to place these resources at the fingertips of the American people, their elected representatives and the world for their mutual prosperity, enlightenment and inspiration.

### **Congressional Research Service/Library of Congress**

Mission Statement:

CRS serves the Congress throughout the legislative process by providing comprehensive and reliable legislative research and analysis that are timely, objective, authoritative, and confidential, thereby contributing to an informed national legislature.

Vision:

Congress turns to CRS first when it is in need of legislative research or analysis to support its deliberations and legislative decisions.

## **National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Archives Library Information Center (ALIC)**

### Mission Statement:

ALIC, the Archives Library Information Center, exists to provide staff and researchers ready access to the background and context information necessary to describe, organize, and access the essential evidence in NARA records.

## **National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

### Mission Statement:

The mission of the NOAA Library and Information Services (LISD) is to ensure the delivery of scientific, technical, and legislative information to users. The library's users include NOAA staff, general public, academia, industry, and other government agencies. The principal resource for accomplishing this mission is a research collection with a comprehensive coverage of:

- hydrographic surveying (from 1820)
- oceanography, meteorology, and hydrology (from 1870)
- living marine resources (from 1970 with selected coverage from 1870), and
- meteorological satellite applications (from 1960)

## **Smithsonian Institution Libraries**

### Mission Statement:

As the largest and most diverse museum library in the world, Smithsonian Institution Libraries (SIL) leads the Smithsonian in taking advantage of the opportunities of the digital society. SIL provides authoritative information and creates innovative services and programs for Smithsonian Institution researchers, scholars and curators, as well as the general public, to further their quest for knowledge. Through paper preservation and digital technologies, SIL ensures broad and enduring access to the Libraries' collections or all users. – *Smithsonian Directive 500, June 20, 2007*

### Vision Statement:

SIL creates a compelling environment for connecting, collaborating and exploring across disciplines and information boundaries.

SIL enhances and eases the discovery of information in our collections for SI scholars, researchers, scientists, and the larger world of learners.

SIL understands and meets user needs, serving users where they live and work.

SIL builds expertise on information discovery, navigation and management.

SIL ensures its success through increased financial strength, effective administrative support, and organizational excellence.

## **State Libraries (USA)**

### **Alabama**

#### **Mission Statement:**

The Mission of the Alabama Public Library Service (APLS) is to promote and support equitable access to library and information resources and services to enable all Alabamians to satisfy their educational, working, cultural, and leisure-time interests. These resources and services will be provided through APLS's statewide programs and through direct grants and assistance to libraries and library systems to meet user's needs.

### **Alaska**

#### **Mission Statement:**

Promotes and coordinates library services to the community of Alaskan libraries, serves as the primary research library for state government, and collects, preserves, and makes accessible Alaska-related materials.

### **Arizona**

#### **Mission Statement:**

The agency serves the Arizona Legislature and Arizonans, providing public access to public information, fostering historical/cultural collaborative research, information projects and ensuring that Arizona's history is documented and preserved.

#### **Vision Statement:**

To ensure that the Arizona legislature and Arizonans have access to the information they need today and the history of Arizona for tomorrow, through partnerships with all types of cultural and public information institutions.

### **Arkansas**

#### **Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Arkansas State Library is to serve as the information resource center for state agencies, legislators and legislative staffs, to provide guidance and support for the development of local public libraries and library services, and to provide the resources, services, and leadership necessary to meet the educational, informational and cultural needs of the citizens of Arkansas. The agency administers state and federal funds appropriated for libraries and library development, including State Aid To Public Libraries funds and federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds (formerly Library Services and Construction Act.)

## **California**

### **Mission Statement:**

The California State Library serves the people of California in several ways:

- It is the central reference and research library for state government and the Legislature.
- It provides non-partisan research to the Legislature and the Governor.
- It collects, preserves, generates and disseminates information ranging from California's priceless historical items to today's online texts.
- It advises, consults with, and provides technical assistance to California's public libraries, and it directs state and federal funds to support local public libraries and statewide library programs, and services.

## **Colorado**

### **Mission Statement:**

The Colorado State Library provides leadership and expertise to develop libraries and deliver information services throughout Colorado, improving the ability of libraries to serve their users.

## **Connecticut**

### **Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Connecticut State Library is to provide high quality library and information services to state government and the citizens of Connecticut; to work cooperatively with related agencies and constituent organizations in providing those services; to preserve and make accessible the records of Connecticut's history and heritage; to promote the development and growth of high quality information services on an equitable basis statewide; to provide leadership and cooperative opportunities for the library, educational, and historical communities in order to enhance the value of their individual and collective service missions; and to develop and promote appropriate legislation and public policy in support of these efforts.

## **Delaware**

### **Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Delaware Division of Libraries is to provide leadership and support for the timely development of Delaware's libraries, to ensure convenient access to, and encourage use of current information resources and reading material by all Delawareans. The members of the Delaware library community are unified in the values of service, access, and excellence, and are committed to the vision of progressive libraries and the transformational impact they have on the people who use them. Now more than ever -

- Libraries are essential in a democracy to ensure that citizens have equal access to information they need to form sound opinions and make informed decisions about their government
- Libraries provide materials and programs to improve literacy, educational achievement, and lifelong learning
- Libraries provide materials and programs to support individuals and communities in achieving their full potential

## **Florida**

State Library and Archives of Florida

Mission Statement:

The State Library and Archives of Florida is the information provider for the Florida Legislature and state agencies. It coordinates and funds public libraries; implements statewide reading, information, and literacy initiatives; provides records management services; and collects, preserves, and makes available the published and unpublished documentary history of the state.

## **Georgia**

Mission Statement:

*The Georgia Public Library Service: Empowering libraries to improve the lives of Georgians*

Georgia Public Library Service achieves its mission by:

Providing and encouraging visionary leadership;

Ensuring equal access to information and technology;

Promoting the value and joy of life long reading and learning; and

Facilitating collaboration and innovation in the broader library community.

## **Hawaii**

Mission Statement:

“... to provide Hawaii’s residents, in all walks of life, and at each stage of their lives, with access to education, information, programs and services, and to teach and nurture the love of reading and the habit of life-long learning.”

## **Idaho**

Mission Statement:

The Idaho Commission for Libraries assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele.

## **Illinois**

### Mission Statement:

The Illinois State Library promotes excellence in information access and innovative services for government, libraries and people.

This mission statement is directly related to the State Library Act of 1939, amended, that indicates the purpose(s) of the State Library is to:

- Maintain a library for State officials and employees
- Operate a Governmental Research Service pertaining to materials for public and governmental affairs
- Administer library services for state agencies
- Administer the Illinois Library Systems Act
- Administer the law relating to Interstate Library Compacts
- Promote and develop cooperative library networks for all types of library entities on a regional and statewide basis
- Administer grants of federal library funds
- Be a supplementary source of library materials, unavailable in local libraries
- Assist local libraries in their plans of cooperation and community library service
- Develop library service for rural communities and schools without such service
- Address questions and problems pertaining to the administration and functions of public and school libraries
- Contract with any library or library agency to carry out the purpose of the State Library. A Library Trust Fund has been established for such purposes.
- Publish public library and library system statistical information
- Support continuing education programs for all levels of library personnel
- Coordinate literacy programs for the Secretary of State

## **Indiana**

### Mission Statement:

The Indiana State Library is responsible for:

1. Developing and providing library services to state government, its branches, its departments and its officials and employees;
2. Providing for the individual citizens of the state those specialized library services not generally appropriate, economical or available in other libraries of the state;
3. Encouraging and supporting the development of the library profession; and

4. Strengthening services of all types of publicly and privately supported special, school, academic, and public libraries.

Through its history, the Indiana State Library has developed strong collections in the fields of Indiana history and culture, Indiana state government and United States government publications, Indiana newspapers, genealogy and family history resources on Indiana and the eastern United States, Braille, large print, and books on tape for the visually impaired, library science, and American history, politics, and economics. Its collections in these areas support research by state agency employees, scholars, genealogists, librarians, students, Indiana residents who are blind or physically challenged, and the general public. The Library Development Office works to improve and support the libraries of Indiana through assistance, training, and supervising the distribution of state and federal funds.

*To fulfill our mission, we will:*

- Provide excellent customer service.
- Assist patrons in meeting their own information needs.
- Be aware of and utilize a wide variety of resources and technologies to increase the quality and efficiency of our work.
- Continue to be the most educated and proficient researchers on the topics of Indiana history and genealogy.
- Continue to have the most complete collections of federal and state documents in Indiana.
- Stay ahead of the curve in utilizing new information resources by continuing to purchase new resources to better meet our patron's needs.
- Track our services through quality control checks and conversations with users.
- Develop new services and consistently re-evaluate existing services.
- Demonstrate leadership within the library community by establishing a presence within professional associations and literature.
- Commit to change when necessary and update our skills to accommodate those changes.
- Utilize strategic alliances with other organizations to help us accomplish our goals.
- Continue to maintain and circulate Indiana's most comprehensive collection of special materials for its citizens who have a visual or physical disability that prevents them from reading standard print.
- Remain conscientious of these initiatives to help meet the mission of the Indiana State Library.

## **Iowa**

Mission Statement:

The State Library advocates for Iowa libraries and promotes excellence and innovation in library services in order to provide statewide access to information for all Iowans.

## **Kansas**

### **Mission Statement:**

In service to Kansas libraries, residents, and government, the State Library of Kansas:

Collects and shares resources and government information;  
Delivers information and solutions;  
Educates librarians and trustees;  
Promotes literacy and reading for everyone; and  
Advocates for open and equitable access, intellectual freedom and excellence in library services and support.

### **Vision Statement:**

Delivering 21st Century library services and resources to all Kansans.

## **Kentucky**

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

### **Mission Statement:**

The mission of KDLA is to support and promote access to library services and to ensure that documentation of government activities is created, preserved and made available for public use.

The Department accomplishes its programs through the activities of the Commissioner's Office and four Divisions.

## **Louisiana**

### **Mission Statement:**

Its mission is to build an informed, literate and democratic society by ensuring access to informational, cultural, and recreational resources, especially those resources unique to Louisiana.

## **Maine**

### **Mission Statement:**

The purpose of the Maine State Library is to lead in efforts that will provide, broaden, and improve access to information and library services regardless of location of residency. To accomplish this effort the Maine State Library is divided into two divisions: Reader and Information Services and Library Development.

## **Maryland**

### **Maryland State Library**

Mission Statement:

The Division of Library Development and Services of the Maryland State Department of Education guides and develops statewide Maryland public library network services through leadership and consultation in technology, training, marketing, funding, resource sharing, research and planning, so that Maryland libraries can fulfill their missions now and in the future to the people of Maryland.

Vision Statement:

Maryland libraries will be the people's "first thought for information" in the 21st century.

### **Maryland State Law Library**

Mission Statement:

The Maryland State Law Library, a court-related agency of the Maryland Judiciary, serves the needs of Maryland's government and citizens by: building and preserving collections of legal information resources, promoting access to these collections, and creating educational opportunities that enhance the understanding of legal information.

## **Massachusetts**

Mission Statement:

The State Library of Massachusetts supports the research and information needs of government, libraries, and people through innovative services and access to a comprehensive repository of state documents and other historical items.

## **Michigan**

Mission Statement:

The Library of Michigan promotes, advocates and consistently works to achieve the highest level of library service to the State of Michigan, its government, its libraries and its residents.

## **Minnesota**

Mission Statement:

The Minnesota State Library Agency is a division of the Minnesota Department of Education. The state library provides leadership and support to the Minnesota library community in planning, developing, and implementing high-quality library and information services statewide. State Library Services administers federal and state grants-in-aid programs for libraries and schools.

## **Mississippi**

### **Mission Statement:**

The Mississippi Library Commission is committed - through leadership, advocacy, and service - to strengthening and enhancing libraries and library services for all Mississippians.

### **Goals**

All Mississippians understand, support, and use libraries.

All Mississippians have access to well-managed library services through qualified staff and modern facilities.

All Mississippians have access to current technology resources through libraries.

All Mississippians have access to quality library resources.

The Mississippi Library Commission sets and achieves the highest quality standards for effective and efficient internal management and fiscal integrity.

### **Vision:**

The Vision of the Mississippi Library Commission is that all Mississippians have access to quality library services in order to:

Achieve their greatest potential

Participate in a global society, and

Enrich their daily lives.

## **Missouri**

### **Mission Statement:**

The major functions of the State Library are:

- to provide direct library and information service in support of the executive and legislative branches of Missouri state government,
- to provide library service to blind and physically handicapped residents of Missouri, and
- to promote the development and improvement of library services throughout the state.

## **Montana**

### **Mission Statement:**

MSL meets the information needs of Montana government agency management and staff, ensures all Montana citizens have access to information created by their government, supports the role of all Montana libraries in delivering quality library content and services to their patrons, works to strengthen local community public libraries, ensures that Montanans who are visually or physically handicapped are provided access to library resources, and measures its successes by its patrons' and partners' successes.

## **Nebraska**

### **Mission Statement:**

Nebraska Library Commission

The mission of the Nebraska Library Commission is statewide promotion, development, and coordination of library and information services. As the state library agency, the Commission is an advocate for the library and information service needs of all Nebraskans.

## **Nevada**

### **Mission Statement:**

Nevada State Library and Archives

The Nevada State Library and Archives serves as the foundation of Nevada democracy by providing full access to a range of information services that enhance the quality of life for all and center on creating an educated and enlightened citizenry while supporting the best interests of the state of Nevada. In support of this mission, the agency serves government, libraries, business, and citizens by providing a range of information services.

## **New Hampshire**

### **Mission Statement:**

Promote excellence in libraries and library services to all New Hampshireites;

Assist libraries and the people of New Hampshire with rapid access to library and informational resources through the development and coordination of a statewide library/information system;

Meet the informational needs of New Hampshire state, county, and municipal governments and its libraries; and

Serve as a resource center on New Hampshire

## **New Jersey**

### **Mission Statement:**

The mission of the New Jersey State Library is to lead in the provision, promotion and support of excellent library and information services to state government and to all the people of New Jersey. The mission is accomplished through:

1. a law library and legislative reference service;
2. a general reference and interlibrary loan service;
3. a documents depository service;
4. an advisory service to all types of libraries;

5. coordination of a statewide system of libraries;
6. administration of state and federal grant and aid programs; and
7. a program of direct public services to blind and handicapped residents.

## **New Mexico**

### Mission Statement:

The New Mexico State Library's (NMSL) mission is to provide leadership that empowers New Mexico libraries to support the educational, economic, and health goals of their communities. The State Library also delivers direct library and information services to support research, life-long learning, and cultural enrichment for all New Mexicans.

## **New York**

### Mission Statement:

The mission of the New York State Library Research Library is to serve as a reference and research library for the use of the government and people of the state.

## **Goals**

1. Target information services to meet primary customer needs
2. Focus, build and preserve collections
3. Increase the visibility of the Research Library
4. Improve and expand staff productivity
5. Evaluate and improve the facilities

## **North Carolina**

### Mission Statement:

The State Library of North Carolina is the catalyst for exceptional library services in North Carolina. We are the principal library of state government; we build the capacity of all libraries; and we develop and support access to specialized collections for the people of North Carolina.

### Vision:

The State Library of North Carolina envisions a future in which all North Carolinians have access to exceptional library services and to the information resources they need to achieve their personal, educational and professional goals.

## **North Dakota**

### Mission Statement:

Provide access to information for North Dakota

**Vision:**  
Leading the way in information opportunities

## **Ohio**

**Mission Statement:**

- Lead and partner in the development of library services throughout Ohio
- Promote and enable resource sharing among libraries and library networks
- Provide access to information for Ohio's state government
- Provide specialized services to Ohio's residents

**Vision Statement:**

The State Library of Ohio will lead in ensuring the delivery of all information and library services to all Ohio residents, anywhere, anytime.

## **Oklahoma**

**Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries is to serve the people of Oklahoma by providing excellent information services and by preserving unique government information resources.

## **Oregon**

**Mission Statement:**

Provide quality information services to Oregon state government.  
Provide reading materials to blind and print-disabled Oregonians.  
Provide leadership, grants, and other assistance to improve local library service for all Oregonians.

## **Pennsylvania**

**Mission Statement:**

The State Library of Pennsylvania provides information for State Government and citizens while collecting and preserving our written heritage through materials published for, by, and about Pennsylvania.

**Vision:**

The State Library of Pennsylvania will positively affect the workings of Pennsylvania state and local governments and improve the quality of life for all Pennsylvanians through its staff, services, and collections.

## **Rhode Island**

### Mission Statement:

The state library agency of Rhode Island supports and strengthens library services by planning, by coordinating, by providing consultation services, training, and funding, and by promoting collaboration among libraries to ensure that all residents will benefit from free, open, convenient, and timely access to excellent library and information resources and services.

The mission of the Office of Library and Information Services reflects the purpose of the agency, how it provides services and to whom the services are directed.

## **South Carolina**

### Mission Statement:

We optimize South Carolina's investment in library and information services. We do this by:

- Supporting good governance for South Carolinians through the provision of research and information services to elected officials and state government personnel.
- Providing equal access to information for all South Carolinians.
- Ensuring collaboration and cooperation among information providers and cultural institutions.
- Defining standards for libraries and librarianship that promote professionalism and excellence among library personnel statewide.
- Providing and promoting superior library and information services through research, development and implementation of leading edge practices.
- Advocating for innovation and learning in order to create a better informed and more highly skilled South Carolina citizenry.

### Vision:

The South Carolina State Library is a national model for innovation, collaboration, leadership and effectiveness. It is the keystone in South Carolina's intellectual landscape.

## **South Dakota**

### Mission Statement:

The South Dakota State Library provides leadership for innovation and excellence in libraries and services to state government.

## **Tennessee**

### Mission Statement:

The Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA) provides resources and electronic linkages to libraries, making information available to all residents of Tennessee to satisfy their educational, cultural, and leisure needs and interests. TSLA places emphasis on special needs populations, regardless of their location, social, or financial status.

## **Texas**

### Mission Statement:

The mission of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission is to preserve the record of government for public scrutiny, to secure and make accessible historically significant records and other valuable resources, to meet the reading needs of Texans with disabilities, to build and sustain statewide partnerships to improve library programs and services, and to enhance the capacity for achievement of individuals and institutions with whom we work.

### Vision Statement:

The people of Texas have access to and effectively use information, archival resources, and library materials to improve their lives, the lives of their families and their communities.

## **Utah**

### Mission Statement:

Develop, Advance, and Promote Library Services and Access to Information

## **Vermont**

### Mission Statement:

Guided by 22 V.S.A. §601-635, the mission of the Department of Libraries (DOL) is to collect, organize, and disseminate information and library materials in a variety of formats to the three branches of State government, libraries statewide, the general public, and Vermonters with special needs; to support and strengthen local libraries; to foster new means for statewide cooperation and resource sharing among all types of libraries; and to increase public awareness of libraries and their services and to act as an advocate on their behalf.

- We provide access to information in a variety of formats to the three branches of Vermont State Government in order to contribute to effective and efficient government;
- We provide consultation, training and other services to librarians, public library board members and elected officials and offer resources, services and grants to qualifying libraries in order to strengthen their capacity to deliver quality library service;
- We enable resource sharing between all types of libraries;
- We provide all Vermonters with qualifying visual and physical disabilities access to quality library services and the special format materials they need in order to enjoy recreational reading, to engage in lifelong learning and to improve their economic self-sufficiency.

Inherent in this mission is the Department's advocacy of the right of Vermont citizens to read and have full access to information by ensuring that libraries and their resources are readily accessible to all Vermonters regardless of their geographic location, their level of income, access to technology or disability, and, as the official depository for Vermont state publications, the preservation of the record of Vermont state government for public scrutiny.

## **Virginia**

Mission Statement:

The Library of Virginia preserves the legacy of Virginia's culture and history and provides access to the most comprehensive information resources for and about Virginia.

Vision:

The Library of Virginia will be the Commonwealth's leader in statewide library and archival services and the world's foremost research and educational institution dedicated to the history and culture of Virginia.

## **Washington**

Mission Statement:

- Collect, preserve, and make accessible to Washingtonians materials on the government, history, culture, and natural resources of the state.
- Provide leadership and coordination of services to all libraries in the state of Washington.
- Support the information needs of residents in state institutions and of the visually impaired.
- Serve as the primary source in the region for published information from the federal government.

Vision:

To ensure that Washingtonians have access to the information they need today and to the history of Washington for tomorrow.

### **West Virginia**

Mission Statement:

The mission of West Virginia Library Commission is to promote, assist, and support the development of effective and efficient library services that ensure all citizens in the state access to the highest quality library services and information resources to meet their needs.

### **Wisconsin**

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction/Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning

Mission Statement:

We are here to serve the life-long learning and information needs of all Wisconsin citizens from preschoolers to senior citizens. The Public Library Development Team provides leadership, advocacy, expert assistance, planning, coordination, and funding for the improvement of library systems and public libraries so that Wisconsin residents will have convenient and equitable access to knowledge and information resources.

### **Wyoming**

Mission Statement:

To anticipate and respond to the needs of the people of Wyoming for information and library services in partnership with libraries, government agencies and other information providers.