

CONSERVATION CENTER

for Art & Historic Artifacts

Fundraising for
Humanities Collections:
Meet Daphne Mayer





Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts



In a typical year:

- Preservation Services specialists complete over 50 survey projects.
- Approximately 60 CCAHA-sponsored workshops, conferences, webinars, and training sessions are presented.
- The Digital Imaging Services staff digitizes thousands of pages of fragile archival documents, books, and photographs.
- Conservators assess and treat more than 6,000 individual artifacts, from over 400 clients.
- Housing & Framing Services house approx. 75% of the artifacts treated (folder, sleeve, box, mat and frame, or sealed package).



Meet Daphne Mayer!

- New Director of Business Development
- Joined CCAHA last October
- Previously was a CCAHA client as the Museum & Education Director for the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor
- Key aspect of my position is to advise institutions with collections about grant opportunities
- For projects involving CCAHA's services, we can help with grant-writing too!

What are we going to discuss today?

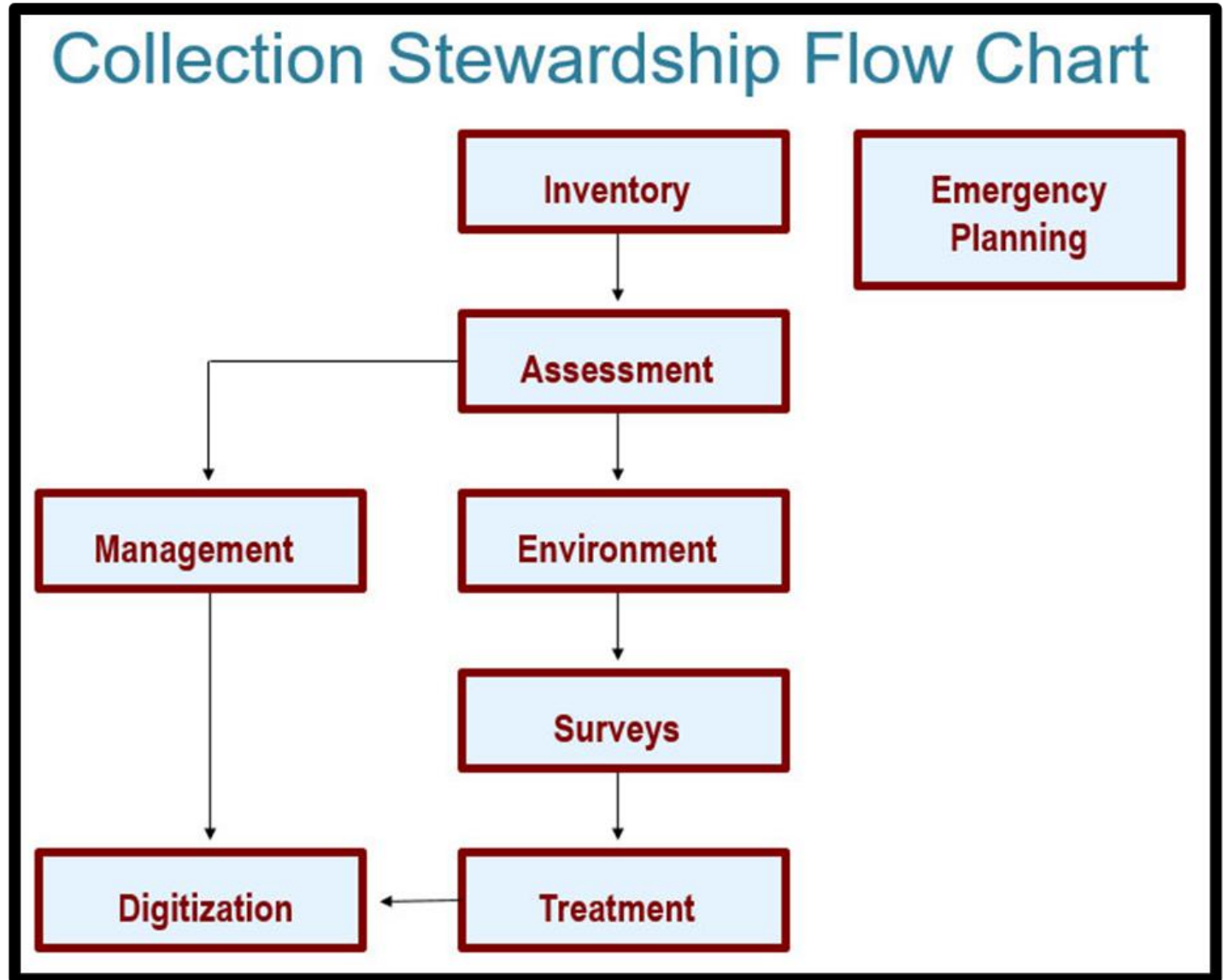
- Stages of Collection Stewardship
- What kinds of funding opportunities are out there
- General tips for grant applications
- Deep dive on the National Endowment for the Humanities and some of its grant programs
- Time for questions



What is your
experience
with grants?



Stages of
Collections
Stewardship
(Ideally!)



Preservation Needs Assessment
Long-Term Preservation Plan

Inventory

Emergency
Planning

Assessment

Risk
Assessment &
Emergency
Plan

Collections Policies
Cataloging/Processing

Management

Environment

Environmental Monitoring
Sustainability Plan
Capital Upgrades to Environment

Digital Preservation Plans
Digital Imaging
Online Access

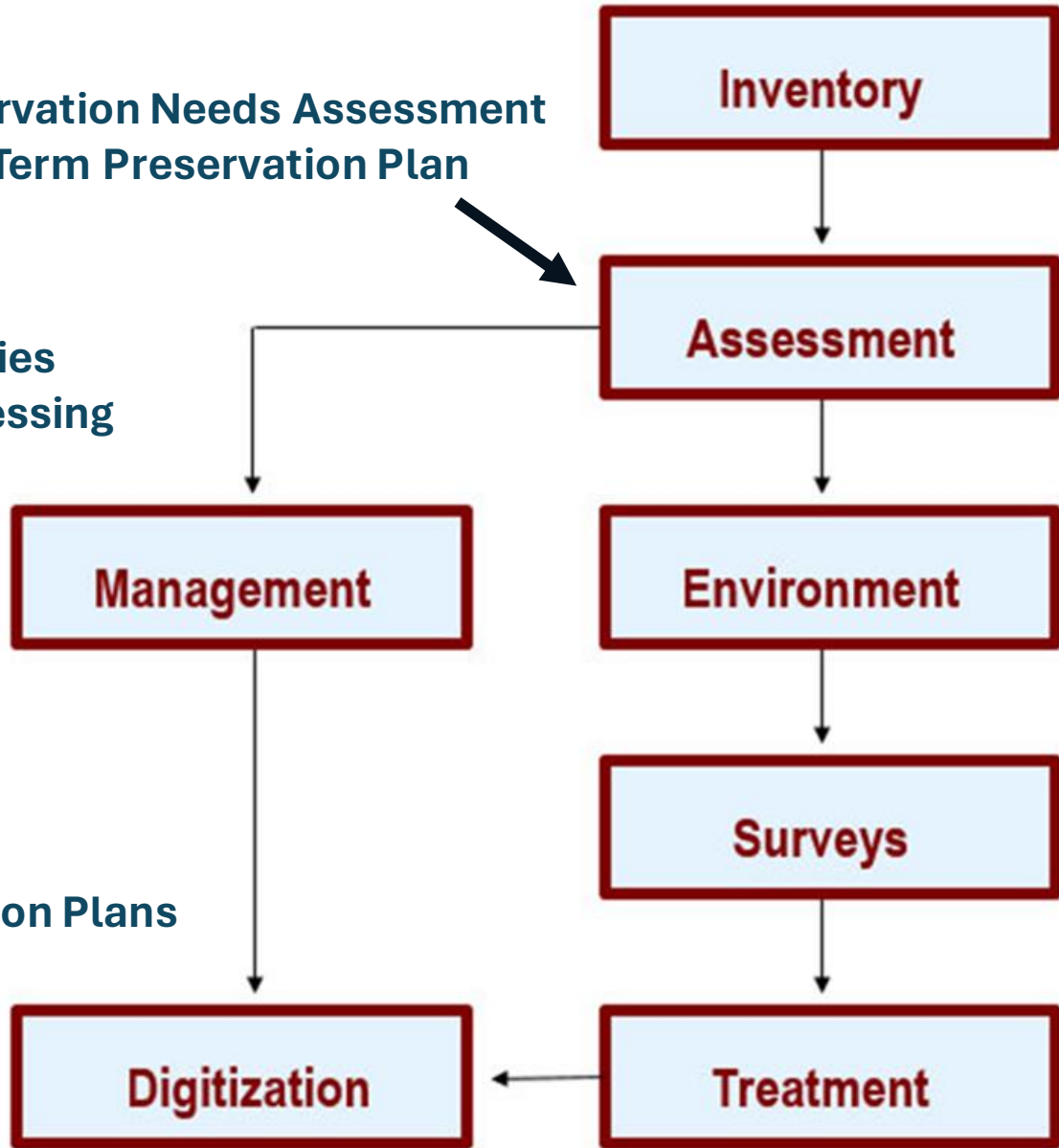
Digitization

Surveys

Collection Surveys

Treatment

Conservation Treatment
Housing





Who are the Major Funders?

- The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
- Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
- The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)
- National Historical Publications & Records Commission (NHPRC)
- Save America's Treasures (NPS)
- Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR)
- State, County, and Municipal sources
- Private Foundations



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

- The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is an independent federal agency created in 1965. It is one of the largest funders of humanities programs in the United States.
- NEH grants typically go to cultural institutions, such as museums, archives, libraries, colleges, universities, public television, and radio stations, and to individual scholars.



What's included in the “Humanities”

- Language & Linguistics
- History
- Literature
- Archaeology
- Comparative religion
- Cultural heritage and traditions
- History/criticism of the arts

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions

- Up to \$10,000
- No match required!!!
- One cycle per year
- Next anticipated deadline – Jan. 9, 2025
- Notification in Aug. 2025
- Up to 18 months to complete project
- Types of projects funded: preservation assessments, surveys, development of plans and policies, trainings/workshops, housing supplies, environmental monitoring equipment, etc.

<https://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/preservation-assistance-grants-smaller-institutions>

Humanities Collections and Reference Resources

- Two Levels – Planning (Up to \$50K) and Implementation (Up to \$350K)
- No match required!!!
- One cycle per year
- Next deadline – July 16, 2024
- Notification in April 2025
- Performance Period: 2 years for Planning, 3 years for Implementation
- Funds projects that make collections more accessible (cataloging, finding aids, digitization, online databases, etc.)

<https://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/humanities-collections-and-reference-resources>

First Steps in the Federal System

Register your organization on SAM.Gov

- Registration is FREE
- You'll be prompted to create a login with Login.Gov
- You'll be assigned a Unique Entity ID and CAGE Code
- Have your basic organizational data handy to fill out the questionnaires
- Designate your E-Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC)

Register your organization on Grants.Gov

- Registration is FREE
- EBiz POC creates an account using their Login.Gov login and the UEI from SAM.Gov
- Other staff can create Grants.Gov accounts and EBiz POC can assign them roles

General Tips for Federal Grant Applications

- Read the guidelines carefully
- Look at the sample grant applications
- Learn and use their language
- Follow their format
- Contact the program officer
- Submit a draft, if allowed
- Don't wait until the last minute!





Key Sections of NEH Proposals

- Narrative
- Workplan
- Budget and Budget Justification
- List of Personnel and Resumes
- Letters of Support and Commitment
- Additional supporting documentation

Make Your Project Stand Out

- Make the case for “national significance”
- Right-size your request to the project and your organization
- Include consultants and humanities scholars
- Tell a story
- Impart a sense of urgency
- Demonstrate your commitment to collections care





I've Hit "Submit" – Now What?

- NEH application review is a lengthy process
- NEH staff first review the application for eligibility and completeness
- Peer reviewers score applications
- Program officers then make recommendations to the National Council on the Humanities
- The Council reviews applications and advises the NEH Chair, who ultimately makes the decisions

Award Time!

- If you're one of the lucky few who is selected for an award, congrats!
 - You will be contacted by your Program Officer and invited to create an eGMS account to manage the grant.
 - Make sure to acknowledge NEH whenever you can and alert your legislators about the impact the grant has had.
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- If your grant is not successful, try and try again.
 - You will be supplied with feedback from the peer review process.
 - Think about ways you can strengthen your project and your argument for it.

Questions?

Please get in touch!

Daphne Mayer

dmayer@ccaaha.org

