



Partner to Celebrate Preservation Week

Memories and treasures should last a lifetime and be passed on to future generations. Preservation Week inspires actions to preserve personal, family and community collections, in addition to library, museum and archive collections. It also raises awareness of the role libraries and other cultural institutions can play in providing ongoing preservation information. Local institutions are asked to do one thing in their communities to celebrate Preservation Week, even if the action or activity is small.

1. Why Partner to Celebrate Preservation Week?*

- Strengthen community
- Reach new audiences—increase participation
- Inspire others

2. Potential Partners

- Libraries
- Museums and historical societies
- University, business, or other archives
- K-12 schools or classrooms
- Graduate library or museum studies programs
- Local businesses
- Collector's groups
- Community organizations

3. Tips for Successful Partnerships

- Don't always start by asking for money.
- Start small, build relationships over time.
- Develop a clear goal for *this* partnership—what will it achieve? What does each party bring to the table?
- Meet face to face with partner decision makers to present your vision.
- Use bullet points, simple language, and no more than 10 points to describe your vision and purpose.
- Draw up a written agreement that details responsibilities and resolves questions—it may take a several meetings.
- Meet regularly to discuss progress and perceptions with partners.
- Keep all stakeholders informed (use e-mail, meetings, or another strategy).
- Plan internally about next steps for the relationship.
- No partnership is forever—plan for separation in advance.
- Thank your partner—in writing, in meetings, in public, and often!

Source: Adapted from: *Top 10 Tips for Successful Community Partnerships*, Ourcommunity.com.au. See www.libraries.vic.gov.au/downloads/Seminar_Presentations/top_ten_partnership_tips__patrick_moriarty.pdf

Preservation Week is an initiative of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS), a division of the American Library Association (ALA) and other founding collaborators.

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