



2017 Annual Report - March 7, 2017

Mission

The Life Story Library Foundation collects, saves and shares the personal life stories of our time as valuable, recorded history. Our mission: Energize the collective power of life stories to increase understanding, empathy, healing and peace in the world.

Historical Overview

The Life Story Library Foundation (LSLF) was established as a nonprofit with the State of Utah on March 8, 2012; it received IRS designation as a 501(c)(3) public charity on March 9, 2014. During 2016, LSLF received cash contributions of \$9,461 (including ZAP grant funding of \$2,000), an in-kind donation of \$2,594, and pro-bono donations of \$6,500. Expenses tallied \$9,369. LSLF volunteers contributed over 4,000 hours of service.

2016 Story Collection and Production

JANUARY – Produced promo of stories from the 2015 Parliament of the World’s Religions with Veritas Productions out of Mumbai, India – **“Amazing Human Stories”** – <https://vimeo.com/160159003>.

Initiated the processing of 241 video stories from the Parliament with team of ten volunteers. The labor-intensive effort was discontinued after two weeks because of volunteer burnout, lack of needed skills and insufficient resources. **Lesson Learned:** A qualified workforce and appropriate technology are required to efficiently process video materials. Be patient; video stories will wait until they can be processed properly.

FEBRUARY– Produced webinar through The Grandview Group – **“The Other Side of Storytelling: Story Listening”** by David Hutchens – <https://youtu.be/kV9NwuOvq-g>

JULY – Traveled to Oxford, England with the StoryBoard Collaborative and presented a symposium at Global Perspectives on Narrative Conference on July 19, 2016. Showed video – **“Life Stories from Our Collection”** – <https://vimeo.com/173318306>.

AUGUST – Documented the Miss United Nations USA Pageant in Salt Lake City, UT and gathered stories. Recorded 50+ stories of refugees and immigrants in Salt Lake County for a ZAP grant. Interviews came from the Sikh, Bhutanese and Karen communities and from the Sikh Temple of Utah, Sunnyside Community Center, the Columbus Senior Center and the Refugee and Immigrant Training Center.

SEPTEMBER – Produced webinar through The Grandview Group – **“Beyond Labels: Bridging Differences through Storytelling”** by Noa Baum – <https://youtu.be/yhmTRIYKfeM>

OCTOBER – Documented the Utah Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) Conference in Orem, UT. Compiled refugee stories into video - **“Welcoming New Americans”** – <https://vimeo.com/190822996>.

Presented video to Rotary International leaders and community members at Rotary's Guinness World Record Event and Video Share on October 29, 2016 at West High School in Salt Lake City with 20 volunteers in fulfillment of the ZAP grant.

NOVEMBER – Video recorded 25 stories from international leaders at the Elijah Interfaith Institute Board Retreat in Utah County and the World Parliament on Spirituality at the University of Utah. Produced video, “**Expressions of Interfaith Harmony**” – <https://vimeo.com/199100854>.

JANUARY – Traveled with volunteer team to gather stories and document the Women's March on Washington D.C. on January 21, 2017 and later at Utah State Capitol. Presented stories at Legacy Guild Brunch. Produced video, “**Voices of Democracy – 2017 Women's March on Washington DC**” – <https://vimeo.com/207004212>

INITIATED STORYBOARD COLLABORATIVE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY MAILCHIMP NEWSLETTERS

RECORDED WEEKLY RADIO PODCASTS - “The Story Well” for KRCL Community Radio, 90.9 FM

CERTIFIED AS A PEACE AMBASSADOR – thought leadership training provided by The Shift Network

Mutually Beneficial Organizational Partnerships

Life Story Library believes in the power of collaboration! Active organizational partners include: Association of Personal Historians (APH); Birren Center for Autobiographical Studies (GAB); Charter for Compassion; Global Prosperity & Peace Initiative; HeartMath; Institute for Reminiscence and Life Review (IIRLR); Legacy Media LLC; Rotary Action Group for Peace; Sikh Dharma 13; Storyboard Collaborative; Tell History (Austria); The Grandview Group; Their Story Is Our Story (Germany); and the Timpanogos Storytelling Institute.

2017 Strategic Plan: Initiate Operations

Life Story Library Foundation intends to initiate start-up operations in 2017 -- build the Board of Directors, strengthen strategic relationships, raise funds from likeminded partners, engage technology of SirsiDynix, hire key staff, implement systems, develop and test innovations, and prepare to generate revenue:

- **Q1** – Host Global Coherence Peace Summit with leaders of peace-building organizations to collaborate on ways to connect with grassroots energy and give humanity a voice.
- **Q2** – Raise critical funding of \$33,00 to implement and customize the SirsiDynix technology.
- **Q3** – Raise start-up funding – goal of \$160,000. Hire key staff, initiate operations, establish procedures to properly archive story materials, activate technology to receive/share stories online.
- **Q4** – Beta test systems for receiving and sharing stories, develop prototype for Legacy Makers' Story Wheel System. Look for facility space and apply to be a host agency for the federal Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) which provides funds for employment training for seniors engaged in volunteer community service programs.

STORIES TRANSFORM THE FUTURE! They go ahead of social change in order to open space for new attitudes to take root and grow. By bringing together the stories of our time, this project bridges divides, expands empathy, moves us from isolation to connection, amplifies the collective wisdom of ordinary people, and inspires us with story resources that are searchable, well-crafted and personally relevant. It encourages us to listen to one another, tell our stories, leave our mark, and give humanity a voice in creating world peace.

Silence doesn't change lives. Our stories do!