



## CHIEF OFFICERS OF STATE LIBRARY AGENCIES

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### COSLA Welcomes Interim Acting Director Keith Sonderling to the IMLS

Lexington, KY, March 24, 2025

The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) issued today the following correspondence to Acting Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Keith Sonderling.

“On behalf of the Board and membership of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies – COSLA, we would like to welcome you as you begin your tenure with the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

COSLA is an independent organization of the principal library officials, the State Librarians, representing 50 states, the District of Columbia, and territories, responsible for statewide library development. Its purpose is to strengthen state library administrative agencies and lead the collective voice for the nation’s libraries.

As you are of course aware, IMLS through the Grants to States program is the single largest source of critical Federal funding for libraries, which makes up a substantial portion, from an average of one-third to over one-half of each State Library Agency's annual budget. That support allows every State Library Agency to advance its work serving the citizens of their state with effective, efficient and impactful library services. As such, COSLA, State Libraries and IMLS have a long-standing partnership of mutual support and respect.

The Board of COSLA would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to share more about the impact that a robust, well-funded, and fully staffed IMLS has across the United States; and how your vision for the future of IMLS aligns with our work.”

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### About COSLA

The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA), an independent organization of the principal library officials in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and two territories, responsible for statewide library development. Its purpose is to nurture state library administrative agencies, and lead with a collective voice for the nation’s libraries. [cosla.org](http://cosla.org)