

The Catalyst Fund is a \$100,000 award program that supports new ideas and innovative projects by LYRASIS members. The Catalyst Fund is a membership benefit administered by the Leaders Circle to expand opportunities for sharing expertise and collaborating on innovations with potential for community-wide impact.

Submissions

Proposals and ideas can come from any member of LYRASIS in good standing. Each member is allowed to submit one proposal and/or one idea.

- A **Proposal** requests funding to pilot a “test-and-try” project directly. Funds will be awarded to the applicant if the proposal is selected.
- An **Idea** is a recommendation for an innovative program or service that would benefit the field and that, if selected, would be implemented by LYRASIS. The institution submitting an Idea is not obligated to participate in any program or service that may evolve from their idea.

Criteria for Consideration

All applications should be innovative and serve the broad interests of the LYRASIS membership.

For Proposals:

- Does it innovatively solve a well-defined problem or address a well-defined opportunity?
- Does it advance an important objective of the library, archives and/or museum communities?
- Does it serve the broad LYRASIS community by addressing a common or shared issue for members and providing a solution that is scalable beyond a single institution?
- Is the proposal of interest to others outside of the applicant organization?
- Is the plan of work appropriate and the budget reasonable and justified?

For Ideas:

- Does the idea identify a well-defined problem or present a well-defined opportunity for LYRASIS and its members?
- Does it innovatively advance an important objective of the library, archives and/or museum communities?
- What is the potential for the idea to serve the broad LYRASIS community? Is it a common or shared issue for members?

Funding Allocation

In 2019, LYRASIS anticipates awarding \$100,000 for an estimated four to five projects. The average size of Individual awards made in 2017 and 2018 was \$24,300.

Timeframe

The application period for proposals and ideas will open on January 7, 2019. Applications will be due by February 20, 2019. Reviews will occur in March and April 2019 and recipients selected in May 2019. Projects can begin as soon as funds are disbursed in June 2019. Project activities should be completed by June 30, 2020. All funded projects will report on accomplishments at the annual LYRASIS Member Summit, typically held in October.

Volunteer to be a Reviewer

Experts review proposals and ideas prior to final selection. If you are interested in participating in the review process, you can learn more at <https://www.lyrasis.org/Leadership/Pages/Catalyst-Fund-Reviewer.aspx>.

Additional Information: visit www.lyrasis.org or email catalystfund@lyrasis.org.