**UCLA** Library

# 2024-25 Call for Applications
# Modern Endangered Archives Program at the UCLA Library

The [Modern Endangered Archives Program](#) (MEAP) is an international granting program administered by the UCLA Library to support the documentation and digitization of at-risk cultural heritage collections. Funded by Arcadia, MEAP has been issuing grants since 2019 to preserve and create access to endangered archival materials from the 20th and 21st Centuries, including print, photographic, film, video, audio, ephemeral, and born digital objects.

**MEAP invites applications for its seventh cohort of projects** to document, digitize, and make accessible collections at risk from environmental conditions, political uncertainty, inherently unsustainable media, inappropriate storage, or communal and social change. All materials created with MEAP funding will be published on the open access UCLA Digital Library.

## THREE AWARDS AVAILABLE

**PLANNING GRANTS** offer up to $20,000 for up to one year of work to evaluate and prepare materials for digitization. Projects should focus on **organizing and documenting archival materials** through assessment, cataloging, survey, or inventory creation. Projects should also **investigate and secure rights** for future digitization.

**PROJECT GRANTS** offer up to $70,000 for up to two years of work to digitize and create robust, object-level metadata for cultural heritage materials. Projects should focus on **digitization and metadata creation** for an existing archival or born-digital collection.

**REGIONAL GRANTS** offer up to $100,000 for up to two years of work to create digital collections that include **cultural heritage materials from three or more institutions, families, or archival repositories** but related to **one theme, community, or historical event**. Projects should focus on digitization and metadata creation that enables findability for materials that are not physically held in one location. (Only past MEAP grantees are eligible to apply.)

Grant funds can be used for staff salaries, equipment, training, travel, and community engagement to support the documentation and digitization of endangered collections.

## Application Cycle 2024 - 25

MEAP has a two round application process. All applicants must submit a Preliminary Application through our online application system available at meap.smapply.io. All applications must be submitted in English.

- Applications open **September 9, 2024**
- Preliminary Applications due **November 15, 2024**
- Preliminary Application decisions communicated **December 2024**
- Detailed Applications (for invited applicants) due **February 14, 2025**
- Awards announced **Summer 2025**

## A Global Program for Modern Cultural Heritage Preservation

MEAP is committed to fostering open access to cultural and historical materials from around the world as a challenge to politicized and nationalized historical narratives that minimize or silence multiple voices and perspectives. We provide funding for digitization as a form of preservation for at-risk cultural heritage from parts of the world with limited resources for archival preservation.

MEAP funds a diverse range of projects, including multiple media formats from countries and communities around the world. We seek applications that focus on preserving endangered collections from the 20th and 21st Centuries that reflect community voices, cultural expression, and historical experiences that have been left out of national narratives and archives.

**OPEN ACCESS REQUIREMENT**

MEAP is an Open Access program. All content created through grant funding must be shared openly online at meap.library.ucla.edu. This includes surveys or inventories for Planning Grants and digital images, audio, film, or video files for Project and Regional grants.

Project teams are responsible for securing necessary permissions for open access publication. Project and Regional Grant applicants must provide evidence of permission for publication at the detailed application phase. Planning Grant projects may build in time to explore rights-related questions.

**ELIGIBILITY**

MEAP supports projects to organize, collect, convert, and describe archival materials, existing digital assets, or born-digital materials. Materials must fit within the following scope.

**ENDANGERMENT**: Archival content must be imminently at-risk due to environmental conditions, political uncertainty, inherently unsustainable media, inappropriate storage, and/or communal or social change.

**AGE OF MATERIAL**: From the early 20th century to the present, preferably with a majority of the material dating from the 1940s or later.

**CONTENT**: Materials should document aspects of history, society, culture, and politics, preferably with an emphasis on social justice, human rights, and under-documented communities.

**GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS**: Collections must be held outside North America, the UK, and European Union countries. We encourage applications from Africa, the Caribbean, Central America, Latin America, the Middle East, Central Asia, South and Southeast Asia, and Oceania.

**FORMAT**: We welcome materials in a variety of formats, including print, audio, video, film, photographs, ephemera, and born-digital files (including but not limited to blogs, cell phone videos, website pages, 3D images, magnetic tape, and social media content).

# More Information

The 2024-25 Call for Applications is also available in Arabic, Bengali, French, Indonesian, Portuguese, Spanish, and Swahili.

**Additional details and resources for applicants are available on the How to Apply page at meap.library.ucla.edu. Questions? Ask us at meap@library.ucla.edu.**