The Power of Archives

- Shaping the shared sense of national, state, and individual identity that creates the framework for our democracy and accountability, gives people a frame of reference for their place in society, and helps them to understand how their location, community, and family have developed.

- Providing a stimulating environment for documenting government and promoting history that nourishes an interest in people, places, and our shared histories and experiences.

- Sourcing evidence that demonstrates the integrity and judgement of public decisions and actions, which lasts longer and is more reliable than individual memory. Archives thus support evidence-based and data-driven policy-making and accountability and have an impact on the lives of individuals by providing authentic and reliable evidence of past actions.

CoSA: Who We Are

Our Mission: Using collaborative research, education and advocacy, the Council of State Archivists provides leadership that strengthens and supports state and territorial archives in their work to preserve and provide access to government records.

Formed in 2002, the Council of State Archivists (CoSA) is a national nonprofit that facilitates networking, information sharing, and project collaboration among the state and territorial archives in the fifty states, five territories, and the District of Columbia. CoSA’s fifty-six members are the heads of the state or territorial archival agencies and manage combined budgets of nearly $150 million annually, authorize departmental purchases, and influence statewide spending. Their agencies are responsible for protecting the rights and historical documents of the American people.
What We Do

State Electronic Records Initiative (SERI)
CoSA began the **State Electronic Records Initiative** (SERI) project in 2012 in response to the explosive growth of electronic records in state and territorial governments. SERI provides critical training and networking to the state archival community in electronic records management and digital preservation. CoSA administers the **CoSA Resource Center** with open availability to information, resources, and training opportunities. CoSA is currently working with a range of allied organizations to promote the importance of electronic records management and digital preservation with a series of guidance materials, conference and workshop presentations, and webinars. SERI’s funding has come largely from federal funders, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission; Preservica, sponsors of CoSA’s Practical Digital Preservation webinars; and our members.

Emergency Preparedness
CoSA launched its **Emergency Preparedness Initiative** (EPI) in response to the widespread destruction of records during the 2005 hurricane season. The initiative recognizes that records are at risk from a variety of natural disasters — tornadoes, floods, earthquakes, and more — as well as from a wide range of other threats.

In 2007, the Federal Emergency Management Agency awarded CoSA $2.6 million to support its **Intergovernmental Preparedness for Essential Records** (IPER) project. IPER teams trained state and local government officials in every state and territory in emergency preparedness and ensuring the safety of essential records.

Research and Publication
CoSA regularly undertakes research on the state of state archives in its biennial Archives and Records Management Survey. Additionally, CoSA surveys its membership in a variety of special subject surveys, ranging from electronic records management and digital preservation needs to advocacy issues. The result of much of this work is published reports available on the CoSA website. CoSA continues to expand its research and publication emphasis.

CoSA expanded its **CoSA News Brief** this year, to share information about CoSA activities and programs.

Training and Development
This year’s **Member Webinar Series** will focus on leadership and management. State archivists and other guest speakers will discuss management strategies, leadership development, project management, and collaboration.

The **Closest to Home** project reflected CoSA’s strong interest in preserving and ensuring access to local government records. The project analyzed conditions and identified services, standards, and funding strategies to serve this goal.
CoSA partners with the Society of American Archivists or the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators or both to host an annual conference featuring work sessions, networking opportunities, a business meeting, and an awards program.

Each spring, CoSA convenes a program forum and partner briefing in Washington, DC to update association leaders and funders on its work. Most recently, the forums have focused on the SERI program.

Why Support CoSA’s Work?

- CoSA is a recognized as an innovative leader in developing and delivering high-interest/high quality programs and critical information services to state and local government record keepers.

- CoSA is a resource for state and local officials who look for authoritative and reliable information. Its national reach connects your company with archival and historical organizations of all kinds at the state and local levels.

- CoSA’s members are leaders in their states and territories, who influence others in their governments.

- CoSA offers a variety of recognition opportunities, invitations to CoSA events, and access to key decision makers in archives and records management.

- CoSA is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, making your donations tax deductible.

**Sponsorship Investment Opportunities**

**PROGRAM SUPPORT**

Education and advocacy are key elements of CoSA’s national mission and strategic plan. CoSA’s programming aims to stay ahead of workplace, policy, and funding trends, but to do so routinely support for committee work, subject matter expertise, technology and materials must be sustainable.

**State Electronic Records Initiative (SERI)**

As CoSA’s flagship education and training program, SERI fosters best practices for electronic records management and digital preservation among the 56 state and territorial archives. In less than a decade, state government electronic records holdings have grown by 734%! With state archives and records programs at a pivotal time in saving digital records from the latter part of the 20th or first part of the 21st century, many institutions are working to ensure that these records are preserved and made accessible. CoSA and its collaborating organizations support state archives in increasing programmatic capabilities to meet the challenges of electronic records management and digital preservation, from the creation of the record forward.
Effective management of electronic records requires involvement throughout the lifecycle of a record, to ensure proper creation, use, preservation, and access, marking a substantial difference from paper-based records.

SERI’s emphasis on education and training for state archives staff has resulted in significant gains in knowledge and skills. Going forward, CoSA will collaborate with a variety of allied stakeholders to develop and deliver quality training and information across a variety of platforms for a rapidly evolving digital environment.

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<tr>
<th>Annual Sponsorship Investment</th>
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<td>$25,000</td>
<td>Holding a multi-day, in-person training institute focusing on critical electronic records management and digital preservation issues. Lead by SERI, academic, and industry leaders and featuring interactive content and project-based learning labs. Sponsorship will support consulting staff and committee work to design and deliver a training institute; instructors and materials; pre-and post-institute evaluations; travel; location expenses</td>
<td>• Co-branding with CoSA/SERI on the institute name&lt;br&gt;• company name/logo with link appears on CoSA corporate sponsor and program webpages&lt;br&gt;• company publicly recognized at all monthly member webinars and monthly newsletter&lt;br&gt;• company recognized during business meeting&lt;br&gt;• receipt of CoSA communications&lt;br&gt; • Shop Talk webinar</td>
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<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Updating and reformatting existing SERI training materials for expanded audiences Sponsorship will support a consulting staff, a designer, and committee work to identify, update, reformat, design, and distribute materials via CoSA’s website.</td>
<td>• Co-branding with CoSA/SERI on materials&lt;br&gt;• company name/logo with link appears on CoSA corporate sponsor and program webpages&lt;br&gt;• company publicly recognized at all monthly member webinars and monthly newsletter&lt;br&gt;• company recognized during business meeting&lt;br&gt;• receipt of CoSA communications</td>
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<td>$10,000</td>
<td>SERI mentoring program for electronic records staff Sponsored will support the design and implementation of a robust mentoring program to identify and match mentors with mentees, provide ongoing support, and evaluation program effectiveness.</td>
<td>• Co-branding with CoSA/SERI on the mentoring program&lt;br&gt;• company name/logo with link appears on CoSA corporate sponsor and program webpages&lt;br&gt;• company publicly recognized at all monthly member webinars and monthly newsletter&lt;br&gt;• company recognized during business meeting&lt;br&gt;• receipt of CoSA communications&lt;br&gt; • Shop Talk webinar</td>
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<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Development and design of four best practice documents and case studies about electronic records management and digital preservation to members and allied organizations.</td>
<td>• Company name/logo printed on each of four guidance-best practice documents</td>
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In less than a decade, state archives’ electronic records holdings have grown by 734% to include more than 635 terabytes of permanent records. In turn, state governments are under increasing pressure to improve their electronic records management capabilities to meet the demands of state Freedom of Information Acts (FOIA). States often lack resources to deploy sophisticated archiving and retrieval systems, thus increasing the need for CoSA to bring its expertise to collaborations and infrastructures to manage and preserve digital government records.

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<td>$7,500</td>
<td>CoSA Electronic Records Speakers Bureau for webinars and in-person training</td>
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<td>Sponsorship will support the design and implementation of a speakers’ bureau and staff support to identify subject matter experts and coordinate their participation in webinars and in-person trainings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>Expansion of CoSA Resource Center tools and resources</td>
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<td>The CoSA Resource Center is an online array of electronic records-related tools and resources, and other materials. Annual sponsorship supports submission coordination and regular update of these materials.</td>
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<tr>
<td>$7,500 per project</td>
<td>Advocacy and awareness tools, research, and training</td>
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<td>Sponsorship will support the design and development of a variety of advocacy and awareness materials that members and allied stakeholders can use to increase awareness of the vital importance of managing and preserving records among state and territorial government officials.</td>
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- company name/logo with link appears on CoSA corporate sponsor and program webpages
- company publicly recognized at all monthly member webinars and monthly newsletter
- company recognized during business meeting
- receipt of CoSA communications

- Co-branding with CoSA/SERI on the Speakers Bureau
- company name/logo with link appears on CoSA corporate sponsor and program webpages
- company publicly recognized at all monthly member webinars and monthly newsletter
- company recognized during business meeting
- receipt of CoSA communications

- Co-branding with CoSA/SERI on the CoSA Resource Center
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**Member Webinars**

CoSA develops national training programs for state archives, which are delivered online and in-person. An ongoing program staple is the monthly member webinar, which combines topical content with organizational updates. The theme for the 2018 series is leadership and management.

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| $2,500/webinar or the entire series of 5 webinars for $10,000 | Monthly web conferences provide CoSA members with timely presentations on a variety of topics free of charge. Five webinars are part of the leadership and management series for 2018. To view the entire 2018 line-up: [https://www.statearchivists.org/programs/cosa-webinar-series/](https://www.statearchivists.org/programs/cosa-webinar-series/) | • company name/logo with link appears on CoSA corporate sponsor and program webpages  
• company publicly recognized at all sponsored member webinars  
• company recognized during business meeting  
• receipt of CoSA communications  
• Shop Talk webinar (if 5 webinars are sponsored) |

CoSA’s member webinar series attract 300-400 participants each year.

**RESEARCH SUPPORT**

CoSA regularly engages its membership in information gathering that informs strategic planning, educational programming, and advocacy. Chief among these activities is the biennial Archives and Records Management Survey, which is a comprehensive examination of the state of state archives. CoSA’s new plan, Sustaining the Future, 2018-2022 places an additional emphasis on broadening CoSA’s research program.

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| $10,000 | Supports major research activity, including investigation, assessment, analysis, and eventual publication of specific research topics or questions. CoSA and sponsor collaborate on research and analysis, and co-present information at conferences or webinars, write joint outreach materials, and share research results with others.  
. | • Co-branding with CoSA on materials  
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• company publicly recognized at all monthly member webinars and monthly newsletter  
• company recognized during business meeting  
• receipt of CoSA communications  
• Shop Talk webinar |
| $7,500 | Supports deployment, tabulation, and analysis of CoSA’s biennial Archives and Records Management Survey, the only survey of its type for state archives and records management programs, examining human resources, nature, status, and | • Company name/logo and product description on published survey and related materials  
• company name/logo with link appears on CoSA corporate sponsor and program webpages |
accessibility of holdings, sources of funding, and relationships to external stakeholders.

- company publicly recognized at all monthly member webinars and monthly newsletter
- company representatives invited to Annual Meeting; recognized during business meeting
- receipt of CoSA communications

$7,500

Supports research and development of white papers, guides, and resource materials about a range of issues facing state archives. CoSA and the corporate sponsor will collaboratively decide on topics and methods

- Company name/logo and product description on published survey and related materials
- company name/logo with link appears on CoSA corporate sponsor and program webpages
- company publicly recognized at all monthly member webinars and monthly newsletter
- company representatives invited to Annual Meeting; recognized during business meeting
- receipt of CoSA communications

ANNUAL MEETING SUPPORT

For CoSA, strengthening and supporting the work of state and territorial archives involves bringing members together to learn, share information and ideas, and network. Each year, CoSA’s Annual Meeting provides that important opportunity, usually in partnership with colleagues from the Society of American Archivists (SAA) and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA). CoSA will be meeting in Washington, DC in 2018, and offers the following opportunities for Sponsorship.

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| $10,000                       | Sponsor Breakfast for CoSA membership on Wednesday morning, 7-8:30 a.m. | • opportunity to welcome members to Annual Meeting  
  • company name/logo with link appears on CoSA corporate sponsor and program webpages  
  • company publicly recognized at all sponsored member webinars  
  • company recognized during business meeting  
  • receipt of CoSA communications  
  • Shop Talk webinar |
| $5,000                        | Graphic design and production of two banners and signage for CoSA’s registration area and meeting locations.  
  The CoSA registration area at the 2018 meeting will be the focal point where members are welcomed and directed to | • company name/logo on banners and signage  
  • company name/logo with link appears on CoSA corporate sponsor and program webpages |
| meeting rooms. Banners and signage let members know about our meeting schedule and sponsors. | • company publicly recognized at all monthly member webinars and monthly newsletter  
• company recognized during business meeting  
• receipt of CoSA communications |