

2022 Society of Mississippi Archivists Annual Meeting



April 21, 2022

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Who Am I?



EDUCATION:

- Current MLIS and Archive Certificate Student at The University of Southern Mississippi
- Alternate Route Teacher's License from William Carey University
- MSc. by Research in History from the University of Edinburgh
- B.A. in English and History from the University of Southern Mississippi

Experience:

- 12+ years of Library related experience.
- Current Assistant at the Local History and Genealogy Department of the Harrison Co. Library System in Biloxi, Mississippi.
- Former Volunteer at the Mississippi Armed Forces Museum at Camp Shelby.

**Does my
archive have a
problem?**



TAKE A LOOK!

Time to think about and evaluate your collection and policies.

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**Could any member  
of my community find  
information relevant to  
them within one visit?**

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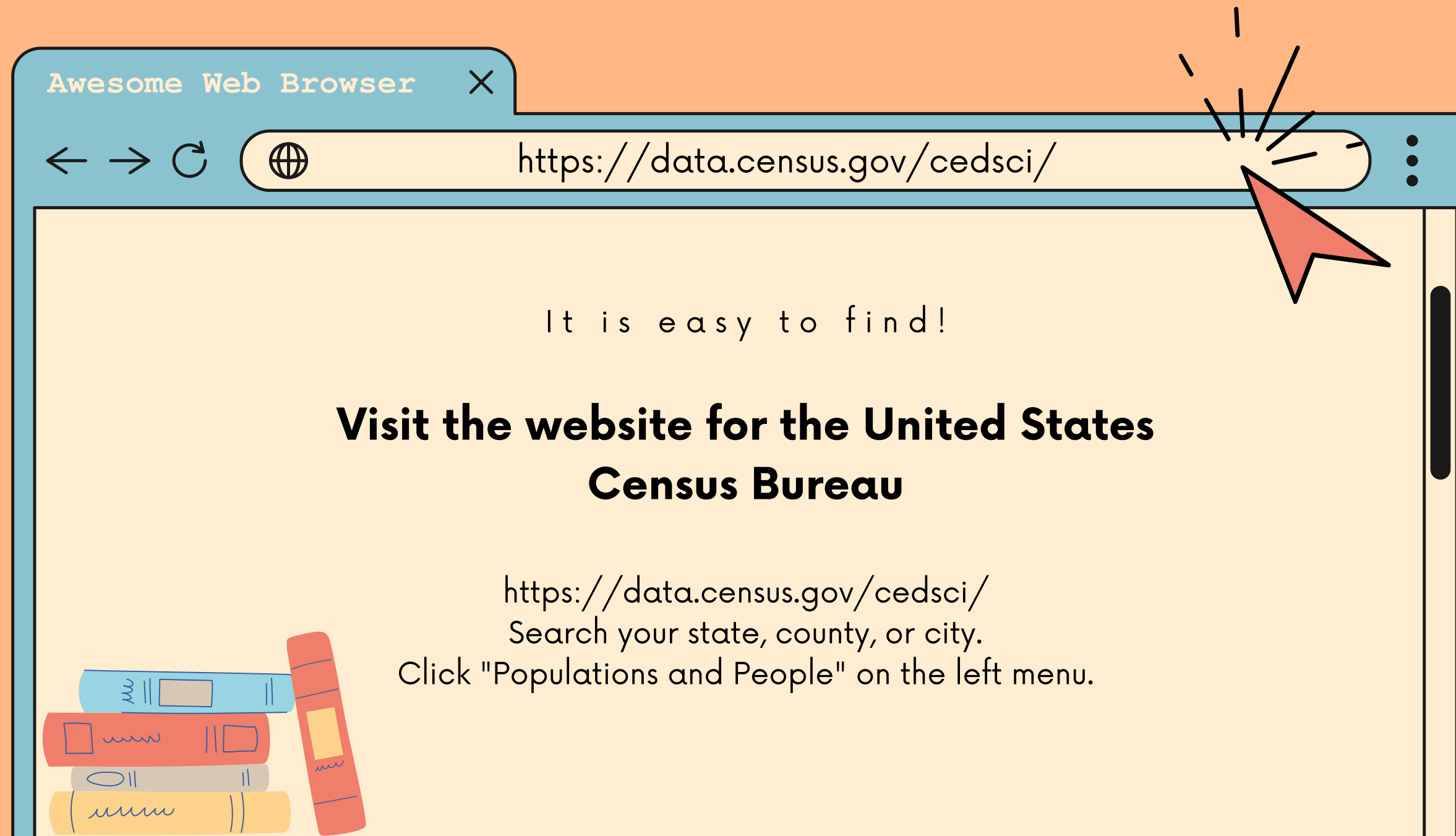
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**Do the collection  
policies alienate  
certain groups in the  
community?**

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NEXT..

Evaluate the cultural demographics of your community.



FINALLY

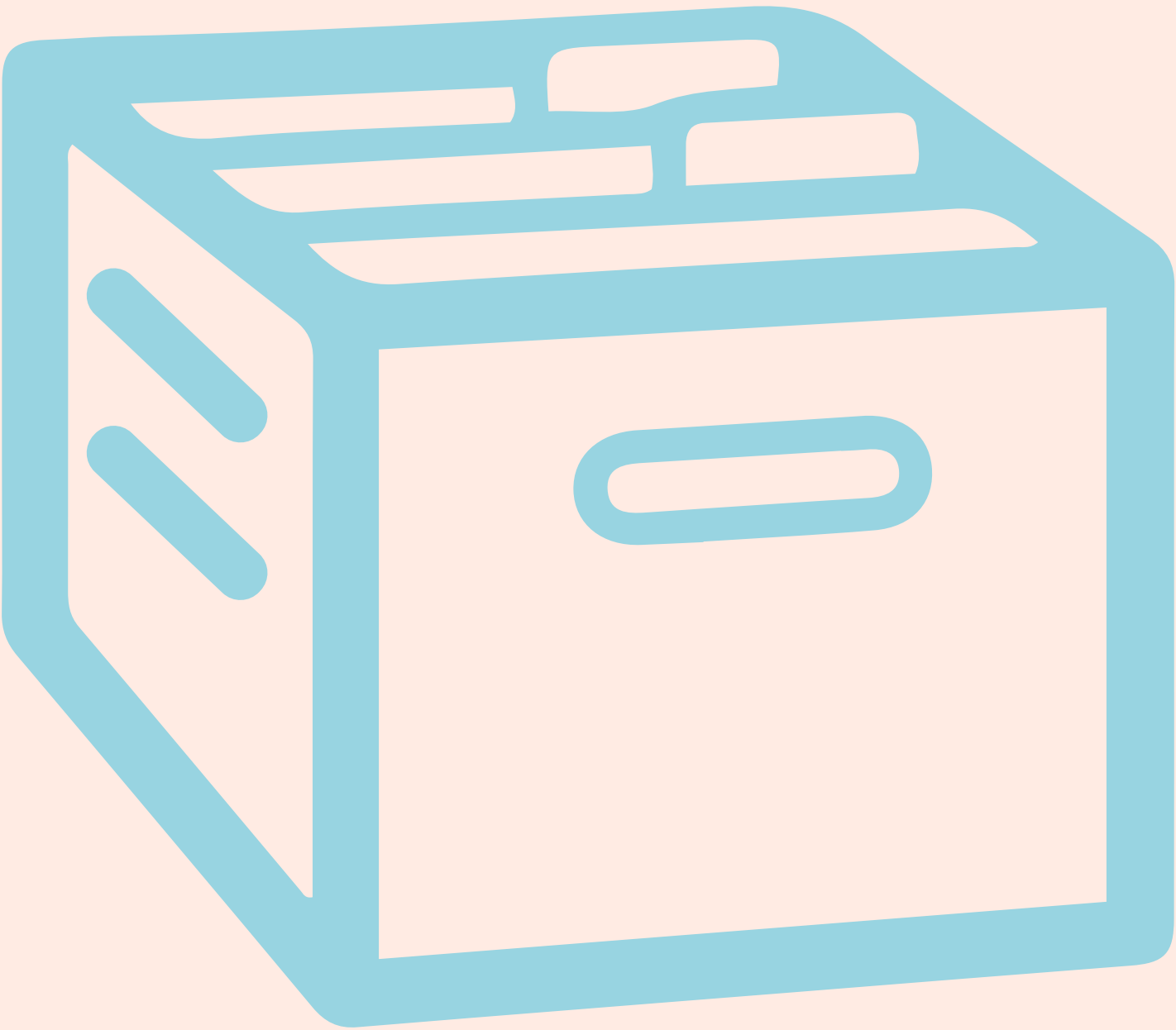
Take stock and review the inventory of your collection.

**Take care to
see if your collections
match the
demographics of your
area.**

**Ask yourself is
anyone left out?**

**REASONS ARCHIVE
COLLECTIONS ARE MISSING
RESOURCES FOR
UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS.**

1	Collection priorities were not focused on these groups.
2	These groups can have a distrust of government run institutions that have ignored, failed, or even persecuted them before.
3	Cultural differences cause archivists to be hesitant to reach out into these communities.



Short Term Goals

Things you can do now to begin
bridging the gaps!

#1

Create a quick reference research file.

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**Photocopy relevant  
periodicals such as  
newspapers relating  
to the community.**

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**Include lists of  
any existing  
collections in your  
facility as well in  
the file.**

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#2

Become familiar with other institutions holdings.



	#3	
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Make a list of relevant websites with digital collections of those communities.

Tip!

[illegible]

Long Term Goals

And now the hard part...

#1

Begin building relationships with underrepresented groups.

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**Plan relevant  
programing and  
go to them.**

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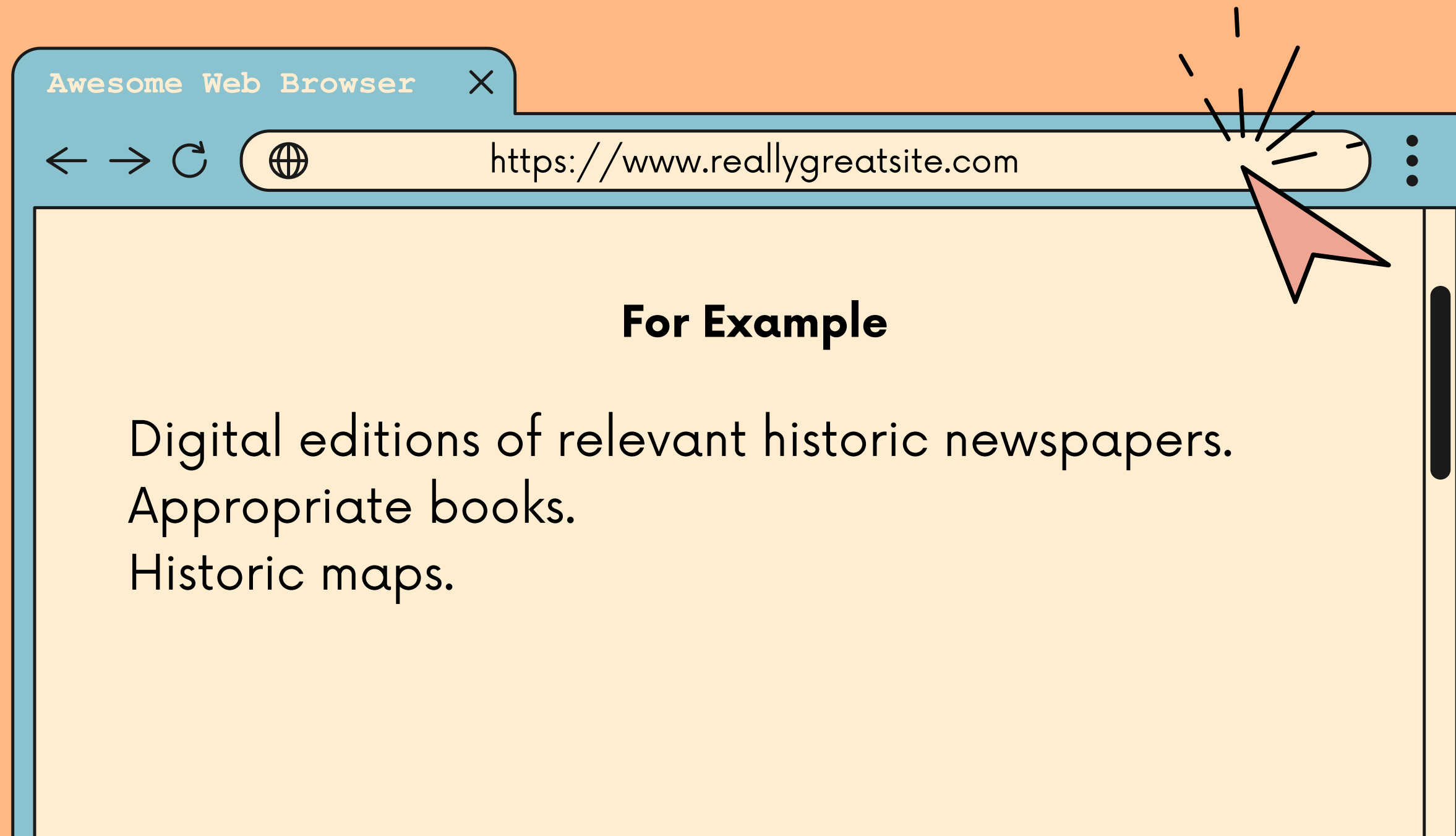
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**Learn about the  
community  
focusing on their  
culture and  
values.**

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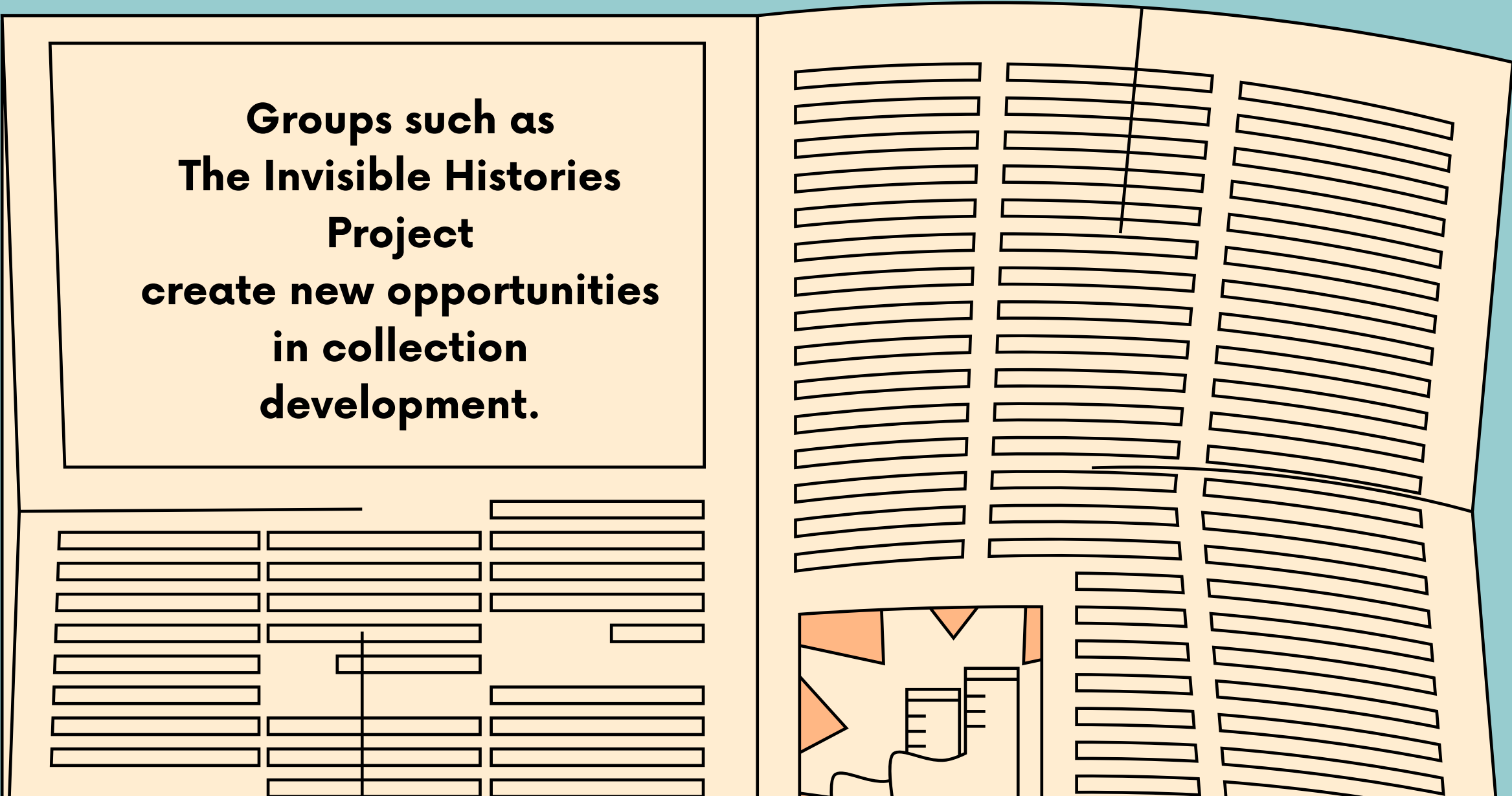

#2

Apply for grants in order to purchase relevant materials.



#3

Partner with relevant organizations.



IN CONCLUSION
Building new relationships is the best way obtain new collections.
Use existing resources to create a website list and research file.
Create an environment that is welcoming to all!

