

# I a multicultural educator, says that, living

[Art & Culture](#), [Multiculturalism](#)



I am writing to apply for funding assistance to attend the Seminar-workshop on “ Catalyzing Multicultural Librarians: Opportunities, Challenges and Strategies in the 21st Century” on February 28- March 02, 2018 at Tuguegarao City, Cagayan. No one in this world is exactly the same.

We may share some similarities with other people but at the end of the day, each of us is our own person. We have our own personality, background, values, and beliefs. Thus, as a young professional librarian, I believe that before I can truly give a satisfying service to our clients, it is important that I know how to interact with people regardless of their nationalities, economic status and stations in life and by understanding them deeper through their cultures and background. James Banks, a multicultural educator, says that, living in a diverse society requires that we “ know, care, and act.” In other words, we need to learn about people and understand their issues, care about people with our hearts, and take the action necessary to make sure that people are treated well and that justice is done.

I believe that we all have the capacity to care deeply about each other. We all have the capacity to learn and take action. We should not wait for someone else to take action, we can make a difference to people in our own simple ways. In our library, through the provision of a cultural and indigenous section, we provide a welcoming place for our students from different cultures and ethnicities. This section contains multicultural collection that reflect the cultural and linguistic characteristics of the community that enable the users to learn more about their culture thus, promoting cultural awareness and encouraging communication with one another. We also have makerspaces where we provide collaborative

environment for the students to work as one and share what they know and learn new skills.

We also have our AKLAT Project, wherein we started to build mini libraries in the nearby barangays and public schools as well as conducted storytelling to pupils using the Iloko, Filipino and English language. With these projects we were able to meet people who belong to the marginalized sector and by interacting with them we come to discover their cultures, beliefs, traditions, aspirations and dreams. We want every person especially the youth to have the opportunity to fulfill their potentials.

In our library, we see to it that library services do not discriminate against people on grounds such as gender, race, sexuality or disability. Our various library services aim to meet their different needs and aspirations and are proactive in advancing equality and promoting good relations between different groups. And so, we try our best to help the people overcome barriers such as poverty, low aspirations and poor educational attainment. By attending this seminar it will not only provide me with an opportunity to learn more about multicultural librarianship but will also allow our institution to gain valuable information on how to help our clients especially the marginalized individuals from various ethnicities. Furthermore, this will be a great experience since I get to network with other professionals in the field, and this will enable me to interact with them on how we can work together towards promoting multiculturalism in our respective libraries.