



TO: Cultural Education Committee

FROM: Jeffrey Cannell

SUBJECT: Update on NOVELNY

DATE: April 11, 2013

AUTHORIZATION(S):

Issue for Discussion

With almost 56 million searches last year, NOVELNY is a heavily used statewide information service. The Board of Regents received a report about this program at the March meeting. The process of selection and procurement of the actual databases for next year (beginning July 1, 2013) is moving to completion. The State Library will explore in more detail the array of existing and any new databases to be offered. We will also announce the inclusion of EngageNY.org as one of the online resources available to all New Yorkers through NOVELNY.

Reason(s) for Consideration

For information.

Proposed Handling

The Committee will learn of the process of procuring databases for NOVELNY.

Procedural History

This item is a continuation of the materials provided to the Committee at the March, 2013 meeting.

Background Information

A survey of over 1400 members of the library community identified existing and potentially new online resources that should be included in NOVELNY. The survey resulted in identification of resources ranging from newspapers (current and retrospective), to maps, current periodicals, encyclopedias (English and Spanish), to

business, and science. These selections/procurements will be announced for the start of the year beginning July 1st.

Recommendation

The NOVELNY program is federally supported with funds from the Library Services Technology Act. It has become the most popular and most important statewide program of the New York State Library.

Timetable for Implementation

NOVELNY is an ongoing program. The new databases will become available on July 1, 2013.