

ERLAND KOLDING NIELSEN GRANT – Application Form

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

1. Organisation Details

Applicant information				
	Name	Organisation	Job Title	email and phone
Main proposer	Ineta Vaivode	National Library of Latvia	Project Manager Research and Interpretation Centre	ineta.vaivode@lnb.lv +37129978329
Collaborator 1	Vanessa Braekeveld	KBR (Royal Library of Belgium)	Head of Exhibitions	Vanessa.braekeveld@kbr.be +32 2 519 53 82
Collaborator 2	Ramon Voges	German National Library	Deputy Head German Museum of Books and Writing	r.voges@dnb.de +49 341 2271-315
Collaborator 3	Helen Richardson	British Library		Helen.Richardson@bl.uk
Collaborator 4	Loes van Eijk	Royal Library of the Netherlands	Program Manager	Maarten.heerlien@KB.nl Loes.vanEijk@KB.nl
Confirm that you meet the grant application eligibility criteria (listed above)				Yes
Signed: I. Vaivode				
Date: 20/03/2024				

2. Proposal for international collaboration

Please provide a description of your proposed project here (maximum of two pages).

- Include plans for the project's development and implementation.
- Tell us how your project will engage with CENL members and beyond, and how you plan to communicate the results of your project to wider audiences.

In 2018 The National Library of Latvia was proud to be the first recipient of the CENL's Erland Kolding Nielsen Grant to organise a seminar on the book exhibitions, bringing together libraries, museum representatives and independent artists to exchange valuable inter-sectoral experience. This seminar became a solid ground for the creation of the BANG! network whose work now continues and proves to be a valuable network of field professionals. The mission of BANG (Books & Audiences Network Group) is to provide a dynamic environment for discussion, dialogue and exchange of ideas and practices for bringing books and audiences together in exhibition settings, with an ambition to bring our findings to fruition. An annual tradition is to organise webinars related to different book exhibition related challenges, the recent data shows that the popularity of the webinar is increasing, the 2023 webinar 'Libraries: Unlocking non-visitor potential' gathered 106 participants from 10 countries (Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Belgium, Netherlands, UK, France, Croatia, Greece and Georgia), moreover the importance of the network was emphasized at the annual 2023 CERL conference 'Connecting Books & Audiences through Public Displays'.

The collected expertise led to the next stage in the network development, which is the awareness of the importance of in-person international seminar. The proposal is to organize and host a two-day seminar at the National Library of Latvia in April 2025 and therefore bring the BANG group together so we can discuss, prepare and divide the tasks for the organisation of this in person event in 2025. By convening international professionals in person, it facilitates robust knowledge exchange, idea generation, and potential solutions to shared challenges. Moreover, the seminar will become a great opportunity for newly joined members to establish meaningful connections with other network members and beyond, fostering a sense of community within the Books and Audiences network. Additionally, publishing the audio and video recordings of speeches, discussions, and workshops from the seminar on the network's website is an integral part of the project outcome. This ensures that the valuable insights and expertise shared during the event are accessible to a broader audience, thereby maximizing the dissemination of knowledge and amplifying the impact of the network's activities.

The two-day seminar will feature:

- A keynote presentation
- Presentations organized into three thematic blocks addressing various challenges of book exhibitions, covering aspects such as design, inclusivity for less privileged groups of visitors, and ensuring intellectual and physical accessibility of exhibitions.
- Two panel discussions
- Two practical workshops focusing on interpreting exhibits and effectively communicating exhibitions.
- Networking activities providing opportunities for participants to connect, including excursions to ongoing exhibitions at the Latvian National Library and other cultural institutions in Latvia.
- Good practice sharing section among network members and participants.

Plans for the project's development and implementation

March 2024 – drafting the idea, the concept of the seminar.

May 2024 – distribution of tasks among the network members, drafting the call for papers.

May 2024 – meeting with designer, work on the visual identity. Creation of detailed communication plan

April-June 2024 – Search and talks with keynote speakers, facilitators.

May 2024 – call for papers is published.

September 2024 – end of call for papers

October 2024 - Face-to-face working group meeting, detailed programme planning, development of workshops

November 2024 – publication of the seminar program

November 2024 – March 2025 – registration for the seminar

November 2024 – online meetings of working groups

November 2024 – March 2025 – coordination of accommodation, catering and organisational aspect of the seminar

January 2025 – April 2025 – digital campaign

April 2025 – the seminar dates

May 2025 – evaluation session among group members

May 2025 – publication of the materials on BANG website

Tell us how your project will engage with CENL members and beyond, and how you plan to communicate the results of your project to wider audiences.

The BANG network now encompasses not only CENL libraries but also members from museums, UNESCO, and the Association of Latvian Museums, providing diverse channels for dissemination. The inclusion of various organizations allows for broader outreach, tapping into audiences beyond national libraries to other memory institutions and interdisciplinary exhibitions involving books. An open call will be published to invite potential participants to the event, encouraging involvement from a wide range of stakeholders. The workshop will have its own visual identity, facilitating the dissemination of information across social media channels of CENL member libraries, highlighting the event's relevance and opportunities for participation. Building on the success of previous webinars, the inclusion of guest speakers from diverse sectors such as medical organizations or communication agencies will enrich the event, providing unique insights and perspectives.

Regular updates and announcements about the event will be shared across social media platforms of CENL member libraries, attracting attention and engagement from their respective audiences. Periodic newsletters will be sent out to CENL members and other stakeholders, keeping them informed about the progress of the project, upcoming events, and opportunities for involvement. Press releases will be distributed to relevant media outlets, both within the library sector and beyond, to generate interest and coverage of the event.

3. Previous Collaborations

*Does your project create new connections between CENL institutions?
Please give details of any previous collaborations between the libraries involved in this project.*

The BANG ensure that other CENL libraries also become familiar with our activities and want to join the network group. An example is the request we received this year from the Hungarian National Library to join the our network group.

4. Benefits

The short-term goal: *to organize and host a two-day seminar at the National Library of Latvia in April 2025, facilitating robust knowledge exchange, idea generation, and potential solutions to shared challenges in book exhibitions, while fostering meaningful connections among international professionals and newly joined members of the Books and Audiences network.*

The long-term goals:

- *Strengthen awareness of the interdisciplinary and complex nature of book exhibitions, emphasizing the necessity for cross-sectoral collaboration.*
- *Facilitate the professional development of individuals working in the field of book exhibitions through training, and resource sharing within the BANG network.*
- *Promote the dissemination of research findings, case studies, and practical insights generated through BANG activities to inform and inspire practitioners.*
- *Establish BANG as a leading platform for ongoing dialogue, knowledge exchange, and innovation in the field of book exhibitions.*

Benefits of the project:

- *The organization of an in-person event will provide a significant boost to the network's development, fostering stronger connections and collaboration among members.*
- *The discussions and activities held at the seminar will help identify and outline common challenges faced by international professionals working with exhibiting books, leading to the development of potential solutions and best practices.*
- *The diverse content presented during the event will be documented and published on the BANG website, creating a valuable repository of knowledge and resources accessible to a wide audience, thereby enhancing the network's visibility and impact.*

5. Estimated cost of proposal

Taking into account the complex preparatory work for the international seminar and the number of involved parties, part of the costs is estimated to cover preparation and content-development of the event, including in-person meeting to take place in September 2024, while the other part of the grant is going to cover the travel costs of speakers and cover design and communication of the 2025 seminar.

The estimated costs are the following:

1000 EUR – Travel costs of the working group members in September (CENL members participating in the creation of the seminar program, covered in May for September meeting)

1000 EUR – accommodation of the working group (covered in May for September meeting)

1000 EUR – design and visual identity costs of the webinar (covered in May)

750 EUR – travel costs for the moderator + preparatory work

250 EUR – emergency funds in case of the increase travel costs

1000 EUR – partial coverage of travel costs for seminar speakers.