

**Kathleen Dunley**  
**IRLS504: Website Project**  
**Career Aspirations**

One of the issues facing historians and archivists, especially at the local level, is the challenge of asserting and maintaining the worthwhile nature of the past. Just because an archivist finds an artifact important, it does not mean that everyone will be sold on the same idea. Furthermore, the "2.0" nature of the web makes it vital to have collections that are digital, available 24/7, and that encourage contributions from patrons. Building any digital resource takes time, talent, and energy; making it 2.0 friendly adds additional challenges.

I would like to use the combined experience from my work as an educator, together with my growing technology skill set, in order to help a local organization face the joint challenges of a high tech world and historical apathy. To these ends, I plan to study both public librarianship and digital information management in order to get a sense of who I plan to serve as well as how to accomplish the task of creating and maintaining a complex, interactive, and engaging virtual archive.