Date: 10-19-18
Project Title: The Portal to Texas History User Guide Video
Project Team Members: Jake Mangum, Joshua Sylve’, Samantha Lawrence, Jeffery Merrill (part time videographer no longer in the position), Megan Gellner (full time videographer)

Project Purpose
The funds requested were to be utilized in the purchase of equipment to produce a high-end promotional video that demonstrated the breadth of the Portal’s newest features while also providing insights into how it came to be the resource used by over 500,000 users each month that it is today.

Project Activities
Progress has been made in the development of story boards, interview lists, and location scouting. In addition interviews have been conducted with prominent contributors and founders of The Portal to Texas History.

Goals for Fall 2018 include the completion of all interviews and screen captures related to key features. The Winter break will be used to visit partners offsite for B-roll contributions. Final edits are scheduled for early Spring 2019. Sample interviews will be released periodically preview the final video.

Budget
Funds went to the purchase of twenty-three pieces of equipment used in the production of video footage. This included LED lighting, wireless microphones, camera body, lens adaptors, video hard drives, memory cards, and wireless video projectors, among other items.

Project Outputs/Outcomes
Due to delays in delivery of the requested equipment the project is ongoing. In addition the project’s development phase has been transferred from a part time to full time employee. This has allowed for new input and approaches, but has subsequently shifted the anticipated delivery date by roughly a semester.
Other Results (if applicable)
The use of the wireless video projector was instrumental in the creation of the UNT Libraries digital Holiday Card for 2017. In addition almost every video project executed for the libraries has benefited from the equipment received through this grant, including the recent Guinness World Record attempt by Dr. Andrew Torget form the UNT History Department.

Anecdotal Information
The influx in requests for video projects made upon the videographer position and the External Relations Division is directly correlated to the professional nature of the staff and equipment.

Best Practices
Best practices:
- Source equipment at a reasonable price – we went with midgrade equipment
- Be flexible in your scheduling to accommodate those being interviewed
- Spend time getting to know the ins and outs of the software being used
- Show the value of promoting online resources and introducing new features

Program Continuity
An effort has been made to develop a script that is more adaptable and can be used in part in future productions.