Founding team members initiated outreach and developed initial informal partnerships with representatives of Indigenous communities in the Central Valley, with the objective of identifying needs suitable for development in the context of a digital heritage project.

Introductory discussions with members of the CIBA confirmed the potential value of a project that will produce 3D digital images of traditional baskets in museum collections that can be shared back with communities of origin, thus making currently inaccessible basket making techniques and designs on curated baskets available to contemporary basket weavers. Digital Heritage preservation techniques can restore access to these baskets and related materials to the communities that created them. The project will focus on the creation of 3D visual scans of the baskets in some of these collections.

Each basket will be entered into a database as a digital object with accompanying metadata. This database will provide both scholars and basketweavers with opportunities for future research, many of which are neither possible nor foreseeable at this point.

Librarian Emily Lin informed our team about the McLean basketry collection, which consists of twenty baskets on indefinite long-term loan to the UCM Kolligan Library. The team made arrangements with Ms. Lin to begin conducting photogrammetry with the baskets in the museum collection.

Explore collaborative possibilities to gain access to material culture located in museums in surrounding areas, i.e. Local Historical Museums, UC Berkeley’s Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology. Continue digitizing material culture gained from community partners to augment database. Host reception/exhibit on campus for community partners to thank them for their support and contributions to the project.

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