

**DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS  
FOR  
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

**Agency:** DC Public Library  
**Caption:** Early Literacy Stations  
**Contractor:** Alternative Works Environments, Inc.

**FINDINGS**

**1. Authorization:**

D.C. Official Code §2-354.04, 19 DCMR §4320.7.

**2. Minimum Need:**

The District of Columbia Public Library (DCPL) has a need to procure specialized computers called Early Literacy Stations for six neighborhood libraries: Capitol View, Francis Gregory, Northeast, Palisades, Petworth and Southwest.

**3. Estimated Reasonable Price:**

\$80,848.00

**4. Facts Which Justify Sole Source Procurement:**

- A. The DC Public Library provides access to books, media and online resources to support its overall mission. The Library also provides online access to electronic resources to assist children with early literacy development and beginning learning skills in computer technology.
- B. Alternative Works Environments, Inc. (AWE) develops products that libraries use to focus on education and information. AWE has the knowledge base and experience for leading the market in developing and delivering quality educational and public access products.
- C. AWE is the manufacturer of the Early Literacy Station (ELS) -- the first in a series of electronic educational solutions that target toddlers through second graders (children ages 2 to 7). The ELS is a touchscreen computer preloaded with 34 educational software packages covering seven curricular topics, and comes ready to use straight out of the box, with no set up. The ELS has been well reviewed, including a top rating by

Children's Technology Review, and comes with a color-coded keyboard and mouse that are specifically designed and sized for children's use.

D. AWE, Inc. is the sole supplier for the Early Literacy Station.

**5. CERTIFICATION BY THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

I hereby certify that the above facts are accurate and complete.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lami Aromire  
Director, Information Technology

**6. CERTIFICATION BY THE CONTRACT SPECIALIST:**

I have reviewed the above findings and certify that they are sufficient to justify the use of the sole source method of procurement under the cited authority, I certify that the notice of intent to award a sole source procurement was published in accordance with D.C. Official Code §2-354.04 and that no response was received. I recommend that the Chief Procurement Officer approve the use of the sole source method of procurement for this proposed action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ameer M. Abdullah, Sr.  
Contract Specialist

**DETERMINATION**

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the DCPL Procurement Regulations, 19 DCMR §4320.7 I hereby determine that the award of this sole source action for the services described herein is in the best interest of the District of Columbia Public Library.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane Wooden  
Chief Procurement Officer