



COMING TO LOUISIANA IN 2011-2012

JOURNEY STORIES

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Smithsonian Institution



The **Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities (LEH)** invites smaller museums, libraries and cultural institutions in towns of fewer than 12,000 residents to apply to host a **Smithsonian Institution** traveling exhibition entitled *Journey Stories*. This exhibition, made possible through the **Museum on Main Street (MOMS)** program, has been developed especially for rural audiences and small museums with limited access to traveling exhibitions due to space and cost constraints. *Journey Stories* will tour six small Louisiana communities in 2011. Sites will be chosen based on geographic location, strength of proposed ideas for auxiliary events, and physical display space.

In addition to covering exhibition rental fees for each selected site, the LEH will make available up to \$6,500 in grant funds (consult LEH staff regarding application procedure for these funds) to each host in support of ancillary local programs.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2009.

[CLICK HERE](#) TO DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION.

ABOUT THE EXHIBIT:

Our transportation history is more than boats, buses, cars, wagons and trucks. The development of transportation technology was largely inspired by the human drive for freedom. The Museum on Main Street exhibition *Journey Stories* will examine the intersection between modes of travel and Americans' desire to feel free to move. The story is diverse and focused on immigration, migration, innovation and freedom. It is accounts of immigrants coming in search of promise in a new country; stories of individuals and families relocating in search of fortune, their own homestead, or employment; the harrowing journeys of Africans and Native Americans forced to move; and, of course, fun and frolic on the open road.

The story of the intersection between transportation and American society is complicated, but it tells us much about who we are – people who see our societal mobility as a means for asserting our individual freedom. The Museum on Main Street exhibition *Journey Stories* will use engaging images with audio and artifacts to tell the individual stories that illustrate the critical roles travel and movement have played in building our diverse American society.

The exhibit is comprised of small, freestanding, self-contained kiosks capable of multiple configurations. It features interactive flipbooks, audio components, objects and artifacts, digital frames and more. Detailed installation instructions will be provided to each exhibitor. Everything needed to install the exhibit is included, and it is packed in 14 production flight cases with wheels and handles for easy mobility. Each case can fit through a single door. The exhibition is accompanied by a promotional banner, publicity materials, a docent training manual, educational materials and reading lists for local educators, and a website full of resources for local exhibitors and their partners.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Institution is a museum, public library, or other cultural institution in a community of fewer than 12,000 residents
- Institution has at least 750 square feet of exhibition floor space with at least 8-foot ceilings
- Institution is a non-profit organization

EACH HOST INSTITUTION WILL RECEIVE FROM THE LOUISIANA ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES:

- Free rental of the exhibit for a 6-week period
- Up to \$6,500 in grant funds from the LEH in support of planning and complementary community programs such as oral history projects, guest lectures, film discussion series, artifact collection, discovery days, teacher workshops, reading discussion programs, etc.
- An exhibition support manual covering installation, object collection and preservation, public relations, fundraising techniques, volunteer instructions and evaluation materials
- Ready-made publicity materials to promote the exhibition
- Assistance in program planning, local exhibition development, public relations, fundraising, budgeting and volunteerism

IN RETURN, HOST INSTITUTIONS WILL BE ASKED TO:

- Identify a staff member or volunteer who will serve as the director of the exhibit project for its duration (January 2010 to April 2012), and who will participate in mandatory planning meetings and workshops
- Produce a local exhibition to complement and localize the themes of *Journey Stories* and to tell your community's unique immigration and transportation story
- Plan and implement humanities-based public programs during the exhibition
- Prepare and submit two LEH grant proposals in support of project planning and implementation
- Participate in statewide shipping of exhibition
- Keep track of all staff and volunteer time, facilities, funds raised, monies earned, attendance figures and other resources donated to the project and provide a report of this information at the project's conclusion
- Raise at least \$2,000-\$2,500 in additional cash funds in support of the project for complementary programs or exhibits

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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