



HUMANITIES KANSAS

Guidelines

THE SMITHSONIAN IS COMING TO KANSAS!

Humanities Kansas is bringing *Americans*, a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition to Kansas for an exclusive tour August 2025 – July 2026.

ABOUT AMERICANS

Americans is based on the exhibition of the same name currently on display at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI). Curated by Paul Chaat Smith (Comanche), the exhibit uncovers the many ways American Indian images, names and stories have been part of the nation's identity since before the country began.

Americans is part of Museum on Main Street (MoMS), a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and Humanities Kansas to bring high-quality traveling exhibitions, educational resources, and programming primarily to small and rural communities through partnerships with local museums, historical societies, and other cultural venues. The exhibitions are designed to engage communities and spark conversations.

APPLY TO HOST THE SMITHSONIAN

HK invites in-state nonprofit cultural organizations, museums, art centers, public libraries, and others to apply to host the Smithsonian traveling exhibition. The exhibition requires a minimum of 750 square feet of exhibit space, 8.5-foot ceilings, and access to electrical outlets. Sites are chosen based on the strength of proposed ideas for auxiliary events, meaningful partnerships, geographic location, and physical display space.

Host Sites Receive:

- Free rental of the Smithsonian's *Americans* exhibition.
- Up to \$3,500 to support the creation of a local companion exhibit as well as community programs such as guest lectures, book discussions, and community forums.
- Access to special HK programs and scholars.
- Publicity materials such as posters, press kits, and banner.
- Professional installation and de-installation guidance.
- An exhibit support manual and program planning assistance.
- Travel expenses to attend two training workshops.
- Free capacity building opportunities including attending the Kansas Museums Association conference.

Host Site Responsibilities:

- Provide a secure and enclosed space of at least 750 square feet with 8.5-foot ceilings.
- Appoint a Project Director who will attend 2 mandatory meetings.
- Create a companion exhibit and implement at least 3 humanities programs.
- Publicize the exhibit in coordination with HK.
- Payment of \$350 to support shipping expenses.
- Contribute up to \$3,500 of in-kind support (time, supplies, etc.) as cost-share.
- Complete final paperwork for the close of the grant.

TO APPLY

Submit an application electronically through HK's grant system. Access the application here:

<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=hk>. **Application Deadline: June 26, 2024.**



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BECOME A PARTNER SITE

Can't host the Smithsonian exhibition, but still interested in the participating in the statewide conversation? Become a Partner Site. Partner Sites do not host the *Americans* exhibition, but instead receive grants up to \$2,500 to develop exhibitions and public events that explore how the exhibit themes connect to local history and interests.

Partner Sites Receive:

- Up to \$2,500 to support the creation of a local companion exhibit as well as community programs such as guest lectures, book discussions, and community forums.
- Publicity materials such as posters, postcards, and press kits.
- Access to special HK programs and scholars.
- Travel expenses to attend one training workshop.
- Free capacity building opportunities including attending the Kansas Museums Association conference.

Partner Site Responsibilities:

- Appoint a Project Director who will attend one training workshop.
- Create a companion exhibit and implement at least 3 humanities programs.
- Contribute up to \$2,500 of in-kind support (time, supplies, etc.) as cost-share and keep thorough records.
- Complete final paperwork for the close of the grant.

TO APPLY

Submit an application electronically through HK's grant system. Access the application here:

<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=hk>. **Application Deadline: June 26, 2024.**

Questions? Contact Abigail Kaup, Program Officer, at abigail@humanitieskansas.org or (785) 357-0359.

ABOUT HUMANITIES KANSAS

Humanities Kansas is an independent nonprofit leading a movement of ideas. Since 1972, HK's programming, grants, and partnerships have documented and shared stories to spark conversations and invite new insights. Together with statewide partners and supporters, HK encourages Kansans to draw on diverse histories, literatures, and cultures to create connections with one another and strengthen Kansas communities and our democracy. Visit humanitieskansas.org.