



## Water/Ways in North Carolina

The Smithsonian's *Water/Ways* is coming to NC in 2020

North Carolina Humanities Council's Call for Proposals

Proposal Deadline: October 3rd 2018

### About Water/Ways

Water is life. It shapes our human culture -our ways of life. It is an essential natural resource that allows us to travel, determines where we live, controls what we eat and drink, and inspires literature, art and music. The Smithsonian's *Water/Ways* exhibition dives into water, exploring the relationships between people and water – environmentally, culturally, and historically. Exhibition themes include:

- **Water and Humanity**
- **Where is our Water?**
- **What is a Watershed?**
- **Availability of Water**
- **Harnessing the Power of Water**
- **Water as a Critical Resource**

**What is Included in the Exhibit:** Five stand-alone kiosks with colorful photographs and labels, Audio clips, Video clips, Hands-on activities, iPad interactives

### Become an Exhibit Host Site

The North Carolina Humanities Council is coordinating the exhibit's tour in North Carolina and seeks six nonprofit partner organizations in rural communities to host *Water/Ways* for approximately six weeks in 2020-2021. Selected sites will host the Smithsonian exhibit and augment it with their own regional stories, artifacts and programs, creating a unique, local experience. With its distinct aquatic landscape of Atlantic Coast beaches, mountain rivers and local lakes, water plays an integral part in shaping North Carolina's identity.

### Selection Criteria

Host sites will be chosen based on the following factors:

- Quality of collaborations with community partners
- Quality of supporting humanities-based public programming and events
- Creativity in how exhibit themes are highlighted in a local companion exhibit and humanities-based programming.
- Geographic location



## Host Site Eligibility

The North Carolina Humanities Council invites museums, libraries, nature centers, community venues and other cultural nonprofit organizations to apply. Rural nonprofits are encouraged to apply. Eligible applicants will:

- Provide a minimum of 700 square feet of secure exhibit space with a minimum of 8' 6" ceilings. Space must have access to electrical outlets. Site will ensure exhibit is not displayed in direct sunlight to maintain the integrity of exhibition panels.
- Plan and implement robust public humanities programs that support the exhibit with community partners
- Identify a Project Director: A lead staff member or volunteer who will serve the duration of the project
- Identify a secondary staff member or volunteer who will serve the duration of the project
- Send Project Director and site support liaison to a statewide Programming Meeting and Installation Workshop
- Ensure at least a 2:1 grant match of cash and In-kind resources for public programs
- Record all staff and volunteer time, facilities, and other resources donated to the project
- Follow guidelines to install and de-install the exhibition
- Have on-site staff presence when exhibition is open
- Track attendance, maintain budget records, submit assessment forms, and submit final program reports
- Ensure widespread community participation through public relations campaigns and other promotional means



## Host Sites Will Receive

- The Smithsonian Institution exhibition for approximately a six-week period, rent free
- Grant funds of up to \$2,000 to support public, humanities-based programming, such as lecturers, film series, local exhibit development, oral history collection, workshops, reading discussion programs, dramatizations, etc.
- Travel expenses for the Project Director and site support liaison to attend the Program Meeting and Installation Workshop
- An exhibition support manual covering installation, object collection, and conservation
- Promotional support including, exhibition brochures and posters, public relations support, and promotional templates
- Expert guidance in program-planning from exhibition consultants and statewide humanities scholar
- Capacity development support including a membership to AASLH and their StEPs program
- One-on-one consultations with Council staff for program assistance and guidance



## Submission Instructions

1. Review the Council's RFP and [Grant Proposal Guidelines](#) before applying
2. Review the [application instructions and FAQs](#) then [watch this video tutorial](#) on how to apply online
3. Get started on your LOI in our [online application system](#) and submit your LOI by 10/3/18
4. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Submission of LOI does not guarantee selection
5. Determinations Announced in December 2018

**Proposals Due October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018 | Questions? Call us at 704.687.1521**

*Water/Ways* is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the North Carolina Humanities Council. *Water/Ways* is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York and supported by the United States Congress.