

Grants for Local History *from* Ohio Historical Society

The History Fund



What's the *History Fund*?

- Newer grant program of the Ohio Historical Society
- Supports local and state history projects, programs, and events

www.ohiohistory/historyfund



OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The History Fund

- A Statehood Day legislative priority since 2006
- Also called “tax check off” or “competitive matching grant” program

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OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Goals of the History Fund:

To support projects that...

- ✓ **Are objective and fair**
- ✓ **Strengthen Ohio history**
- ✓ **Demonstrate community support**
- ✓ **Benefit the public**
- ✓ **Demonstrate a measurable impact**
- ✓ **Foster sustainability**
- ✓ **Meet professional standards**

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Who funds the *History Fund*?

- You—your donation of your tax refund or your gift to OHS funds the grant program

*Your tax refund donations / gift to OHS
+ Ohio Historical Society
= History Fund grant program*

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The History Fund – the Details

- Who is eligible to apply; who isn't?
- What activities will the *History Fund*, fund?
- Grant program timeline
- Contact information

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Who is eligible to apply?

- Ohio-based, nonprofit organizations in good standing
- Public entities in Ohio, eg. units of local government, public libraries, and educational institutions
- Organizations operating OHS sites under site management agreements.
- *Functions / fiscal responsibilities assigned to OHS under site management agreements are not eligible for History Fund grants.*

Who's ineligible to apply?

- **For-profit businesses**
- **Private individuals**
- **Ohio Historical Society**
- *Any of these may provide services to a grantee, but no grants will be awarded directly to these applicants.*

What activities will the *History Fund*, fund?

Projects in 3 categories:

1. Organizational Development
2. Programs & Collections
3. Bricks & Mortar

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What activities will the *History Fund*, fund?

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Projects that build capacity: provide training and materials to help historical organizations help themselves

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ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Grant minimum: \$1,000**
- **Grant maximum: \$4,000**
- **Project length: 1 year**
- **Match requirement: 80/20.** The grant will pay 80% of the total cost of a project; applicant will be responsible for a 20% match.
- **Funds distribution: 50% of the grant amount at the beginning of the project; remainder paid after project final report accepted.**

What activities will the *History Fund*, fund?

PROGRAMS & COLLECTIONS

- Projects that further the *study, interpretation, publication and dissemination of historical information*, engagement of communities in history, or *preservation of historical collections and archives.*

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PROGRAMS & COLLECTIONS

- **Grant minimum: \$2,000**
- **Grant maximum: \$20,000**
- **Project length: 2 years**
- **Match requirement: 60/40.** The grant will pay 60% of the total cost of a project; applicant will be responsible for a 40% match.
- **Funds distribution: 50% of the grant amount at the beginning of the project; remainder paid after project final report accepted.**

What activities will the *History Fund*, fund?

BRICKS & MORTAR

- **Work on properties on National Register of Historic Places**
- **Work on a building used for the preservation of historical or archival collections regardless of the building's historic status.**
- **New construction dedicated to the preservation of historical or archival collections.**

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BRICKS & MORTAR

- **Grant minimum: \$2,000**
- **Grant maximum: \$20,000**
- **Project length: 2 years**
- **Match requirement: 60/40.** The grant will pay 60% of total cost of a project; applicant will be responsible for a 40% match.
- **Funds distribution: 20% of grant paid at the beginning of the project. Remainder paid over life the grant on a reimbursement basis.**

BRICKS & MORTAR – *continued*

- Bricks and Mortar projects require a maintenance agreement
- *Property owner agrees to maintain the historic features of the property (for historic properties), or retain the building for its intended use (for non-historic) for five years.*

Ineligible Projects – *History Fund*

- *Acquisition of historical materials for an institution's collection.*
- *Buildings – moving or reconstructing*
- *Buildings – remodeling: projects to remodel or modernize building interiors unrelated to the guidelines above.*
- *Copyright: projects that would convert to a digital format materials that the applicant institution does not hold the copyright to.*
- *Costs of operation, such as utilities, security system maintenance fees, grounds keeping hosting services for website, digital image storage, etc.*

Ineligible projects – *History Fund*

- *Public works of art that do not address Ohio history and the goals of the History Fund (see above section).*
- *Equipment: Purchase of equipment not related to accomplishing a specific project goal.*
- *Historical markers: Grants to erect or repair Ohio Historical Markers. For grants for markers, see www.remarkableohio.org*
- *Honoraria when the primary intent is to confer distinction.*
- *Insurance costs, unless shown as match for an event or program.*
- *Interest and debt payments.*

Ineligible projects – *History Fund*

- *Interest and debt payments.*
- *Direct lobbying or fundraising.*
- *Mitigation costs (under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act).*
- *Oral history that does not focus on a particular subject or theme.*
- *Other activities: the list above is not comprehensive. Contact the Ohio Historical Society if you have a question about whether an activity is eligible for funding.*

History Fund timeline

- July 1, 2013: Application available at www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund
- *September 1: Applications due*
- February 2014: Funding decisions announced
- May 2014: Project periods start (12 to 24 months)

The History Fund

Questions, comments?

➤ *Contact:*

Local History Office / Ohio Historical Society

800-858-6878 or 614-297-2340

localhistory@ohiohistory.org

www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund



How do we apply?

Go to:

www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund
(after July 1)

- Applications accepted online only
- But, can download and print all materials!
- Can prepare application “offline” and cut and paste items into online application

www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund



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