

Interested in bringing a **Smithsonian Institution** traveling exhibition to **your** hometown? Here's your chance!

WATER | WAYS

The logo graphic consists of stylized, overlapping waves in shades of blue and green, positioned below the text 'WATER | WAYS'.

Coming to Kansas in 2017
APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 27, 2016



THE KANSAS HUMANITIES COUNCIL is pleased to announce an exclusive Kansas tour of **Water/Ways**, a traveling exhibition from the Smithsonian Institution. Six venues are needed to host this Smithsonian exhibition for six weeks starting in June 2017.

Water/Ways focuses on the numerous relationships between people and water. How has water shaped our history and traditions? How does it impact our daily life? What does the future hold for water?

The *Water/Ways* exhibition includes:

- 5 stand-alone kiosks
- Colorful photographs and labels
- Audio clips
- Video clips
- Hands-on activities
- Ipad interactives

How to Become a Host for *Water/Ways*

KHC invites museums, nature centers, public libraries, art centers and other nonprofit cultural organizations to apply. Experience with traveling exhibitions is not essential to a successful application. Eligible applicants will:

- Be located in a community with a population below 20,000.
- Provide :
 - a minimum of 700 square feet of display space for the Smithsonian exhibition
 - additional space for an exhibition telling the local story
 - a ceiling height of at least 8 ½ feet
 - four functional electrical outlets in the display space
 - crate storage
- Provide limited security during the exhibition's stay.
- Have convenient hours that are open to the public (All sites are requested to be open minimum of 20 hours/week during *Water/Ways*, but the more the better).
- Tell a unique local story that ties in with the theme of ***Water/Ways*** that will be the basis for a locally produced companion exhibition.
- Demonstrate ideas for strong public humanities programming.
- Have a history of partnerships among organizations in the community or region.

If eligible, please fill out the application on pages 3 & 4.

The six sites selected to host the *Water/Ways* Smithsonian exhibition will receive:

- Free rental of the Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition.
- An exhibition support manual and assistance in exhibition and program planning.
- Publicity materials such as posters, brochures, press kits, banner, PSAs, and a tour website.
- \$2,000 in funding support from KHC for development of the local companion exhibition, public humanities events, and local publicity and promotions.
- Two complementary humanities presentations about water from KHC.
- Statewide publicity and promotion.
- Expertise of and consultation from statewide water experts and museum professionals.

Sites selected to host the *Water/Ways* Smithsonian exhibition will:

- Provide a one-time cash fee of \$200 to KHC to help offset shipping costs.
- Assign a project director for the exhibition who will attend two statewide planning meetings and coordinate the project from beginning to end.
- Implement publicity in your local community and region in cooperation with KHC.
- Produce a local companion exhibition and host two public humanities programs about water from KHC.
- Host a grand opening/ribbon cutting and invite public officials, media, legislators, congressional representatives, and others.
- Provide a cost share report at the project's conclusion tracking all staff and volunteer time, facility expenses, and other donated resources.
- Provide a secure, dry space to store empty exhibition crates for the duration of the exhibition.
- Engage in cooperative publicity with Partner Sites (see explanation below).
- Contribute hard work and some out-of-pocket expenses.

Can't host the National Exhibition, but still interested in the *Water/Ways* initiative?

KHC will select additional nonprofit organizations to become Partner Sites. Partner Sites will receive small grants of up to \$1,500 to explore community stories related to themes in the *Water/Ways* exhibition. However, please note that the Smithsonian exhibition will not be on display at any Partner Site. **If you indicate interest** in becoming a Partner Site on page 4, KHC staff will follow up with additional details. You can also contact Tracy Quillin at tracy@kansashumanities.org to express your interest in becoming a Partner Site.

Additional opportunities for participation in the *Water/Ways* initiative are available. Contact Tracy Quillin at tracy@kansashumanities.org for information and updates.

For more information, or to talk with a past project director to better understand the commitment involved, contact:

Tracy Quillin, Associate Director
Kansas Humanities Council
Phone: (785) 357-0359
Email: tracy@kansashumanities.org
Website: www.kansashumanities.org

To see examples of participating host communities from past traveling Smithsonian exhibitions, go to KHC's website: www.kansashumanities.org click on Programs, then click on *Water/Ways*.

Stay connected to *Water/Ways* updates and KHC by following @kshumanities on Twitter and liking the Kansas Humanities Council's Facebook page!

Please note: KHC will move forward with *Water/Ways* projects as funding allows.

WATER | WAYS



WATER/WAYS APPLICATION **DEADLINE: JANUARY 27, 2016**

Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper and submit by email, fax, or mail to KHC by January 27, 2016. Please note that the Smithsonian host site application process is competitive. No organization is guaranteed to be a Smithsonian host site.

1. Organization Name, Address, City, Zip, Website Address, and Community Population
2. Project Director, Title, Phone, Fax, E-mail
3. Number of permanent staff (full & part-time) and regular volunteers
4. Organization's annual visitation and weekly hours of operation
5. Number of hours per week and days the **Water/Ways** exhibition will be open to visitors.
If you are all-volunteer organization, please describe your plans for staffing Water/Ways during the six weeks it will be on display. All sites are requested to be open a minimum of 20 hours/week, but the more the better.
6. Preferred dates for hosting the exhibition (indicate #1 and #2 choice)
 June 24-Aug 6, 2017 **Aug 12-Sept 24, 2017** **Sept 30-Nov 12, 2017**
 Nov 18-Dec 31, 2017 **Jan 6-Feb 18, 2018** **Feb 24-April 8, 2018**
 All dates would work
7. Please list any dates that your organization CANNOT host the exhibition.
8. Describe the facility where the *Water/Ways* exhibition will be displayed. Please indicate:
 - Number of square footage in exhibition space – minimum of 700 square feet required for the Smithsonian exhibition, plus additional onsite space for the local companion exhibition.
 - Ceiling height, measured from floor to ceiling – minimum of 8 ½ feet required.
 - Whether or not the space has at least four working electrical outlets – exhibition contains three video components and an iPad stand that requires electricity.
 - Ability to provide limited security – one-person is onsite when the exhibition is open to the public.
9. Identify at least 2 other organizations that will contribute to the success of this project. Attach letters of support. A letter from the local CVB or equivalent is required.

10. Tell why your organization would like to host the **Water/Ways** exhibition. Please indicate how the community would benefit from the Smithsonian exhibition and programs.
11. Describe your plans for a grand opening/ribbon cutting. Who would be invited? How would you publicize the event?
12. In 300 words, tell your community's water story and describe how you would interpret this story in a local companion exhibition to the *Water/Ways* Smithsonian exhibition. Stories should demonstrate Kansans' relationship with water: weather events (floods, droughts), recreation, reservoirs, settlement patterns, access to clean water, water traditions and folklore, livelihoods related to water, agriculture and water, and other similar topics.
13. As a host of *Water/Ways*, you will receive two complementary public programs from KHC. Describe your initial plans for additional complementary public programs that extend the **Water/Ways** theme into your community. What topics interest you? What format? (Examples: guest speakers, film or book discussions, oral history projects, community forums, etc.)
14. What professional development skills do you hope to gain from hosting *Water/Ways*. Please rank from 1 to 6, with one being highest and six being lowest.

___ Exhibition Design & Installation ___ Event Planning ___ Fundraising
 ___ Marketing ___ Collections Care ___ School Programs

15. If your community is not selected to host the *Water/Ways* exhibition, would you be interested in participating as a **Water/Ways Partner Site**? Partner Sites receive a grant of \$1,500 to move forward with their local project plans about water. Please note that Partner Sites do not host the Smithsonian exhibition. If you answer yes, KHC staff will follow up with you with further application instructions. *Selecting yes or no has no impact on your chances of being selected to host the Smithsonian exhibition.*

Yes! If I am not selected to host the Smithsonian exhibition, I am interested in participating as a *Water/Ways* Partner Site. Please contact me with more information.

No. I am only interested in being considered as a Smithsonian host site.

DEADLINE: January 27, 2016

Emailed or faxed applications must be received by 5:00 pm.

Mailed applications must be postmarked no later than January 27, 2016.

Send to: **Tracy Quillin**, Associate Director, Kansas Humanities Council
 112 SW 6th Ave, Suite 210, Topeka, KS 66603-3895
 Phone: (785) 357-0359
 Email: tracy@kansashumanities.org
 Fax: (785) 357-1723