

Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

Below are examples of recently funded projects that support activities in the Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services program.

Alaska

Chilkat Indian Village - Haines, AK

Year: 2012

Amount: \$42,575

Grant: Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

Chilkat Indian Village, under the guidance of staff members from the Alaska State Museum and the Sheldon Museum and Cultural Center, will use grant funds to create a collections development plan for the Jilkaat Kwaan Cultural Heritage Center in Klukwan, AK. The project director will work with elders, clan leaders, project team members, and the tribal council to identify topics for future cultural center exhibits; develop exhibition goals and objectives; and create an outline and a basic schematic layout for each exhibit. The tribe will also use funds to document and inventory tribally owned public artifacts.

Koniag, Incorporated - Kodiak, AK

Year: 2012

Amount: \$49,988

Grant: Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

Koniag, Inc. tribal museum, the Alutiiq Museum, will advance and renew the lost art of skin sewing through Nuta'at Mingqusqat: The New Sewers' Club. This 18-month project will educate developing adult skin sewers, recruit new sewers, establish intergenerational ties around instruction and practice, develop educational resources on skin sewing, and enrich community knowledge of the art. The project will start with a one-week trip to the National Museum of Finland to study the Etholen Collection, a large and rare sample of ancestral Alutiiq skin clothing. Using what was learned from the trip, Master Sewer Susan Malutin will travel to rural schools to lead workshops on skin sewing, and work with members of these communities to produce pieces of a child-sized caribou skin parka. Developing adult skin sewers will assemble the parka during sewing circles at the museum. A DVD of the project will be produced to document the project.

California

Big Pine Band of Owens Valley Paiute Shoshone Indians - Big Pine, CA

Year: 2012

Amount: \$17,832

Grant: Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

Big Pine Band of Owens Valley Paiute will develop the Papoose Flat Exhibit, a collaborative project of the Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley and the Inyo National Forest. The exhibit will describe the partnership between the two in protecting the Papoose Flat Prehistoric Archaeological District after a motorcycle event adversely affected six sites in 1990. Representative artifacts, with accompanying interpretive panels, will be displayed in two cases in the Big Pine Paiute Tribal Council chambers. Students from the Big Pine Indian Education Center will complete an educational activity with elders at the exhibit and go on site visits to Papoose Flat and a nearby obsidian quarry with staff and elders.

Table Mountain Rancheria - Friant, CA

Year: 2012

Amount: \$26,104

Grant: Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

Table Mountain Rancheria will increase the storage, access, and preservation of the tribe's cultural, archeological, and photographic collections. The project will include working with a consultant to conduct a conservation needs assessment to evaluate storage conditions and review existing collection policies and disaster plans. Storage and security of collections will be increased through the purchase of secure storage cabinets and shelving; an HVAC system; conservation supplies; and environmental, fire, and security monitoring devices. Collections will be moved and rehoused in the new storage units.

Connecticut

Mashantucket Pequot Tribe of Connecticut - Mashantucket, CT

Year: 2012

Amount: \$47,637

Grant: Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

The Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation will use its grant to make audio-visual history collections in the Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center's archives more accessible to the tribal community, museum staff, and researchers. The project will build on an existing collections management program to improve image documentation and the ability to search digital image and media collections focusing on Pequot community history over the last 150 years. The collections encompass Pequot family images, oral histories, and video interview footage documenting tribal members and elders involved in revitalizing the community following federal recognition in 1983. Project activities will also produce and pilot a tribal community electronic scrapbook for outreach to tribal members, particularly tribal youth, and highlight the Pequot family history materials in museum archives.

Hawaii

Hula Preservation Society - Kaneohe, HI

Year: 2012

Amount: \$49,994

Grant: Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

The Hula Preservation Society will complete "Preserving the Past, Sharing the Future," a project designed to expand the capacity of the society to meet the needs of the Native Hawaiian community. Through a partnership with Kamehameha Schools Archives, society staff members and interns will receive training on processing techniques for archival collections. An archival consultant, in partnership with elder advisers, will develop two guiding documents: an Archive Processing Manual and a Policy Manual, customized for the society's unique resources and role in the community. During the year-long project, the society will complete archival processing of 21,500 items donated by hula masters and native elders; purchase and install archival shelving; and stabilize the collections environment through HEPA air purifiers, enhanced dehumidification, and installation of a multicamera security system.