

Program Overview

Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services

Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services (NANH) grants support Indian tribes and organizations that primarily serve and represent Native Hawaiians. Grants are intended to provide opportunities to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge through strengthened activities in areas such as exhibitions, educational services and programming, professional development, and collections stewardship.

Distinguishing features of successful NANH projects are:

- *Institutional Impact:* Projects address an identified need or challenge facing an organization.
- *In depth knowledge:* Project designs reflects a thorough understanding of current practice and knowledge about the subject matter.
- *Project-based design:* Work plans consist of a set of logical, interrelated activities tied directly to addressing the key need or challenge identified in the proposal.
- *Demonstrable results:* Projects generate measureable results that tie directly to the need or challenge it was designed to address.

There are no project categories in the NANH grant program. Projects including, but not limited to, the following activities may be supported through the program:

- Enhanced museum resources that foster early, digital, information, health, financial, media, civic, and other types of literacies;
- Interpretive and educational programs, product development, and delivery;
- Exhibition development, design, and fabrication;
- Digital learning resource development, design, and delivery;
- Programs designed for audiences of specific ages, backgrounds, and circumstances;
- Professional development/training for formal and informal educators;
- Learning partnerships with schools and development of museum resources and programs in support of K-12 school curricula;
- Learning partnerships with schools and other entities and development of museum resources and programs in support of career preparedness and workforce re-entry for all ages;
- Programs and partnership development for out-of-school audiences;
- Program evaluation, visitor studies, and market analysis to guide the development, redesign, and/or effective delivery of learning experiences;
- Creating trusted spaces for community learning, debate, and dialogue;
- Building new partnerships to strengthen community connections through exhibitions, programs, and events;
- Conducting community-focused planning activities;
- Implementing audience-focused studies and evaluation;

- Applying cross-sector partnership development models and programs to meet shared vision for community improvement;
- Working with the community to create measures and gather information to understand project's progress and impacts;
- Developing programs based on community priorities that provide greater accessibility and inclusion to underserved audiences and those with special needs.
- Planning for the management, care, and conservation of collections;
- Cataloging, inventorying, documenting, and registration of collections;
- Implementing and enhancing Collections Management Systems in a sustainable manner;
- Planning and initiating digitization activities, including creating digital tools, training, and platforms that allow expanded public access to and use of the museum's collection and related information;
- Developing partnerships that address barriers to accessing museum collections and related information;
- Developing conservation surveys and assessments;
- Developing and executing conservation treatments;
- Rehousing collections; and
- Planning and executing environmental improvements for museum collections storage and exhibit areas.