



Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

Sample Application MN-00-16-0013-16

Koniag, Inc.

Amount awarded by IMLS:	\$48,208
Amount of cost share:	\$5,751

Attached are the following components excerpted from the original application.

- Abstract
- Narrative
- Schedule of Completion

Please note that the instructions for preparing narratives for FY2017 applications differ from those that guided the preparation of previous applications. Be sure to use the narrative instructions in the FY2017 Notice of Funding Opportunity for the grant program and project category to which you are applying.

Abstract

The Kodiak Archipelago lies at the intersection of two major Alaskan environments—the misty rainforests of southeast Alaska and the windswept coastal meadows of the Aleutian Chain. Although Kodiak is best known for giant bears and fertile salmon streams, it is also home to incredibly lush and diverse plant communities. A wet, maritime climate and rich volcanic soils provide an ideal environment for plant growth. For millennia, our people, the Alutiiq, have transformed this vegetation into food, medicine, tools, and art. Although plant resources are widely available, knowledge of our plant traditions has waned. In recent decades, trips to the store have replaced trips to the beach to collect fresh vegetables. Today, few young people understand the wealth of plants available from the shoreline to the mountaintops or how to harvest and prepare plants products. Moreover, a detailed, island-wide study of Kodiak Alutiiq plantlore, sponsored by our tribal health provider, remains unpublished. Information on Alutiiq plant harvesting is relatively inaccessible—stored in a small number of culture bearers, unpublished studies, and museum collections. This has made it hard for Alutiiq people to know and share our plant use traditions.

A recent subsistence education project led by our tribal museum, the Alutiiq Museum (AMAR), illustrates strong community interest in wild plants. In 2012, the museum featured a subsistence food each month, inviting Alutiiq chefs to share harvesting and preparation techniques at hands-on events. The month showcasing plants was the most popular, with great attendance and many requests for additional programming. Community members loved learning about Alutiiq foods, and were especially draw to plentiful, easily harvested plants.

To grow knowledge of traditional plant use, support Alutiiq language revitalization, and advance understanding of our traditions among all people, Koniag, Inc. proposes *Naut'staat—The Kodiak Alutiiq Plantlore Project (NKAPP)*—Phase 1. This one-year partnership with the Alutiiq Museum will transform an existing archive of Alutiiq ethnobotanical information and images into print-ready book manuscript and plan for its publication. Publication will follow later, under a separately funded, Phase 2 project. *NKAPP* will center on Kodiak Alutiiq Plantlore, a 150-page report by anthropologist Priscilla Russell. Compiled thirty years ago, this report synthesizes the archive data and presents the knowledge of experienced Alutiiq plant users island-wide, many of whom are no longer living. It was commissioned by the Kodiak Area Native Association (KANA) and deposited at AMAR with recordings, photos, and pressings. Both KANA and Russell support its publication. AMAR Director of Research and Publication Amy Steffian will lead efforts to transform the collection into a book, working with Russell and a team of culture bearers, photographers, and publication professionals. Manuscript preparation will include an extensive review and edit of Russell's report (recommended by past reviewers), addition of Alutiiq vocabulary, and illustration with photographs from AMAR collections and images taken for the project. To insure a quality product, the manuscript will be professionally copyedited and designed, and community advisors will participate in formative and summative evaluation. The result will be an electronic file, ready for submission to a printer, as well as two community member book reviews. To advance publication—project Phase 2, the museum will create a publication plan. This document will identify printing costs, likely funders, distribution needs, marketing activities, and a schedule for completion. Finally, photos taken for the project will be added to a cataloged archive in AMAR's permanent collection. This project builds on AMAR's success in documenting and sharing Alutiiq traditions through professionally produce publications. By creating well-illustrated works written for the public, and involving community collaborators in all parts of the publication process, the museum honors multiple voices and perspectives, connects tribal members with their heritage, and returns Alutiiq traditions to public awareness. The project will continue this work. By preparing materials from a valuable museum collection for publication, *NKAPP* will help to develop a foundational resource for heritage exploration, one that demonstrates the breadth and sophistication of traditional ecological knowledge and promotes dignity among our people.

Narrative

1. Statement of Need

Need: The Alutiiq are one of Alaska's least known Native people. Rapid conquest of their homeland by Russian traders led to profound change. Catastrophic losses of life, language, and tradition suppressed cultural knowledge. Many practices were hidden or lost. Today, Alutiiq customs are preserved in relatively inaccessible places: the memories of Elders, archaeological sites, and museum objects. This has made it hard for Alutiiq people to know and share their history. It has also led to misconceptions about the Alutiiq, omitted Alutiiq heritage from discussions of local history, and created feelings of shame about a remarkable culture.

Our tribal museum, the Alutiiq Museum & Archaeological Repository (AMAR), works to reverse this situation. The museum provides all people with accurate, accessible cultural information and opportunities to explore Alutiiq traditions. Exhibits, programs, and publications share arts, language, harvesting, and history. They revitalize traditions and build community respect for Native heritage. However, not all cultural practices have been easy to share. In 2012, AMAR devoted a year to documenting and sharing subsistence practices. Each month the museum worked with an Alutiiq chef to feature a wild food with demonstrations of processing, and preparing. The program was very popular, but it was difficult to find people who could share less commonly harvested foods. While many families continue to catch salmon or collect shellfish, the use of other traditional resources has declined substantially. This is especially true of wild plants.

In part, this situation reflects the ease of purchasing fruits, vegetables, dyes, medicines, and raw materials from local stores, but it also reveals limited access to traditional knowledge. Plant terms and vocabulary are preserved in just a handful of Elder speakers, and most people don't know which plants to harvest, when, where, and how to collect them, or how to prepare what they collect.

Written records of Kodiak Alutiiq plantlore are also limited and hard to access. The one available book featuring Kodiak Alutiiq plantlore combines Western and Native traditions, reflects one community, and is difficult to obtain. Similarly, AMAR cares for an exceptional plantlore archive, but it has never been published. This collection holds 298 images, 15 tapes of recorded interviews, 72 pressed plants, field notes, and a 150-page report synthesizing the archive. Created thirty years ago by Alaskan ethnobotanist Priscilla Russell, this archive represents an island-wide research effort. It is the most comprehensive source of information on Alutiiq plantlore and it includes the knowledge of many late Elders, but it is only available at AMAR.

With IMLS funds, Koniag, Inc. proposes *Naut'staat—The Kodiak Alutiiq Plantlore Project (NKAPP)*, the first phase of a two-part project to publish Russell's research. In Phase 1, Koniag will fund AMAR to create a print-ready book manuscript from the plantlore archive and develop a plan for its publication. Working with Russell, Alutiiq speakers and culture bearers, a botanist, a photographer, and community reviewers, AMAR will edit the research report, select images from the archive, create additional images, and compile Alutiiq vocabulary to develop a book manuscript. This document will be professionally designed and evaluated by community members. The project will include digital photography of cold season plant harvesting, a subject covered in Russell's research, but not as fully imaged. The publication plan will include printing costs, a funding plan, a distribution list, an outline of marketing activities, a schedule for completion, and letters of community support. The plan will act as a guide to project Phase 2—Publication, to be completed as a separate effort.

NKAPP has broad support. Publication of the plantlore archive is specifically noted in AMAR's planning documents (Supportingdoc1). Alutiiq speakers are pleased to provide Alutiiq vocabulary for the work (Supportingdoc7), and the Kodiak School District recognizes that the publication will support current curricula (Supportingdoc15). Ms. Russell, now retired, is eager to see the work published. She wishes to honor her informants' by sharing their knowledge (as promised) and aid the process. She signed a publication agreement outlining her commitment and assigned copyright to AMAR (Supportingdoc4). The Kodiak Area Native Association, the sponsors of Russell's research, also supports publication. This was a central goal of their original sponsorship (Supportingdoc3). Finally, AMAR's popular Wild Foods project, demonstrates community interest in subsistence traditions, especially plant harvesting. The Wild Foods month featuring plants generated a large audience and great interest in additional programming. Community members loved learning about Alutiiq foods and were especially drawn to Kodiak's abundant, easily harvested, wild plants.

Beneficiaries: At its broadest level, this project is designed to benefit a public audience. The *NKAPP* manuscript will be carefully edited to provide clean, jargon free text. Numerous illustrations, titles, an attractive design, detailed image captions, and an index will make the work easy to browse or to study. This will insure an engaging resource for readers at many levels. More specifically, this project will benefit the Alutiiq community and growing interests in plant foods. Plant walks are becoming a more common activity at culture camps and retreats. Community gardens began this year in three Alutiiq communities, and a few culture bearers are starting to market plant-based salves and teas. *NKAPP* builds on this community interest.

Contributions to Museum Services: For AMAR, the project will expand public access to a unique heritage collection. Community members will be able explore the collection with greater ease and detail. When the book is published, people will be able to take information on plant use outdoors or into the kitchen. Similarly, the manuscript will provide a resource for museum interpretation. It will aid staff in creating exhibits and programs for years.

Link to Program Goals: *NKAPP* directly addresses both broad goals of the Native American Native Hawaiian Museum Services grant program. First, it assists an Alaska Native community in sustaining traditional cultural knowledge by creating three resources, (1) an engaging, accessible summary of plant harvesting, (2) a list of Alutiiq plant vocabulary, and (3) a photographic record of winter plant harvesting. Second, it strengthens a museum’s ability to share information by transforming a collection into an accessible interpretive resource. In short, the project builds capacity for both the community and the museum.

2. Impact

Performance Measures: *NKAPP* addresses the IMLS agency-level goal of *Content and Collections* by “broadening access and expanding use of the Nation’s collections.” As this project will transform an archival collection into a manuscript designed for publication, our performance indicators focus on the quality of the connection between the collection and the manuscript. We will evaluate the manuscript’s potential to share the plantlore archive and the information it contains (table 1).

Table 1. Summary of Performance Indicators

Performance Indicator	Data Collection	Evidence
1. Has AMAR created a resource that will increase access to the plantlore archive once published?	Manuscript development Manuscript design	Manuscript Table of Contents List of figures in the manuscript Manuscript index Manuscript design
2. Is the manuscript accessible and engaging? Will it promote knowledge of the archive and expanded use of its contents?	Review by EAC & Alutiiq Club Review by community members Review by culture bearer Review by staff and consultants	Committee meeting minutes Club meeting minutes Community book reviews Suggested edits by contributors
3. Has AMAR engaged tribal members throughout manuscript development to transform the archive into a resource the Alutiiq community will value?	Photos and notes from Russell visit Photos and notes from Alutiiq Club Draft text from tribal contributors Review by tribal members Project correspondence	Counciller’s Foreword Pedersen’s Preface Table of Alutiiq vocabulary Catalog of plant harvesting photos List of contributors and advisors Letters of support for publication plan

Twenty years ago, AMAR solicited peer reviews of Russell’s research report as a first step in considering publication of the archive. These reviews praised the report’s wealth of cultural and historical data, expansive coverage of Kodiak communities and plants, and respectful use of Native voices (Attachment 11). However, reviewers noted a need to update botanical nomenclature and Alutiiq spellings and to edit the text for easier reading. Building on these recommendations, project team members will read and review a full copy of the report to provide comments and potential edits to Russell and Steffian at the project’s start.

Additional formative evaluation will take place once the manuscript is designed. Members of the EAC, AMAR’s volunteer advisory community will be given an electronic draft and asked to comment on clarity, organization, and aesthetics in a meeting led by staff. Similarly, the Alutiiq Language Club will be asked to

assess the use of Alutiiq vocabulary and overall design at one of their weekly meetings. Finally, every member of the project team will be given a copy of the full draft manuscript to review. Meeting minutes and correspondence from team members will be used to make a final round of manuscript revisions. The next step will be copyediting. This professional service will provide a final layer of quality control (Supportingdoc8).

With a complete manuscript, AMAR will invite two community members to write personal reviews—summative evaluations. Each will receive an electronic copy of the manuscript and be asked to provide a 1,000-word summary, sharing their opinion of the volume, and its strengths and weaknesses. Reviewers will sign a release for their work, so their words can be shared in the eventual promotion of the publication.

Results: In transforming the plantlore archive into a publication, *NKAPP* will create valuable resources for the museum and the Kodiak community. First, the project will increase access to Alutiiq plantlore with a detailed, quality account of cultural knowledge prepared for a public audience. To insure a professional presentation, both factually and aesthetically, the manuscript will be developed with help from its author and a uniquely qualified team of editors. It will be extensively reviewed (described above), illustrated with archival photos (Supportingdoc13) and new photographs (Supportingdoc12), and professionally designed (Supportingdoc14). These steps will create an accurate, beautiful, well-written, culturally sensitive manuscript.

Second, the project will compile, preserve, and share Alutiiq language terms for ca. 60 commonly used Alutiiq plants. These terms—existing, remembered, and newly coined—will provide vocabulary for the manuscript and a resource for future museum projects. This work will support a larger community effort to document Alutiiq vocabulary in collaboration with the last generation of first language Alutiiq speakers. Alutiiq Club members will devote three meetings to naming plants, and a fourth to reviewing the draft manuscript. This final meeting will allow speakers to evaluate the terms as a cohesive set and see their use.

Third, the project will develop fuller documentation of cold season plant harvesting, an activity not yet well photographed. Images of collecting and processing will be taken by a skilled AMAR photographer (Supportingdoc12) and added to a new AMAR collection. AMAR's collections advisory committee recently expressed interest in seeing this resource developed and accessioned.

Attitudes: *NKAPP* will unite Alutiiq knowledge, Western botany, and a museum collection to tell a rich and multi-vocal story. As such, the project will help to advance awareness of Alutiiq plant traditions in a broad public audience, when publication is achieved. Additionally, the project will empower Alutiiq people to tell their cultural stories. Community advisors note that books can be off-putting to Native people. Reading is not a traditional way of learning. Moreover, books are often associated with the dominion of Western schools and scholars who write about, not with, Native people. AMAR has worked to change this situation by involving tribal people in all stages of publication projects and honoring tribal voices. *NKAPP* will continue this tradition. It will create a resource Kodiak Alutiiq people see as their own.

Products: *NKAPP* will produce five tangible products: (1) a print-ready PDF file of a Kodiak Alutiiq Plantlore book manuscript, (2) two book reviews of ca. 1,000 words written by community members, (3) two ca. 250 word articles published in the Alutiiq Museum's newsletter, (4) a cataloged archive of ca. 100 digital images taken for the project, and (5) a written publication plan.

Sustainability: By determining publication costs and creating a funding plan, *NKAPP's* publication plan will help the museum transform the manuscript into a book and sustain project work. AMAR used this approach in creating *Kal'unek*, a 400-page book that shares our largest collection. Grant funds helped AMAR prepare the *Kal'unek* manuscript and develop a plan that lead to the book's 2015 release.

Second, publishing this work through the non-profit Alutiiq Museum promotes sustainability. Koniag, Inc. and AMAR wish the publication to be available for many years. Establishing copyright with the museum will insure that the manuscript is preserved in AMAR's records, and can be republished as desired. The Alutiiq community will retain ownership of the material and the ability to use it far into the future.

Finally, *NKAPP* itself is aimed at sustaining community knowledge. There are few remaining Alutiiq speakers with knowledge of Alutiiq plants, and many are elderly. By working with community members to capture and record their knowledge, while we still can, we will preserve an important piece of the Alutiiq world and create an enduring resource for cultural education.

3. Project Design

Activities & Schedule: Koniag, Inc. will provide the Alutiiq Museum & Archaeological Repository (AMAR) with IMLS funding to implement a one-year project. Founded in 1995, this nationally accredited repository preserves Alutiiq traditions with a collection of over 250,000 objects and images. Exhibits, programs, and publications tell the Alutiiq story, promote cultural pride, and invite all people to explore Native heritage. Activities center on a modern facility in downtown Kodiak staffed by nine. AMAR serves about 8,000 visitors annually. Thousands more benefit from programs, publications, and digital resources that reach far into schools and communities. AMAR has an excellent record of grant management and project completion. In twenty years of operation, it has managed numerous grants from private, state, and federal organizations. As Koniag, Inc. does not have a grants manager, AMAR Director of Operations Frank Peterson will track activities and expenditures and report to IMLS.

NKAPP will begin in September of 2015, under the direction of AMAR Director of Research and Publication Amy Steffian. In week 1, Steffian and Peterson will complete services agreements, schedule a meeting of the project team with Russell, and arrange travel for out-of-town participants.

In the project's first two months, each member of the editorial team (Steffian, culture bearer Pedersen, botanist Parker) will review the manuscript and compile comments for Russell. We are including printing/copying costs in our budget, so that comments can be shared on paper. Russell can edit the manuscript electronically, but she has limited computer skills and no Internet access. Steffian will communicate with her by telephone during the project and use express mail to send and receive proofs.

To select illustrations for the book, AMAR curators Patrick Saltonstall and Marnie Leist will review the manuscript and create a list of desired images. Together they will select images from the plantlore archive, from other AMAR photograph collections, and of museum artifacts to illustrate themes in the narrative. They will summarize their recommendations in a spreadsheet that shows the images available and needed and their manuscript placement. This work will take place in months 1 and 2.

To compile Alutiiq vocabulary for the manuscript, AMAR Language Program Manager Michael Bach will work with the members of the Alutiiq Club at their weekly gatherings. The club is an AMAR program where Alutiiq speakers assemble for conversation and to assist with heritage projects. In preparation for these meetings, Bach will review the archive, compile a list of needed plant terms, research Alutiiq plant names, and create a PowerPoint presentation summarizing his finds (with plant photos from the archive and other sources). This simple visual presentation will help speakers connect to the featured plants. Bach will take meeting notes on the speaker's recommendations and then work with AMAR Executive Director April Counciller to spell the words. This work will take place in months 2 through 4, and the resulting vocabulary shared with Steffian for integration into the manuscript.

At the start of month 3, Russell will travel to Kodiak for a four-day meeting with project participants (table 2). At these meetings, participants will share their reviews and ideas for supporting materials. This will provide Russell the chance to discuss content, review proposed illustrations and vocabulary, and answer questions. Steffian will attend all the meetings to facilitate discussion, take notes, and outline next steps.

Table 2. Editorial Meeting Schedule for Priscilla Russell's trip to Kodiak

Project Week 9	Morning	Afternoon
Day 1	Russell travels to Kodiak	Tour AMAR, meet staff
Day 2	Meet Bach re: Alutiiq Language	Meet Pedersen & Counciller re: cultural content
Day 3	Meet Saltonstall & Leist re: photographs	Meet Parker re: Latin names, botany
Day 4	Meet Drabek re: design ideas	Russell travels home to Homer

Following the Kodiak team meeting, Russell and Steffian will collaborate to edit the manuscript, working through its twelve sections (Supportingdoc10). As Russell completes technical editing, she will pass each section to Steffian for gentle revision to enhance readability. This work will take place in months 3 through 7. During this period, Counciller will write a foreword discussing the importance of the work. Steffian will write a

preface summarizing the history of the project, and Pederson will provide a short summary of plant harvesting etiquette. Counciller and Steffian will assist Pedersen in sharing her knowledge in writing.

At three times during the project, months 1, 7, and 9, Saltonstall will collaborate with Pedersen to photograph cold season activities—cutting dry grass, picking frost-sweetened berries, collecting kelp, hauling driftwood, and gathering greens and invite a few other harvesters to participate. These images will be designed to fill manuscript needs. Harvesters will be contacted by phone to schedule photography. Each will sign a photo release and receive an honorarium. In months 9 and 10, Saltonstall will organize and caption these photos, and provide them to Leist to register, catalog, and store as a new AMAR collection. During photography, images from this set will be selected for use in the manuscript. Leist will be responsible for creating publication ready images. She will complete any cleaning or photo correction needed in Photoshop, create high resolution TIFF files suitable for printing, and caption every image.

Next, Steffian will synthesize the manuscript pieces into one document and share it with Alisha Drabek for design, formatting, and indexing. This work will take place in month 7, and result in a full draft manuscript for review in month 8 by the author, project participants, and community advisors, as described above. Comments will be shared with Drabek for revisions in months 9 through 11 during final proofing.

The last step in the project, in month 12, will be to create a publication plan, a document that can be used to support grant writing and fundraising to turn the manuscript into a book. This plan will include a competitive price quote for printing costs, a summary of likely sources of support, a distribution list, and a marketing strategy. Steffian will create this plan and solicit letters of community support to include.

Resources: Existing resources and commitments of support are the foundation of *NKAPP*. First and foremost, Priscilla Russell and KANA will share the plantlore archive. While Russell owns the copyright to the materials, KANA sponsored her work and deposited the resulting collections at AMAR as a loan. KANA's board approved the project and Russell assigned manuscript copyright to AMAR. Permission for the work is in place. Similarly, we have assembled the skills needed to complete the project. Uniquely qualified cultural, linguistic, botanical, publication, and design experts have all agreed to assist. The skills needed to complete this project are in place. AMAR itself is a critical resource. In addition to its substantial publication experience, AMAR will provide the assistance of three staff members to oversee project administration, and the time of its community reviewers. However, AMAR needs funding to pay for the costs of reviewing, editing, illustrating, and designing the manuscript and the travel that will support this process. This includes the time of five staff members whose salaries are paid in part with grant funds. AMAR cannot absorb these costs.

Tracking Activities: Staff timesheets, kept electronically with QuickBooks software, will document hours spent on the project. Notes and photographs taken during Russell's visit to Kodiak, edited copies of the manuscript, and correspondence between Russell, Steffian and the editorial team will demonstrate progress on manuscript development. Similarly, notes from meetings of the AMAR Exhibits Advisory Committee (EAC) and the Alutiiq Language Club will illustrate community consulting and capture recommendations. A typed catalog of digital photos taken for the project will demonstrate completion of the photo archive, as will a log of project promotions (e.g., press releases, newsletter articles, media coverage, social media postings) will record the date, method, subject, and audience with which information and resources were shared. Finally, Counciller will report on project progress to AMAR's board of directors in her written bi-monthly report.

Sharing Results: Project activities and results will be shared throughout the year. AMAR will announce project funding with a press release to statewide media. Throughout the project photos, progress updates, and links to resources will be shared through the museum's popular social media sites – Facebook (>3600 followers) and Instagram (>390 followers). We anticipate at least six posts to social media. IMLS will be acknowledged for its project support in all publicity. AMAR will also publish two articles in its quarterly newsletter, one following Russell's visit to Kodiak, another showcasing winter plant harvesting photos. The newsletter will be distributed to ca. 450 people and made available for free download from AMAR's website (www.alutiiqmuseum.org). Finally, AMAR will share the project with its supporting tribal organizations by offering project summaries for their newsletter. Ultimately, when the museum completes publication of the manuscript (Phase 2), project results will be available to a global audience in book form.

Schedule of Completion – September 2016 to August 2017

Activity	Personnel	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Complete Service Agreements (x5)	DRP, DO												
Make Travel Arrangements	DO												
Photograph Harvesters - Wood, Grass	CA, Harvesters												
Develop Photograph Plan	CA, CC												
Review Research Report (content)	A, DRP, B, CB												
Research Alutiiq Language Vocabulary	LPM												
Meet with Priscilla Russell in Kodiak	A, DRP, B, CB, CC, CA, LPM, D												
Edit & Assemble Manuscript	A, DRP												
Develop Newsletter Article	DRP												
Review Vocabulary with Elder Speakers	LPM, Alutiiq Club												
Develop Front Matter (Preface, etc.)	ED, DRP												
Take, Gather, Correct, and Captions Photos	CA, CC												
Photograph Harvesters - Marine Plants	CA, Harvesters												
Develop Design and Layout	D												
Review Draft Manuscript	ED, EAC, Alutiiq Club												
Copy Edit Manuscript	CE												
Photograph Harvesters - Spring Greens	CA, Harvesters												
Create Photograph Archive	CC, CA												
Finalize Manuscript	Contractor												
Proof Draft Book	A, DRP, B, CB, CA, CC, ED, LPM												
Develop Newsletter Article	DRP												
Obtain Community Reviews	DRP, Volunteers												
Printing Quotes	DO												
Publication Plan	ED, DRP												
Final Grant Reporting	DO, DRP												

Personnel: A=Author, B=Carolyn Parker (botanist), CA=Curator of Archaeology, CB=Gayla Pedersen (culture bearer), CC=Curator of Collections, CE=Sue Mitchell (copy editor), D=Alisha Drabek (designer), DO=Director of Operations, DRP=Director of Research & Publication, EAC=Advisory Committee, ED=Executive Director, LPM=Language Program Manager