

## Program Overview – Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

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*: Projects reflect 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:

- Interpretive and educational program, product development, and delivery
- Exhibition development, design, and fabrication
- Digital media development, design, and delivery
- Design and printing of educational resources including training manuals, toolkits, and curricula that support educational programs and exhibitions
- Training for staff, volunteers, and interns, and community members in museum practice and digital literacy
- Internships by community youth in museum and cultural preservation and interpretation practices
- Forums for community dialogue and civic engagement
- Developing collection plans, interpretive plans, or strategic plans using consultants, researchers, and other sources of professional expertise
- Needs assessments and community outreach planning activities which may include utilizing an expert consultant
- Audience research and evaluation , including utilizing an evaluation consultant to help develop achievable performance goals and measurable outcomes
- Creating environments for community learning and discovery
- Collections management, care, and conservation
- Cataloguing, inventorying, documentation, and registration of collections

- Rehousing collections and environmental improvements (non-construction) for museum collections storage and exhibit areas
- Digitization of collections designed to enhance outreach, expand access, or improve collections management
- Developing and enhancing collections databases
- Installing, migrating to, and upgrading collections databases to improve collections management, collections-related information, and/or to facilitate access and discovery