



Request for Proposals

ABOUT VOICES AND VOTES

When American revolutionaries waged a war for independence they took a leap of faith that sent ripple effects across generations. They embraced a radical idea of establishing a government that entrusted the power of the nation not in a monarchy, but in its citizens. That great leap sparked questions that continue to impact Americans: Who has the right to vote? What are the freedoms and responsibilities of citizens? Whose voices will be heard? How do you participate as a citizen?

Voices and Votes: Democracy in America will be a springboard for discussions about those very questions and how they are reflected in local stories.

Voices and Votes is based on a major exhibition currently on display at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History called **American Democracy: A Great Leap of Faith**. *Voices and Votes* has many dynamic features: historical and contemporary photos; educational and archival video; engaging multimedia interactives with short games and additional footage, photos, and information; and historical objects like campaign souvenirs, voter memorabilia, and protest material.

VOICES AND VOTES IN SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina Humanities is bringing *Voices and Votes* on a tour of six communities in South Carolina from April 2022 to January 2023. This will be the eighth **Smithsonian** traveling exhibit brought to the state by SC Humanities.

The exhibits are designed for small cultural organizations with limited access to traveling exhibitions due to space and cost limitations. Eligible host sites include small museums, libraries, historical societies, cultural centers and other community venues in towns of fewer than 20,000 residents.

The exhibit requires 700 feet of exhibit space, 8-foot ceilings, and access to electrical outlets. Sites are chosen based on the strength of proposed ideas for auxiliary events, meaningful partnerships, geographic location, and physical display space. Preference is given to sites that have not recently hosted a **Museum on Main Street** exhibit and that do not charge admission.

Questions about eligibility? Contact T.J. Wallace at tjwallace@schumanities.org.

For more information about the exhibit, please visit – MuseumOnMainStreet.org/VoicesVotes



HOST THE EXHIBIT

HOST SITES RECEIVE:

- Free exhibit rental for 6 weeks
- \$2,500 grant to support local community programs such as a companion exhibit, guest lecturers, film or book series, oral history projects, and community forums
- An exhibition support manual and program planning assistance
- Publicity materials such as posters, press kits, and banner
- A humanities scholar to consult and present a lecture
- Professional installation and de-installation guidance from a Museum on Main Street staff person
- Travel expenses to attend two training workshops

HOST RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide an enclosed and secure space of at least 700 square feet with 8-foot ceilings
- Appoint a Project Director who will attend 2 mandatory planning meetings
- On-site staff presence when the exhibit is open
- Contribute at least \$2,500 of in-kind support (time, supplies, etc.) or cash as cost-share and keep thorough records of cost-share
- Plan and implement at least 3 public humanities programs and a companion exhibit
- Publicize the exhibit widely in coordination with SC Humanities and provide sponsor acknowledgement when appropriate
- Complete attendance records and final paperwork for the close of the exhibit

Deadline for Applications
February 15, 2021

Date of Award Notification (approximate)
April 15, 2021

Submit completed application by email to tjwallace@schumanities.org and info@schumanities.org. If you do not receive a confirmation email within 24 hours that your application has been received, please call the office at 803-771-2477.

Attn: Theresa Wallace
Re: Voices and Votes
SC Humanities
PO Box 5287
Columbia, SC 29250



Part 1

Sponsoring Organization

ORGANIZATION NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

TELEPHONE NUMBER

WEBSITE

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

EIN

DUNS#

Project Director

NAME

TITLE

TELEPHONE NUMBER

EMAIL

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE FACILITY AND THE AREA WHERE **VOICES AND VOTES: DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA** WOULD BE DISPLAYED:

DOES IT FIT THE SPACE REQUIREMENTS? (700 SQUARE FEET WITH 8-FOOT CEILINGS) YES NO

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE SECURITY AND CLIMATE CONDITIONS:

NUMBER OF FULL-TIME STAFF

NUMBER OF PART-TIME STAFF

ANNUAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED AND/OR VISITATION

ANNUAL BUDGET FOR PUBLIC PROGRAMS (INCLUDING EXHIBITS)

POPULATION OF COMMUNITY

DAYS & HOURS OF OPERATION

HAS YOUR INSTITUTION EVER HOSTED A TRAVELING EXHIBIT? YES NO

PLEASE INDICATE WHAT DATES WOULD BE BEST FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION TO HOST THE EXHIBIT. MARK 1ST AND 2ND CHOICES.

- # SITE 1: SATURDAY, APRIL 16 – SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2022 – 6 WEEKS
- # SITE 2: SATURDAY, JUNE 4 – SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2022 – 6 WEEKS
- # SITE 3: SATURDAY, JULY 23 – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2022 – 6 WEEKS
- # SITE 4: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2022 – 6 WEEKS
- # SITE 5: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29 – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2022 – 6 WEEKS
- # SITE 6: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2022 – SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2023 – 6 WEEKS

Part 2

Share your preliminary ideas for making **Voices and Votes** a successful event for your community. **Please respond to the following narrative questions and attach your answers to the application.**

- A. Identify community resources (partnering organizations, special facilities, festivals or events) that will make the project successful in your town. Explain why the topic of **Voices and Votes** would be meaningful to your community. Please also discuss the best timing for your organization to host the exhibit, as indicated in your selections in Part 1.
- B. Briefly describe some ideas you have for public humanities programs and other community events to enhance the exhibit. Be creative! Include some fun activities (ex: essay/poetry competition or community scavenger hunt) as well as educational programming. Please be as thorough as possible at this early date.
- C. Share some ideas about how you will promote the exhibit to enhance your organization and your community.
- D. Please discuss ways in which the exhibit can further your organization's goals (for example: initiate a new building campaign, attract new members, or provide staff development). How will you measure success?

Part 3

Please include **letters of recommendation** (minimum of three) from relevant community organizations, county or municipal representatives, supportive board members, willing volunteers, or significant donors, etc. The ability to reference local enthusiasm and commitment will strengthen your candidacy.

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