

# Minnesota History: Building A Legacy

Report to the Governor and the Legislature on Funding for History Programs and Projects supported by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund

January 2012



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Upon request the 2012 report will be made available in alternate format such as Braille, large print or audio tape. For TTY contact Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 and ask for the Minnesota Historical Society. For more information or for paper copies of the 2012 report contact the Society at: 345 Kellogg Blvd W., St Paul, MN 55102, 651-259-3000. The 2012 report is available at the Society's website: [www.mnhs.org/legacy](http://www.mnhs.org/legacy).

COVER IMAGES, CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER-LEFT: American Indian Museum Fellowship students view MHS collections; Bride Crystal Vang during traditional Hmong wedding ceremony; Minnesota History Day performance at the State Fair; Gordon Parks High School student conducting oral history interview; craft fun during Asian Pacific Heritage Day at the History Center.

# Letter from the Director



As we enter the second biennium since the passage of the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment, we at the Minnesota Historical Society are eager to share the valuable and exciting history initiatives touching Minnesotans around the state, all made possible by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF).

We are grateful to the people of Minnesota for passing the Legacy Amendment in November 2008. We take very seriously our constitutional mandate “to preserve Minnesota’s history and cultural heritage.” ACHF-supported history projects are creating a legacy for all Minnesotans in many ways.

**Education** — Society staff are using cutting-edge technology to reach more schoolchildren and help them create deeper, more meaningful connections to history. Important stories that shaped our state are being told to new generations through exhibits about the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 and the Civil War.

**Preservation** — Like environmental resources, once historical resources are gone, they can never be replaced. ACHF support is helping local historical organizations statewide protect fragile collections and historic buildings.

**Access** — Minnesotans in the farthest corners of the state can log on to the internet to find an ever-growing wealth of historical resources including newspapers, artifacts, teacher training courses and interactive history lessons delivered straight to the classroom via video conferencing technology.

**Building Community** — In small towns and large cities across Minnesota, young and old are forging deep connections by documenting their community’s history together. Dozens of small Minnesota cities are learning how to best preserve their historic downtowns while boosting business.

The Minnesota Historical Society is not alone in creating this Legacy gift for future generations. We are collaborating with history-minded groups around the state—from major universities to tribal organizations, libraries and a range of cultural institutions.

Together, we are writing the book of Minnesota’s history. The Legacy Amendment is allowing us to add pages we never dreamed possible—each page building a richer, more complete resource for future Minnesotans to use and enjoy.

On behalf of the groups and individuals carrying out Legacy history projects, we thank the legislature and Governor for making possible these opportunities to preserve the past.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Stephen Elliott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

D. Stephen Elliott, Director

# Introduction

On November 4, 2008, Minnesota voters approved the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment to preserve some of the most important elements that make Minnesota what it is today.

This amendment to the Minnesota Constitution, often referred to as the “Legacy Amendment,” created four funds, one of which is the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF). The Legacy Amendment mandates that a portion of the ACHF be used “to preserve Minnesota’s history and cultural heritage” (Minnesota Constitution, Article XI, Sec. 15).

Each January, the Minnesota Historical Society is required to submit an annual report to the governor and legislature detailing expenditures it has made from the ACHF.

**This report details all ACHF projects and programs funded through the Society in the first six months of fiscal year 2012.** It also includes an update of ACHF projects conducted in the last half of fiscal year 2011, after the submission of last year’s annual report.

## **ACHF history projects are benefitting Minnesotans statewide by:**

- Creating new, innovative learning opportunities for students and teachers
- Preserving and sharing our state’s historic stories and treasures
- Giving Minnesotans unprecedented access to historical and cultural resources
- Empowering Minnesotans to connect and make improvements in their communities

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## **Appropriations**

The Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF) receives 19.75% of overall Legacy funding. In 2011, the legislature appropriated \$24.1 million from the ACHF to the Minnesota Historical Society for the two-year period July 2011–June 2013. That appropriation breaks down to \$12,050,000 for fiscal year 2012 and \$12,050,000 for fiscal year 2013.

The legislature divided the fiscal year 2012–2013 appropriation to the Minnesota Historical Society into the following five categories:

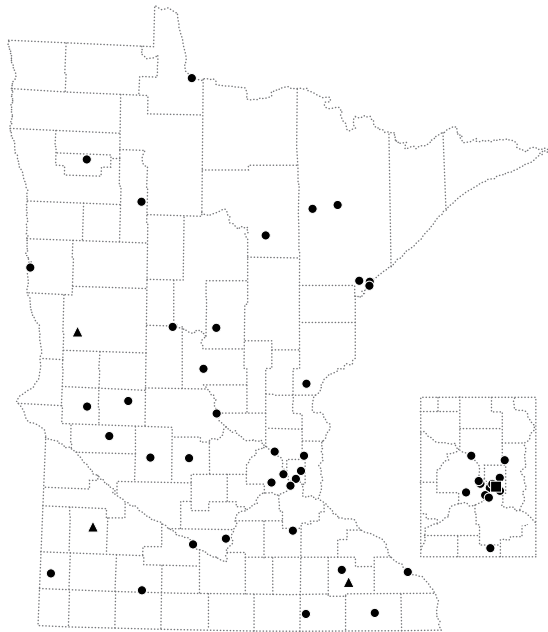
<b>Category</b>	<b>2012 Appropriation</b>	<b>2013 Appropriation</b>
Statewide Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants	\$5,250,000	\$5,250,000
Statewide History Programs	\$4,800,000	\$4,800,000
Statewide History Partnerships	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Statewide Survey of Historical and Archaeological Sites	\$250,000	\$250,000
Minnesota Digital Library	\$250,000	\$250,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,050,000</b>	<b>\$12,050,000</b>

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### STATEWIDE OUTREACH

Since late 2008, the Minnesota Historical Society has collaborated with the public and many history-minded organizations to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of historical projects funded by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

To date, the Minnesota Historical Society has hosted or participated in **64 statewide events** involving more than **2,000 people** (some map locations indicate multiple events):



- **Historic Resources Advisory Committee:** As required by law, the Society appointed a volunteer citizen panel to guide decisions for the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program. These recommendations are then reviewed and approved by the Society's governing board.
- **Workshops and Outreach Activities:** The Society solicited opinions and ideas from citizens around the state regarding history expenditures and where funding is needed most and also helped potential grantees apply for funding through the ACHF-funded Minnesota Historical and Cultural Grants Program.
- ▲ **10- and 25-year Planning:** The Society collaborated with a dozen other historical and cultural organizations to create a 10-year plan and 25-year framework for the use of ACHF funding.

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### HISTORIC RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Legislation specifies that the Historic Resources Advisory Committee have balanced statewide membership and include representatives of local, county and statewide historic and cultural organizations and programs. It further requires that the committee shall include, but is not limited to, members representing the interests of historic preservation, local history, archaeology, archival programs and other cultural programs related to the history of Minnesota.

#### Serving a two-year term ending fall 2013:

Chair Mark Peterson—Executive Director, Winona County Historical Society. Qualified in history, historic preservation and history museum administration.

Leanne Brown—Director of Development, Carver County Library/Library Foundation. Qualified in history, project management and museum studies.

Jack Byers—Manager, Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development Department. Qualified in historic preservation, architecture, urban geography and planning.

Tamara Edevold—Executive Director, Clearwater County Historical Society. Qualified in history, archaeology, anthropology and history museum administration.

Ram Gada—Engineer from Eden Prairie. Active in the documentation of Minnesota's East Indian community, former member State Historical Records Advisory Board. Qualified in engineering, energy consulting and grants administration.

William Latady—Bois Forte Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and Curator, Bois Forte Heritage Museum. Qualified in archaeology, anthropology, historic preservation and history museum administration.

Benjamin Vander Kooi—Attorney at Vander Kooi Law Offices, P.A., in Luverne, MN, active in Vote Yes! Campaign, past chair of MN State Arts Board, advisor for National Trust for Historic Preservation. Qualified in historic preservation and nonprofit and grants administration.

#### Serving a one-year term ending fall 2012:

Brenda Child—Chair, Department of American Indian Studies, University of Minnesota and enrolled member, Red Lake Nation. Qualified in history, American Studies and American Indian Studies.

Nicole Foss—Executive Director, Beltrami County Historical Society. Qualified in anthropology, historical archaeology, library and museum fields.

Kris Kiesling—Director of Archives and Special Collections at University of Minnesota Libraries, State Historical Records Advisory Board member. Qualified in library, archives, digital services and history.

Jan Louwagie—Coordinator, Southwest Minnesota Regional Research Center, Southwest Minnesota State University, founding member of Society for the Study of Local and Regional History, former member of State Historical Records Advisory Board. Qualified in history and archival administration.

Ann Meline—Deputy Director, Stearns History Museum, former grant reviewer for Institute of Museum and Library Services. Qualified in history, nonprofit and museum administration.

Peter Reis—President, White Bear Lake Area Historical Society and Chair, Minnesota Historical Society’s Grants Review Committee. Qualified in history and nonprofit and grants administration.

**Ex Officio Members:**

William Stoeri—President, Minnesota Historical Society Executive Council.

Missy Staples Thompson—Treasurer, Minnesota Historical Society Executive Council.

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**MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
GOVERNING BOARD**

Grant recommendations made by the Historic Resources Advisory Committee for the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program are then reviewed and approved by the Minnesota Historical Society’s Executive Council.

**Officers**

- William R. Stoeri, President
- Ram Gada, Vice President
- Paul Verret, Vice President
- D. Stephen Elliott, Secretary
- Missy Staples Thompson, Treasurer

**Executive Council**

- |                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Suzanne Blue       | David M. Larson        |
| Brenda J. Child    | Charles Mahar          |
| Judith S. Corson   | Dean M. Nelson         |
| Mark Davis         | Elizabeth M. Nordlie   |
| D. Stephen Elliott | Peter Reis             |
| Ram Gada           | Simon Stevens          |
| Phyllis Rawls Goff | Susan Kenny Stevens    |
| William D. Green   | William R. Stoeri      |
| David R. Hakensen  | Edward C. Stringer     |
| James T. Hale      | Karen Wilson Thissen   |
| Ruth S. Huss       | Missy Staples Thompson |
| Martha Kaemmer     | Paul Verret            |
| Dennis L. Lamkin   | Eleanor Winston        |

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**MINNESOTA HISTORY COALITION**

The Minnesota History Coalition is an advisory group comprised of representatives of various history organizations in Minnesota. Using public input and members’ expertise, the History Coalition developed recommendations for the legislature on how the 2012–2013 ACHF appropriation for history projects and programs could best serve Minnesotans.

**Minnesota History Coalition Members:**

- Council for Minnesota Archaeology
- Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums
- Minnesota Archaeological Society
- Minnesota Digital Library
- Minnesota Genealogical Society
- Minnesota’s Historic Northwest
- Minnesota Historical Society
- Minnesota History Advocates for Research
- Preservation Alliance of Minnesota

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**ACCOUNTABILITY**

The 2011 legislature reiterated the mandate that every project and program supported by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund report “actual measurable outcomes, and a plan for measuring and evaluating the results.”

To meet this requirement, the Minnesota Historical Society worked with Wilder Research and the University of Minnesota Extension Center for Community Vitality to measure the economic value and outcomes of the first biennium’s ACHF investments.

In October 2010, the Society began work with Wilder Research to improve the Society's ability to evaluate its ACHF projects and programs. The Society's staff and partners are now strongly positioned to ensure that ACHF projects and programs use best practices, current scholarship, and when appropriate, incorporate state-of-the-art technology for demonstrating measurable outcomes.

In February 2011, the Society released results of an economic study prepared by the University of Minnesota's Extension Center for Community Vitality. Results can be found at [bit.ly/achfhistoryeconeval](http://bit.ly/achfhistoryeconeval). The Economic Footprint of History Expenditures from the ACHF found that **for every \$1 invested in history and cultural heritage, the state received a return on investment of \$1.95, which directly benefitted state and local economies.**

In November 2011, the Office of the Legislative Auditor released a report examining how Legacy fund recipients can best use these funds over the long term.

Within the report, the Legislative Auditor identified four "ongoing concerns." The Society is addressing those concerns in the following ways:

- 1. Supplement, Not Substitute**—The Society is aware of the constitutional requirement that Legacy expenditures shall supplement and not substitute for traditional sources of funds. The Society conducts careful reviews to ensure that the constitutional provision and appropriations language are met for all Legacy expenditures.
- 2. Administrative Costs**—The Society carefully documents and limits administrative costs to only those costs that are "directly related to and necessary for" accomplishing ACHF programs and projects as called for by legislation.
- 3. Conflict of Interest**—On pages three and four of this report, the Society discloses the names of members of groups that oversee the spending of ACHF funds. To fulfill long-standing policies and practices, those members are required to sign statements forbidding conflicts of interest.
- 4. Outcomes**—The Society recognizes that Arts and Cultural Heritage funds create a long-term opportu-

nity to build a Legacy gift. We are working to ensure that ACHF history programs and projects have a clear benefit for future generations. More specifically, in their applications, grant recipients are required to explain the enduring value of their project. Society staff worked with Wilder Research to improve our ability to measure the value of our ACHF programs.

During the 2012–2013 biennium, the Society will continue to evaluate the impact of ACHF projects and programs to ensure that they demonstrate measurable outcomes as well as economic value for citizens. These results will be shared on two websites explained below.

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**TRANSPARENCY**

The Minnesota Historical Society has an obligation to the citizens of Minnesota to ensure that ACHF funds entrusted to our care are invested in ways that are transparent and will produce the greatest measurable impact on lives, enabling our state to thrive.

To meet this goal, the Society has assisted in the building of, and has itself built, websites that inform the public about all ACHF initiatives funded through the Society. The first, Minnesota's Legacy ([www.legacy.leg.mn](http://www.legacy.leg.mn)), was created by the Legislative Coordinating Commission and contains information on all legacy-funded projects. The second website, Minnesota History: Building a Legacy ([www.mnhs.org/legacy](http://www.mnhs.org/legacy)), is maintained by the Society and provides more in-depth project descriptions, photos, videos and information on opportunities to participate in history-related ACHF initiatives.

Through the end of the biennium, the Society will continue to post the most current information about history-related ACHF initiatives on both websites, ensuring transparency and responsible stewardship of the funds.





## Feature Stories



Blue Mounds State Park, southwest Minnesota. Minnesota's earliest inhabitants held views on land use and ownership that contrasted sharply with farmers who moved to the Minnesota River Valley in the 1800s. Those opposing views led to deadly warfare, the effects of which can still be felt today. Photo courtesy Jim Brandenburg.

## Commemorating the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862

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*“Minnesota”—from the Dakota “Mini Sota Makoce,” or “land of cloudy waters.”*

Though 150 years have passed since the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862, the war, its causes and its aftermath remain central to the story of Minnesota.

The historical trauma the war created still echoes in those living today.

“It can be tempting to turn away from the pain of these events, to deal with the trauma by suppressing it,” said Minnesota Historical Society Director Stephen Elliott. “But if history matters, we cannot turn away from it. We cannot shrink from our history.”

In 2012, the sesquicentennial of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862, Minnesotans will find many new opportunities to learn about the war, how it shaped our state and how the war’s bitter consequences are still felt today.

### **Exhibit: The U.S.-Dakota War of 1862**

“The events surrounding the war had a profound impact in shaping Minnesota as we know it today.”

~ Dan Spock, Director, Minnesota History Center

In the summer of 2012, an exhibit about the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 will open at the Minnesota History Center. Inside, visitors will examine evidence from the war: documents, images and artifacts from the Society’s collections.

Accession records will accompany artifacts so visitors will know how they were acquired. Commentary from descendants of those touched by the war will provide multiple viewpoints. Throughout the exhibit, visitors will be encouraged to draw their own conclusions about what happened and why.

“The impact of historical trauma passes from generation to generation,” said Dan Spock, Director of the Min-

nesota History Center. “This trauma still resonates with the Dakota and with descendants of settlers in the Minnesota River Valley.”

The process used to create the exhibit has been dubbed the “Truth Recovery Project.” It is inspired by Healing Through Remembering, a group that deals with the legacy of conflict in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Truth recovery can be defined as the uncovering and revealing of ‘what happened.’ A truth recovery process could be defined as: that which systematically and methodically attempts to uncover, research, record, and validate as much as is possible of ‘what happened.’

~ Conversation Guide on Dealing with the Past, Healing Through Remembering

The truth recovery process involves meetings between exhibits staff and descendants of those touched by the war to discuss what the exhibit should and should not include.

“We are committed to an open, transparent process in developing this exhibit. It may open as a work in progress as we continue to gather more viewpoints and have more conversations,” said Exhibit Developer Kate Roberts.

The exhibit is being created with \$240,000 from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Amid the many perspectives on the events related to the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862, there is consensus on at least one point: 150 years later, the story of the war still needs to be told.

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“These things need to be told so that we can heal as Dakota people. To us, history is a healing process.”

~ Clifford Canku, Dakota author and professor

“The search for understanding must continue. To not keep alive and commemorate this era would be an affront to the American Indians and pioneers who persevered and contributed to the building of Minnesota.”

~ Fred Juni, New Ulm resident and descendant of Brown County settlers  
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LEFT: Little Crow's wife and children at Fort Snelling, ca. 1863. RIGHT: Missionaries escaping the fighting, Aug. 21, 1862. MHS Photograph Collection.

The Battle of Birch Coulee, Lithograph by Paul G. Biersach, 1912.



### **Other 1862 Initiatives**

In 2012, Arts and Cultural Heritage funds are supporting a broad range of other initiatives to commemorate the war including:

#### **U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 Website**

An interactive website will tell stories of the war and its aftermath through oral histories, photos, journals, letters, newspapers, government documents and other primary resources. The site will also provide resources for classroom use.

#### **Oral History Project**

Society staff is collecting oral histories from Dakota elders and settler descendants. Full transcripts and audio versions will be available to the public online.

#### **Public Programs**

Public programs throughout 2012 will provide multiple perspectives on the war and give voice to Dakota history and identity through a variety of formats including lectures, films, tours and workshops.

#### **Minnesota River Byways Mobile Tour**

The public will hear multiple perspectives and stories told by descendants of those touched by the war in this

media-rich cell phone tour of significant places along the Minnesota River Valley.

#### **Publications**

Projects include a book titled *The Dakota Land Project* by Gwen Westerman and Bruce White and digital audio language resources to accompany the publication of *Beginning Dakota/Tokaheya Dakota Iapi Kin Teacher's Edition*.

#### **Art Exhibit**

Contemporary American Indian artists will show works related to the war. The exhibit will open at All My Relations Art Gallery and later move to the James J. Hill House.

#### **Legalities Exhibit**

William Mitchell College of Law and the Society will collaborate on an exhibit focusing on treaties and legal matters related to the war.

#### **Children's Photo Project**

Young people, including children of Dakota heritage, will use cameras to produce "day in the life" images for use online and/or in publications.

*See page 37 for more on programs related to the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862.*



Army officer's uniform cap, 1861–1865. MHS Collections.

## Civil War

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From being the first state to volunteer troops to defend the Union, to the First Minnesota's heroic charge at Gettysburg, Minnesota played a valuable role in the U.S. Civil War. The war also helped shape our young state.

"Minnesota forged its identity as an American state, a member of the Union, in the very firestorm that threatened to destroy the nation," said Wendy Jones, head of Museum and Education Programs at the Minnesota History Center.

"By studying the Civil War, we open a window on who we are today and see more clearly how our choices can shape the future."

Wendy Jones, head of Museum and Education Programs at the Minnesota History Center

Throughout the 150th anniversary of the war, Arts and Cultural Heritage funds are making it possible for Minnesotans to connect with the rich history and fascinating stories related to our state's involvement in the war.

### ACHF Civil War Initiatives

- Statewide Public Programs
- Civil War Exhibit to open at the Minnesota History Center in 2013
- Civil War Collections Online

ACHF support is also allowing Minnesotans to relive each day of the Civil War through Minnesota soldiers and Minnesotans back home. A daily blog on the Minnesota Historical Society's website, *The Civil War Daybook*, posts a digitized newspaper article, personal letter or other document from the Society's collections that correlates to the same day during the war 150 years ago.



Civil War events at Historic Fort Snelling and the Minnesota State Capitol.

Matthew Marvin of Winona, veteran of the First Minnesota Regiment, ca. 1864, MHS photograph collection



Below are examples from the Society's online Civil War Daybook ([www.mnhs.org/civilwardaybook](http://www.mnhs.org/civilwardaybook)).

*“Dear Brother... There is firing going on most all the while; a few minets ago their was a gun fired rite across here at the picket below me. I went down to the watter but could not see him. I came back and gave my gun to one of the men with orders to shoot the first one he saw on the other side. [...].”*

~ Matthew Marvin of Winona, Private in the First Minnesota Regiment. Excerpt from a letter Marvin wrote to his brother from Camp Stone, Virginia, on Aug. 26, 1861. Posted online Aug. 26, 2011.

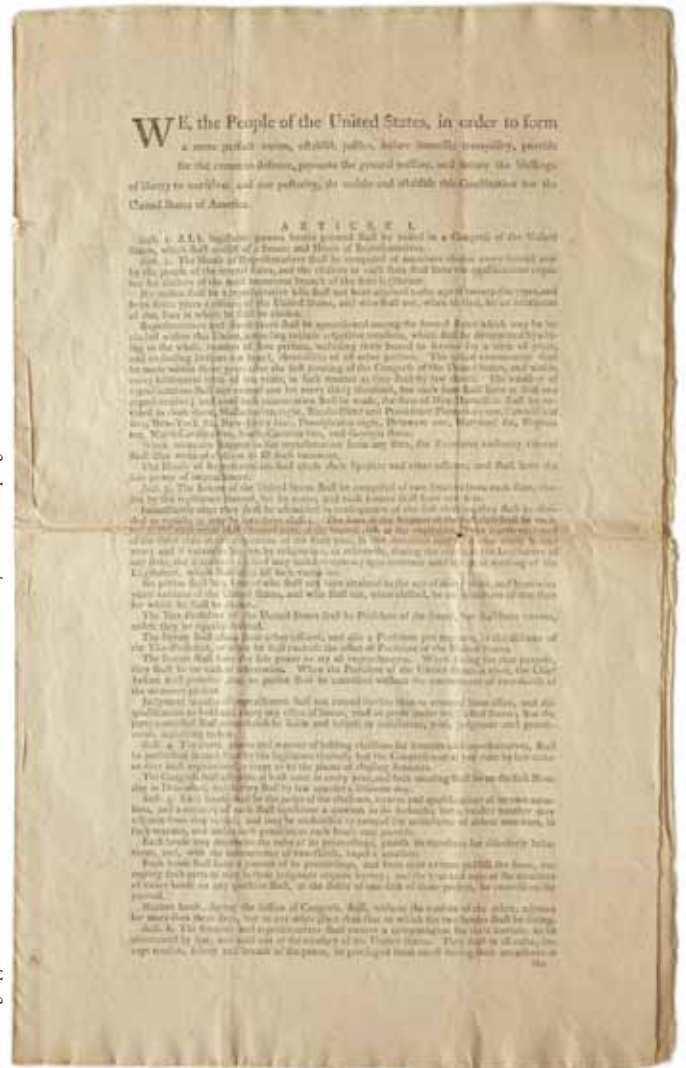
*“Gov. Ramsey—Sir: ...My son, who was my supporter, is in the army... He has been in the army some over three months. I am 59 years old, and am too weak to do much work. I am a widow. My clothing and victuals are so poor I do not feel well. It is getting cold. I do not know whether your Excellency is the proper person to address my wants to, but if you are not, please write to me immediately, and tell me what is necessary.”*

~ Elisabeth Dearmin of Moscow, Freeborn County, Minnesota. Excerpt from a letter Dearmin wrote to Gov. Alexander Ramsey on Sept. 28, 1861. Posted online Sept. 28, 2011.

See pages 35–36 for more on programs related to the Civil War sesquicentennial.

## U.S. and Minnesota Constitutions

Arts and Cultural Heritage funds are bringing the only traveling copy of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights to the Minnesota History Center in the spring of 2012. The copy dates back to 1787 and will be displayed along with original copies of the Minnesota Constitutions giving Minnesotans the opportunity to learn about and see firsthand the original documents that govern their lives.



Traveling copy of the United States Constitution on view at the Minnesota History Center in the spring of 2012

See page 36 for more on the U.S. and Minnesota Constitutions Exhibit.

# History in Our Hands

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Eleven-year-old Takele Thompson-Nelson can't hide his excitement.

"It's fun just to have this in your hand," he said, smiling down at the iPod Touch lying across his palm. "I, personally, want an iPod Touch."

And he'll have one, at least for the next hour or so. It's after school on a Friday in December and Takele, along with more than a dozen other kids, have been invited to the Minnesota History Center to test hand-held technology that will soon be an integral part of a new exhibit called "Our Minnesota."

What the students don't know, is that they are part of a revolution.

"These kids, digital natives, are different from any other children in human history," said Wendy Jones, Head of Museum and Education Programs. "They are the first generation to have grown up with the internet, video games and cell phones. They learn differently. We want to take the best of what technology has to offer and really deepen their learning."



"As far as I know, no other museum is doing anything like this yet," said David Gagnon, an instructional designer at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Gagnon is working with History Center staff to create this new model of learning that will give students an active role inside the "Our Minnesota" exhibit, ultimately strengthening their ability to think critically and solve problems.

"Our Minnesota," still under construction and slated to open in November 2012, will take visitors to three distinct areas of the state: the prairie, the forests and the cities. Takele and the other students, iPod Touches in hand, first explore a simulated street car that travels University Avenue between Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Eleven-year-old Rawnsion Ivanhoff, scans a Quick Response (QR) code in the street car and a historical character appears on the iPod screen with a question.



Quick Response code



Students test hand-held technology at the Minnesota History Center, December 2011.

It's a little girl named Bernice Fisher who actually lived in St. Paul during the gangster era of the 1920s and 30s. On the iPod screen, Bernice asks Rawnsion to help her find her stop on the street car. Rawnsion responds and the interaction begins.

"You scan things and you get to talk to these people as if you were really with them and having a real conversation. You get to help them find a well or a bucket or firewood. It's really fun," Rawnsion said.

"It's really realistic when you're talking to them. You get to learn how it was in the past."

~ Rawnsion, fifth grader at Friends School of Minnesota

On Rawnsion's iPod, Bernice relates a real historic event that she witnessed:

"A member of the Karpis gang was shot and killed across the street from our house. I stood on the front porch and watched policemen jump out of squad cars and run up the alley. Homer Van Meter was gunned down by the St. Paul Police Chief and detectives."

Rawnsion can choose to continue conversing with Bernice or move on to another historic character, like a miner from the Iron Range or a pioneer who lives in a sod house, shaping his own experience inside the exhibit.

Students also work together to solve problems for historical characters like "collecting" enough virtual grass, dung and wood to help a family living in a sod house survive the winter.

"Students can personalize the exhibit and go deeper into what interests them," said Jennifer Sly, Minnesota History Center Museum Education and Technology Specialist. "The technology will also let them take pictures, record audio and download elements of the exhibit that they can access online back in the classroom or at home."

The "Our Minnesota" exhibit is funded by \$2.5 million from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF). Minnesota Historical Society staff has raised to date an additional \$215,000 for the "Our Minnesota" exhibit.

In fiscal year 2012, the technology component, "History in Our Hands," received \$115,000 in ACHF support. History Center staff leveraged the initial research involved in creating "History in Our Hands" to earn a \$449,000 National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services in the fall of 2011.



Students test hand-held technology at the Minnesota History Center, December 2011.

"We want to take the best of what technology has to offer and really deepen their learning."

~ Wendy Jones, Head of Museum and Education Programs

History Center staff will continue to work with students and teachers and to refine the technology. It will be ready for students on field trips to "Our Minnesota" to use in the fall of 2013.

"Students will walk away from this exhibit with a personal experience and story that allows them to empathize with history, seeing it from the inside out," Gagnon said.

"This really is a new frontier everyone is trying to figure out," Sly said. "It's exciting to be a part of it—to create a new legacy with technology that helps students understand the past while still having fun."

*See page 34 for more on the Mobile Learning Project.*



History Museum Fellows in Williamsburg, VA, summer, 2011

## History Museum Fellows

It was a random email that set Ian Lilligren on a professional path he never thought he'd take.

"I wasn't interested in museums," Lilligren said. "I never thought I'd work in one."

The email introduced Lilligren to the History Museum Fellows Program, a partnership between the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and the Minnesota Historical Society. Lilligren would soon graduate from the University of Minnesota with a degree in American Indian Studies and decided to give the Fellows Program a chance.

Throughout the summer of 2011, Lilligren and other fellows worked in paid internships at the Minnesota History Center. In a class at the University the previous spring, fellows learned about the many facets of the Society. It was a lesson about the Society's Exhibits department that hooked Lilligren.

"Exhibits staff told us that you have to be creative, you're constantly challenged and you work with all kinds of different people," Lilligren recalled.

Lilligren interned in Exhibits, researching primary sources for the upcoming exhibit about the U.S.-Dakota

War of 1862. He found himself eager to come to work every day.

"The fellowship showed me how you can apply the skills you learned in college to any real world profession," Lilligren said.

Fellows gain valuable work experience that can be applied to other museums, tribal organizations and cultural institutions.

Lilligren's internship has translated into a job in the Exhibits department—a job he never could have foreseen back in the spring.

"It worked out perfectly," Lilligren said. "I didn't expect to get a career out of this."

*See page 44 for more on the History Museum Fellows Program.*



Ian Lilligren, former History Museum Fellow



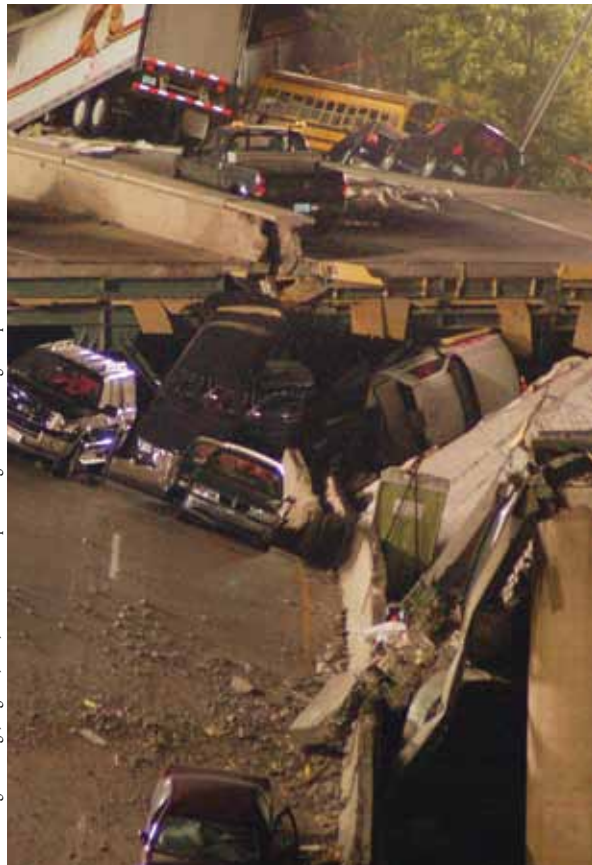
# Project Highlights from the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program

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The Minnesota Historical Society administers the ACHF-funded Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program which provides an unprecedented opportunity for historical and cultural organizations across Minnesota to preserve and share our state's history and cultural heritage.

## I-35W Bridge Collapse Exhibit

Jean Kidd had just walked in the back door of her Minneapolis home after a day at work when she got the first page.



I-35W bridge wreckage, August 3, 2007; RIGHT: Minneapolis firefighters at the bridge collapse.

“It was about a car fire. And I couldn't figure out, why would they page me about a car fire?” recalled Kidd, who was the Minneapolis Fire Department's Deputy Chief of Personnel at the time.

More pages came in quick succession until these words finally flashed on the tiny screen: “the 35W Bridge collapsed.”



“I hadn't even set my purse down and I got back in my car,” Kidd remembered. She raced downtown to the dispatch center while 75 Minneapolis firefighters, three-quarters of the force on duty that day in August 2007, rushed to the scene of the collapse.

“All I could think of is ‘this is what you have been training your whole career for. Take a breath and make it happen,’” recalled Battalion Chief Dick Christianson, one of the first firefighters to arrive on scene.

Kidd said firefighters were able to transport to the hospital everyone who needed medical attention in less than 90 minutes.

“It was phenomenal, unheard of, considering the scale of the disaster,” said Kidd.

In August 2012, the fifth anniversary of the bridge collapse, a permanent exhibit about Minneapolis firefighters' response that day will open at the Firefighter's Hall and Museum in northeast Minneapolis. The exhibit received \$5,950 from the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program.

Kidd, now a trustee at the museum, said it's important that the community learn about firefighters' role on that historic day in Minneapolis.

“The response to this tragedy is something Minnesotans should be proud of. Why wouldn't we want to capture and share that story?”

~ Jean Kidd, Minneapolis Fire Department



Randolph and Catherine Probstfield, 1861.

### Saving the Probstfield House

The Probstfield House, the oldest home in Minnesota's Red River Valley, is in dire straits. "Architects and builders tell us the home is within a few years of being a total loss," said Markus Krueger of the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County.

The home, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was built in the late 1860s by Randolph Probstfield, a farmer, political leader and one of Clay County's first pioneers. The Probstfields, dubbed "Moorhead's First Family," farmed their land for three generations before donating it and their home to the Probstfield Farm Living History Foundation.

Krueger said the first step in restoring the Probstfield House is updating its Historic Structures Report, now being done with \$3,600 from the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program.

Once restored, Krueger said the home will be the centerpiece of a 118-acre living history farm that will preserve and tell the story of the Red River Valley's agricultural heritage. "The Probstfield family was both ordinary and extraordinary," Krueger said.

"They were of modest means, yet they were important community leaders. They are examples of average people who built Minnesota by hand."

~ Markus Krueger, Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County

### Preserving Hmong Rituals

For thousands of years, Hmong marriage and funeral traditions and songs have been passed down from generation to generation.

Txong Pao Lee, who came to St. Paul 26 years ago from a refugee camp in Thailand, wants to make sure those traditions never get lost.

"Hmong kids born in this country can't always understand Hmong," said Lee, the executive director of the Hmong Cultural Center in St. Paul. "We want to make these traditions accessible for everyone."

\$6,500 from the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant Program is making it possible for the Hmong Cultural Center to produce new editions of two books about Hmong marriage and funeral traditions and to translate those books into English. The books will be available in print and for free on the Cultural Center's website.

"By making these important cultural traditions available to everyone, we are preserving them for many years to come."

~ Txong Pao Lee, executive director of the Hmong Cultural Center



Bride and groom Crystal Yang and Tom Yang, married in a traditional Hmong ceremony, May, 2011 in Vadnais Heights. Photo: Yeng Lor Photography.

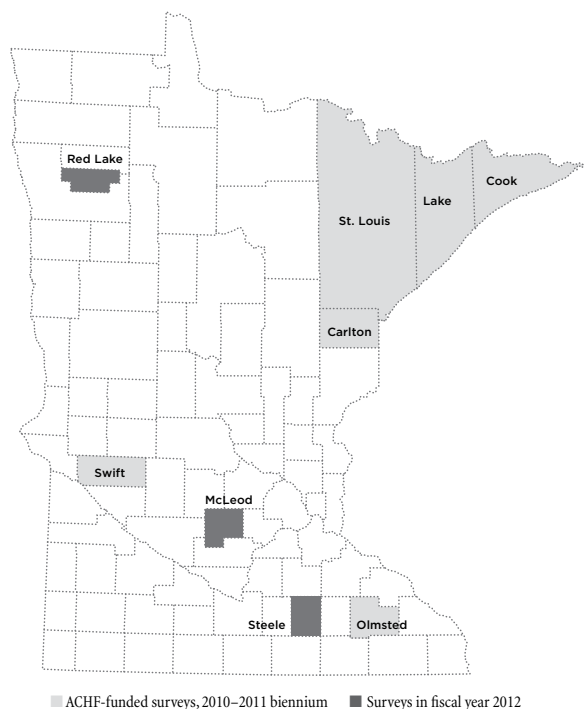
See page 19 for a listing of Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants awarded in the first six months of fiscal year 2012.

# Archaeological Surveys

Amanda Gronhovd is working on a mystery with very few clues.

“There’s not much to go on,” Gronhovd said. “There are very few archaeological sites recorded in this county.”

Gronhovd is president of 10,000 Lakes Archaeology in South St. Paul. But her work will soon bring her to Steele County where she hopes to fill in some gaps about the county’s past.



Rectangle-shaped Steele County in southeast Minnesota is 432 square miles, but only 16 archaeological sites have been identified. With \$250,000 in Arts and Cultural Heritage funding, the Minnesota Historical Society, the Office of the State Archaeologist and the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council are awarding and overseeing contracts for survey projects in Steele, McLeod and Red Lake Counties in fiscal year 2012. Last biennium, surveys were completed in six other Minnesota counties (see map).

Before Gronhovd and her crew can start digging, they are creating a computer model to find potential sites.

Gronhovd said there used to be a lot of lakes in Steele County that were drained so the land could be used for agriculture.



Amanda Gronhovd works on a computer model that will help find potential archaeological sites in Steele County

“We want to know where, historically and prehistorically, the water was located because that’s where the people would have been,” Gronhovd said.

What Gronhovd and her crew find when they get into the field in spring 2012 will help county and state agencies plan. They will know where archaeological sites are before they start building a new road or other project.

What Gronhovd and her crew find will also help paint a more complete picture of Steele County’s and Minnesota’s past.

“The more information we have, the more we can understand how the people who were here long before us interacted and traded with one another.”

~ Amanda Gronhovd, 10,000 Lakes Archaeology

*See page 51 for more on Archaeological Surveys.*

# Minnesota Digital Library

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“[Newspapers are the] daybooks of history.”

~ Alexander Ramsey,  
Minnesota's first territorial  
governor, 1849

Every time staff at the Morrison County Historical Society would move bound volumes of *The Pierz Journal* newspapers from the early 1900s, the newspapers would start to fall apart.

“Little bits would flake off around the edges, even when the volumes were closed,” said Manager Mary Warner. “The public couldn’t use them. We were even hesitant to use them.”

Warner said the newspapers contain great local news stories and detailed obituaries. They are the only place, she said, where genealogists, researchers, educators, students and the general public can find comprehensive historical information about eastern Morrison County.



Digitized front page from the Pierz Journal, July 15, 1909.

Once *The Pierz Journals* are digitized, they will be shared on the MDL’s Minnesota Reflections web site. More than 120 historical organizations across Minnesota, like the Morrison County Historical Society, have added more than 85,000 historical images, maps, documents and objects from their collections to Minnesota Reflections’ searchable database.

Helping teachers and students use the database is a key part of MDL Outreach Coordinator Marian Rengel’s job. The MDL now offers teachers’ guides to Minnesota Reflections that give tips on how to research the site and develop lesson plans from it.

“The MDL is bridging the gap

between historical organizations that have collections and the teachers and students who need to access those collections.”

~ Marian Rengel, Minnesota Digital Library Outreach Coordinator

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**85,000** – Number of historical assets now accessible to the public on the Minnesota Digital Library’s Minnesota Reflections website

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“We’re actually losing information out of them,” Warner said.

A solution, said Warner, has been found through the Minnesota Digital Library (MDL). The MDL is comprised of professionals from libraries, archives, historical societies and museums across Minnesota. They are all working together to preserve and share online our state’s historical resources.

The MDL is also using newer, gentler technology to digitize newspapers like the fragile *Pierz Journals*. It’s a process that, because of space, staff and financial constraints, the Morrison County Historical Society couldn’t undertake on its own.

“Now we don’t have to handle *The Pierz Journals* anymore, extending their life,” said Warner. “And because they’ll be online, they’re more accessible than ever, thanks to the Minnesota Digital Library.”

*See page 52 for more on the Minnesota Digital Library.*



# Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund History Appropriations Language

**Ch. 6. Art. 4**  
**Subd. 5. Minnesota**  
**Historical Society**  
**12,050,000**  
**12,050,000**

These amounts are appropriated to the governing board of the Minnesota Historical Society to preserve and enhance access to Minnesota's history and its cultural and historical resources. Grant agreements entered into by the Minnesota Historical Society and other recipients of appropriations in this subdivision shall ensure that these funds are used to supplement and not substitute for traditional sources of funding. Funds directly appropriated to the Minnesota Historical Society shall be used to supplement and not substitute for, traditional sources of funding. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28. for historic preservation projects that improve historic structures, the amounts are available until June 30, 2015.

**Statewide Historic and Cultural Grants.**

\$5,250,000 the first year and \$5,250,000 the second year are for history programs and projects operated or conducted by or through local, county, regional, or other historical or cultural organizations; or for activities to preserve significant historic and cultural resources. Funds are to be distribut-

ed through a competitive grants process. The Minnesota Historical Society shall administer these funds using established grants mechanisms with assistance from the advisory committee created under Laws 2009, chapter 172, article 4, section 2, subdivision 4, paragraph (b). item (ii)

**Programs.**

\$4,800,000 the first year and \$4,800,000 the second year are for programs and purposes related to the historical and cultural heritage of the state of Minnesota, conducted by the Minnesota Historical Society.

**History Partnerships.**

\$1,500,000 the first year and \$1,500,000 the second year are for partnerships involving multiple organizations, which may include the Minnesota Historical Society, to preserve and enhance access to Minnesota's history and cultural heritage in all regions of the state.

**Statewide Survey of Historical and Archaeological Sites.**

\$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are for a contract or contracts to be let on a competitive basis to con-

duct statewide surveys of Minnesota's sites of historical, archaeological, and cultural significance. Results of this survey must be published in a searchable form available to the public on a cost-free basis. The Minnesota Historical Society, the Office of the State Archaeologist, and the Indian Affairs Council shall each appoint a representative to an oversight board to select contractors and direct the conduct of these surveys. The oversight board shall consult with the Departments of Transportation and Natural Resources.

**Digital Library.**

\$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are for a digital library project to preserve, digitize and share Minnesota images, documents and historical materials. The Minnesota Historical Society shall cooperate with the Minitex inter-library loan system and shall jointly share this appropriation for these purposes.

# 2012 Report of Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants

The ACHF-funded Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program provides an unprecedented opportunity for non-profit and educational organizations, government units and tribal organizations across Minnesota to preserve and share the state's history and cultural heritage. The Minnesota Historical Society administers the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program and awards grants based on the recommendations of the Historic Resources Advisory Committee.

Through a competitive process, more than 571 grants totaling \$7.1 million have been awarded to 369 history-minded organizations in every county in Minnesota since the Legacy Amendment was passed in 2008. In the first six months of fiscal year 2012, in just two grant cycles, 97 grants, totaling \$573,309 have been awarded in 46 counties to more than 90 organizations across Minnesota.

Fiscal year 2012 Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants are available in three tiers:

- > Small or Structured Grants of \$7,000 or less (awarded throughout fiscal year 2012)
- > Mid-Size Grants between \$7,001 and \$50,000 (awarded in Jan. 2012)
- > Large Grants of more than \$50,001 (awarded in Jan. 2012)

A portion of grants funding, \$262,500, is used to administer and ensure the success of the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program. The funds allow the Society to lead statewide grant-writing workshops and webinars, and assist applicants with technical information critical to submitting a successful grant application as well as supporting recipients throughout the life of their project. To assure transparency and measurable outcomes of projects, grants staff also conducts onsite visits required by the Minnesota Office of Grants Management and, at the end of the fiscal year, staff closes out and accounts for all funds awarded.

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**2012-2013 APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE:** *Statewide Historic and Cultural Grants. \$5,250,000 the first year and \$5,250,000 the second year are for history programs and projects operated or conducted by or through local, county, regional, or other historical or cultural organizations; or for activities to preserve significant historic and cultural resources. Funds are to be distributed through a competitive grants process. The Minnesota Historical Society shall administer these funds using established grants mechanisms, with assistance from the advisory committee created under Laws 2009, chapter 172, article 4, section 2, subdivision 4, paragraph (b), item (ii).*

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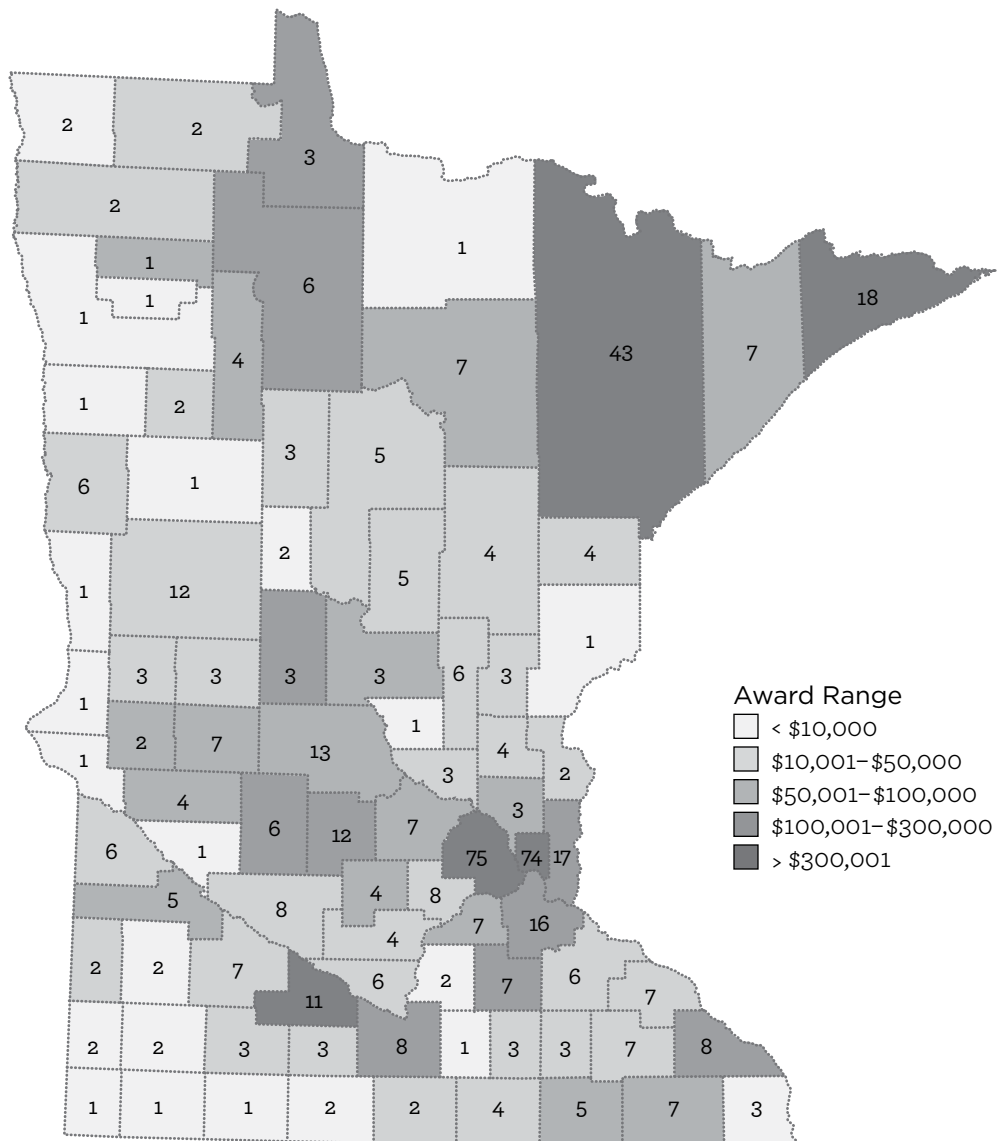
**The following 11 pages list all grants awarded in the first six months of fiscal year 2012. As more grants are awarded throughout the year, information will be available at [www.mnhs.org/legacy](http://www.mnhs.org/legacy).**

**MINNESOTA HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE GRANTS**

October 2009–October 2011

\$7.1 million Awarded

571 Grants





**SENATE DISTRICT 02, HOUSE DISTRICT 2A**

White Earth Reservation  
Tribal Council . . . . . \$3189  
Numa-Ogimaa giigonh, Sturgeon-King of Fish. To document the spiritual and cultural implications associated with the Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) and Numa the Lake Sturgeon in up to 15 interviews. • White Earth, MN, Becker County

**SENATE DISTRICT 03, HOUSE DISTRICT 03A**

City Of Bigfork . . . . . \$7000  
Bigfork City Hall Preservation Planning. To prepare a comprehensive plan for the renovation and preservation of the Bigfork City Hall, eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. • Big Fork, MN, Itasca County

**SENATE DISTRICT 03, HOUSE DISTRICT 03B**

Aitkin County Historical Society.. \$1,132  
Minnesota History Bookshelf. To add 43 standard Minnesota history titles to broaden public accessibility. • Aitkin, MN, Aitkin County

**SENATE DISTRICT 04, HOUSE DISTRICT 04A**

Beltrami County  
History Center . . . . . \$4978  
Rehousing of Photographs and Maps, Manuscript Box Labeling. To rehouse a collection of historic photographs in order to better preserve them. • Bemidji, MN, Beltrami County

**SENATE DISTRICT 04, HOUSE DISTRICT 04B**



Postcard of Pine River street scene, ca.1924, MHS Photograph Collection

Heritage Group North, Inc. . . . . \$7,000  
City of Pine River, MN Walking Tour – Phase II. To enhance an existing walking tour with 14 kiosks broadening public access to Pine River’s history. • Pine River, MN, Cass County

**SENATE DISTRICT 05, HOUSE DISTRICT 05B**

Minnesota Discovery Center . . . . \$7,000  
Minnesota Discovery Center Object Collection Inventory. To gain physical and intellectual control of approximately 2000 artifacts using PastPerfect software. • Chisholm, MN, St. Louis County

North Star Foundation of the  
Mesaba Range Inc. . . . . \$4700  
The Oral History of Mesaba Co-op Park. To document in 10 interviews the history of Mesaba Co-op Park and related cooperative movement history. • Hibbing, MN, St. Louis County

**SENATE DISTRICT 06, HOUSE DISTRICT 06A**

Cook County Historical Society . . \$7,000  
Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Evaluation. To hire a qualified and experienced HVAC engineer to evaluate current system preparatory to better control of the North Superior Lifeboat Station Lightkeeper’s House, listed in the National Register of Historic Places and current home of the Cook County Historical Society. • Grand Marais, MN, Cook County



“The light-keeper’s house represents the maritime history of Grand Marais and Cook County. This grant will allow

us to better care for it and ensure a long life for the artifacts on display.”

~ Carrie McHugh, Cook County Historical Society

Dorothy Molter Foundation and Museum . . . . . \$5,384  
 Collections Inventory and Registration. To gain intellectual and physical control of historic objects held in public trust using PastPerfect software. • Ely, MN, St. Louis County



Dorothy Molter, the last non-indigenous person to live in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area.

William M. Kelley High School. . . \$6,008  
 “Company Town” Book. To publish a history of Silver Bay based on firsthand oral history. • Silver Bay, MN, Lake County

**SENATE DISTRICT 07, HOUSE DISTRICT 07B**

St. Louis County Historical Society . . . . . \$7000  
 Architectural Design Services for Lake Superior Ojibwe Gallery & Adjacent Storage. To produce construction documents for a gallery and adjacent museum storage to preserve Eastman Johnson art works and Ojibwe artifacts. • Duluth, MN, St. Louis County

**SENATE DISTRICT: 08, HOUSE DISTRICT 08A**

Cloquet Public Library. . . . . \$7,000  
 Microfilm Reader/Scanner. To make accessible primary records through a new microfilm reader/printer. • Cloquet, MN, Carlton County

**SENATE DISTRICT 08, HOUSE DISTRICT 08A**

Lake Superior Sustainable Farming Association. . . . . \$4,300  
 Duluth Farmer’s Market Oral History. To document in 10 interviews in Carlton and St. Louis Counties the history of the Duluth Farmer’s Market. • Carlton, MN, Carlton County

**SENATE DISTRICT 09, HOUSE DISTRICT 09A**

Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County . . . . . \$6000  
 New Hjemkomst Exhibit. To hire a consultant to research and design a new exhibit about the Hjemkomst voyage. • Moorhead, MN, Clay County

Probstfield Farm Living History Foundation, Inc. . . . . \$3,600  
 Updated Historic Structures Report for Probstfield House. To update the 2003 Historic Structures Report to provide more specific guidance on the restoration of the Randolph M. Probstfield House, listed in the National Register of Historic Places. • Moorhead, MN, Clay County



Probstfield House, 1884.



Probstfield House, May, 2011.

**SENATE DISTRICT 10, HOUSE DISTRICT 10A**

Minnesota State Community & Technical College . . . . . \$2,696  
Funding for a Long Range Conservation Plan for a Collection of Fine Art. To hire professional conservators to assess historically significant collections and write a long range preservation plan. • Fergus Falls, MN, Otter Tail County



*Elephant*, oil painting by Minnesota artist Cat Abbott, from Minnesota State-Fergus Falls art collection.

**SENATE DISTRICT 11, HOUSE DISTRICT 11A**

Grant County . . . . . \$6950  
Grant County Courthouse. To prepare condition assessment and treatment proposal for the Grant County Courthouse, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. • Elbow Lake, MN, Grant County

**SENATE DISTRICT 13, HOUSE DISTRICT 13A**

Pope County Historical Society . . \$7,000  
Museum Environment-Insulation. To begin to implement recommendations from an HVAC evaluation that will ensure better climate control for the preservation of historic resources. • Glenwood, MN, Pope County

**SENATE DISTRICT 14, HOUSE DISTRICT 14B**

Saint John's Abbey & University . . \$6046  
General Preservation Needs Assessment at SJU. To undertake a general preservation needs assessment of library collections at Saint John's University. • Collegeville, MN, Stearns County

**SENATE DISTRICT 15, HOUSE DISTRICT 15A**

Stearns History Museum . . . . . \$6,750  
Online Archival Catalog Upgrade. To enhance public accessibility to archival collections through an online database. • St. Cloud, MN, Stearns County

**SENATE DISTRICT 16, HOUSE DISTRICT 16A**

City of Onamia . . . . . \$2,035  
Exterior building preservation work, including modification of the roof drainage systems and leaf guards (wicker covers and tip-ups). To address water infiltration of Onamia Municipal Hall, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. • Onamia, MN, Mille Lacs County

City of Onamia . . . . . \$6300  
Wiping out Water in the Basement. To abate water infiltration of the basement of the Onamia City Hall, listed in the National Register of Historic Places. • Onamia, MN, Mille Lacs County

**SENATE DISTRICT 17, HOUSE DISTRICT 17A**

Isanti County  
Historical Society . . . . . \$6570  
Detailed Processing of Fire Salvaged Archives. To clean, catalog and file fire-damaged materials to enhance public access to Isanti County history. • Cambridge, MN, Isanti County

**SENATE DISTRICT 18, HOUSE DISTRICT 18A**

City of Glencoe . . . . . \$2,600  
Henry Hill School National Register Nomination. To prepare a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for the Glencoe City Center building. • Glencoe, MN, McLeod County

**SENATE DISTRICT 18, HOUSE DISTRICT 18B**

Cokato Historical Society.....\$7000  
Akerlund Studio Glass Plate Negative Scanning, Phase IV. To scan and digitize 1,400 significant glass plate negatives from the Gust Akerlund Studio collection. • Cokato, MN, Wright County

City of Litchfield ..... \$7,000  
Litchfield Original Plat Survey. To survey historic properties in the 1869 original plat broadening access to local history. • Litchfield, MN, Meeker County

Greater Litchfield Opera House Association, Inc..... \$5,000  
Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Evaluation. To hire a qualified and experienced HVAC engineer to evaluate current system preparatory to better control of the Litchfield Opera House, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. • Litchfield, MN, Meeker County



Litchfield Opera House, 1908, MHS Photograph Collection

Meeker County Historical Society ..... \$7,000  
Collections Care & Management: Cataloging 350 Artifacts. To gain intellectual and physical control of historic objects held in public trust using PastPerfect software. • Litchfield, MN, Meeker County

**SENATE DISTRICT 20, HOUSE DISTRICT 20A**

Lac qui Parle County Historical Society ..... \$6,230  
Conservation Assessment/Preservation Phase. To hire professional conservators to assess historically significant collections and write a long range preservation plan. • Madison, MN, Lac qui Parle County

**SENATE DISTRICT 20, HOUSE DISTRICT 20B**

Renville County Historical Society ..... \$1019  
Bookshelf Request. To add 35 standard Minnesota history titles to broaden public accessibility. Morton, MN, Renville County

**SENATE DISTRICT 21, HOUSE DISTRICT 21A**

Redwood Falls Public Library . . . . \$6960  
Microfilm Grant Phase 3. To purchase 128 rolls of micro-filmed newspapers from Redwood County. • Redwood Falls, MN, Redwood County

Dakota Wicohan. .... \$7,000  
Dakota Language Oral History Project - Phase IV. To assemble historical resources pertaining to Dakota language preservation. • Morton, MN, Renville County

**SENATE DISTRICT 21, HOUSE DISTRICT 21B**

Brown County Historical Society ..... \$6350  
Restoration of 3rd Floor. To restore the brick walls, wood beams and wood floor and repurpose the pan lighting in an exhibit area. • New Ulm, MN, Brown County

**SENATE DISTRICT 22, HOUSE DISTRICT 22A**

Pipestone County Historical Society ..... \$4376  
If Walls Could Talk Walking Tour. To create a 40-page walking tour booklet and integrated web assets of Pipestone Commercial Historic District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places. • Pipestone, MN, Pipestone County

**SENATE DISTRICT 23, HOUSE DISTRICT 23A**

Nicollet County  
Historical Society .....\$6999  
Purchase of an ImageData Microfilm Scanner. To provide greater accessibility to, and use of, the NCHS microfilm research collection. • St. Peter, MN, Nicollet County

**SENATE DISTRICT 23, HOUSE DISTRICT 23B**

Blue Earth County  
Historical Society .....\$7000  
Discover the Dakota Culture and Heritage. To prepare an educational series honoring the Dakota people during the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 Sesquicentennial. • Mankato, MN, Blue Earth County

Minnesota State University, Mankato-  
Library Services .....\$7000  
Reporter Digitization Project - Minnesota State University, Mankato. To digitize and make accessible the Minnesota State University, Mankato school newspaper, 1926-1975. • Mankato, MN, Blue Earth County

Nicollet County  
Historical Society ..... \$4000  
Commemorating Controversy Lecture Series. To document a public series of native and non-native lecturers discussing Dakota culture, relationship with the U.S. government, and the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. • St. Peter, MN, Nicollet County

**SENATE DISTRICT 26, HOUSE DISTRICT 26B**

Rice County Historical Society . . . \$7,000  
Researching and gathering historical evidence of Alexander Faribault. To assemble historical resources pertaining to Alexander Faribault. • Faribault, MN, Rice County



Alexander Faribault, cabinet photograph, ca. 1830, MHS Photograph Collection

**SENATE DISTRICT 27, HOUSE DISTRICT 27A**

Freeborn County .....\$2830  
Historical Marker. To create and install an interpretive marker on the history of Lodge Zare Zapadu No. 44, listed in the National Register of Historic Places. • Albert Lea, MN, Freeborn County

Freeborn County  
Historical Society .....\$4409  
Microfilm Acquisition. To purchase 81 rolls of microfilmed newspapers from bordering communities that include Freeborn County history. • Albert Lea, MN, Freeborn County

**SENATE DISTRICT 27, HOUSE DISTRICT 27B**

Hormel Historic Home .....\$5620  
K-8 Educational Curriculum Needs Assessment. To survey educators and assess local needs for onsite or classroom education units. • Austin, MN, Mower County

Mower County  
Historical Society .....\$7000  
Ghost Towns of Mower County Exhibit. To create and install an exhibit on the ghost towns of Mower County. • Austin, MN, Mower County

Mower County  
Historical Society ..... \$7,000  
MCHS Township Records Microfilming Implementation Grant. To microfilm the records of 12 Mower County townships. • Austin, MN, Mower County

**SENATE DISTRICT 28, HOUSE DISTRICT 28A**

Goodhue County  
Historical Society ..... \$6,800  
MNopedia. To create Goodhue County entries for the MNopedia project for online research. • Red Wing, MN, Goodhue County

Wabasha County  
Historical Society .....\$4920  
Reads Landing Schoolhouse Fire Safety and Mitigation Project. To mitigate the risk of fire in the Reads Landing School, listed in the National Register of Historic Places. • Lake City, MN, Wabasha County

**SENATE DISTRICT 28, HOUSE DISTRICT 28B**

Friends of St. Rose, Inc. . . . . \$4,000  
St. Rose Church National Register Nomination. To prepare a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for the Church of St. Rose of Lima (Catholic). • Kenyon, MN, Goodhue County

**SENATE DISTRICT 29, HOUSE DISTRICT 29A**

Dodge County  
Historical Society . . . . . \$4,986  
Photo Preservation and Management. To gain intellectual and physical control of historic objects held in public trust using PastPerfect museum software. • Mantorville, MN, Dodge County

**SENATE DISTRICT 30, HOUSE DISTRICT 30A**

City of Rochester . . . . . \$6280  
Rochester Heritage Resource Discovery Plan. To compile a comprehensive baseline inventory of the city’s heritage resources that can be integrated in planning. • Rochester, MN, Olmsted County

**SENATE DISTRICT 31, HOUSE DISTRICT 31A**

Winona State University, \$6186  
General Conservation Assessment and Long-Range Preservation Plan. To conduct a general survey of the university collections; assess interior environments, policies and procedures for the use and care of collections and produce a long-range preservation plan. • Winona, MN, Winona County

**SENATE DISTRICT 31, HOUSE DISTRICT 31B**

Fillmore County  
Historical Society . . . . . \$7,000  
Microform Reader/Printer Purchase. To make accessible primary records through a new microfilm reader/printer. • Fountain, MN, Fillmore County

Jefferson Township, \$2000  
History of the Winnebago Valley. To edit a manuscript on the history of the Winnebago Creek Valley, Jefferson Township, Houston County. • Jefferson Township, MN, Houston County

Lanesboro Arts Center. . . . . \$6075  
Fixing the Failing Facade. To survey the exterior of the building, make historically sensitive recommendations and create construction-ready documents for needed improvements that will enhance the exterior of the historic building without negatively impacting the historic structure itself. • Lanesboro, MN, Fillmore County

Lanesboro Arts Center. . . . . \$5,000  
Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Evaluation. To hire a qualified and experienced HVAC engineer to evaluate current system preparatory to better control of the Lanesboro Art Center. • Lanesboro, MN, Fillmore County

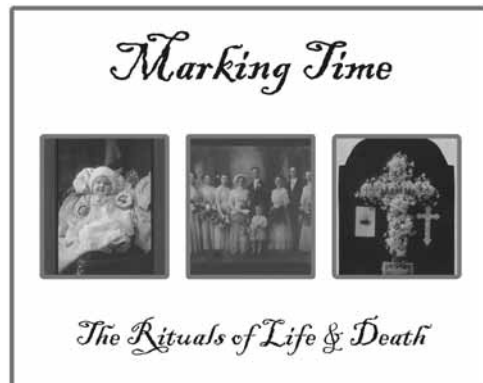
Rushford-Peterson Schools . . . . . \$6,995  
National Register Evaluation for the Rushford School. To prepare a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for the Rushford Elementary and High School. • Rushford, MN, Fillmore County

**SENATE DISTRICT 34, HOUSE DISTRICT 34A**

Carver County  
Historical Society . . . . . \$7,000  
Rehousing At-risk Photographs. To rehouse a collection of historic photographs in order to better preserve them. • Waconia, MN, Carver County

**SENATE DISTRICT 35, HOUSE DISTRICT 35A**

Scott County  
Historical Society . . . . . \$3,650  
“Marking Time: The Rituals of Life & Death” Exhibit. To create and install an exhibit on the development of rituals in Scott County history. • Shakopee, MN, Scott County



**SENATE DISTRICT 36, HOUSE DISTRICT 36B**

Prairie Creek Community School . . . . . \$6,920  
Preparing for a History of the Prairie Creek Community School 1983-2013. To assemble historical resources pertaining to Prairie Creek School in preparation for its 30th anniversary. • Northfield, MN, Dakota County

**SENATE DISTRICT 38, HOUSE DISTRICT 38B**

Caponi Art Park . . . . . \$6,560  
Phase Two—Development of Institutional Archive. To conduct a basic processing project that will prepare archives collections for public access. • Eagan, MN, Dakota County

**SENATE DISTRICT 39, HOUSE DISTRICT 39B**

City of Inver Grove Heights. . . . . \$6990  
Heritage Village Park Interpretive Planning Project. To document in up to 12 interviews the history of the Rock Island Swing Bridge in preparation for an interpretive plan. • Inver Grove Heights, MN, Dakota County

**SENATE DISTRICT 44, HOUSE DISTRICT 44A**

Sholom Community Alliance. . . . . \$7,000  
Jewish Identity & Legacy: A Cross-Generational Exploration. To document in six intergenerational interviews the history of how Jewish migration to Minnesota is transmitted to succeeding generations • St. Louis Park, MN, Hennepin County

**SENATE DISTRICT 44, HOUSE DISTRICT 44B**

Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest . . . . . \$6660  
Jewish MNopedia. To create 15 entries about Minnesota’s Jewish institutions using text, photos and videos from the collections of JHSUM for MNopedia. • St. Louis Park, MN, Hennepin County

**SENATE DISTRICT 47, HOUSE DISTRICT 47B**

City of Brooklyn Park, \$7000  
Eidem Homestead Traveling Trunk. To create trunks containing hands-on artifacts pertaining to Eidem Homestead and local history to be loaned to schools and other community groups. • Brooklyn Park, MN, Hennepin County

**SENATE DISTRICT 50, HOUSE DISTRICT 50A**

Sister City International . . . . . \$2,000  
“Frantic 7” for an American Audience. To translate into English from Polish the story of World War II Minneapolis serviceman Walter Shimshock (Szymczak). • Columbia Heights, MN, Anoka County



World War II Minneapolis serviceman Walter Shimshock, whose plane was shot down by Germans while dropping supplies to Polish troops fighting to liberate Warsaw from the Nazis

“This is the only book where people can learn about a Minnesotan’s role in the battle for Warsaw in World War II. It will have great educational and historical value for Polish communities all over the state.”

~ Dan Schyma, Frantic 7 Project Manager

**SENATE DISTRICT 51, HOUSE DISTRICT 51B**

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Fridley Historical Society . . . . . \$5,114  
Post World War II Suburban Development of Fridley, Minnesota. To document in 15 interviews the history of Fridley's post-World War II suburban development • Fridley, MN, Anoka County



Suburban development, Fridley, 1956, MHS Photograph Collection.

**SENATE DISTRICT 52, HOUSE DISTRICT 52B**

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Marine Restoration Society . . . . . \$6,999  
Documenting Significant Historic Areas of St. Croix Valley Through Photography. To document the change in historic resources in the St. Croix River Valley based on 85 photographs by John W.G. Dunn. • Marine on St. Croix, MN, Washington County

**SENATE DISTRICT 53, HOUSE DISTRICT 53B**

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White Bear Lake Area  
Historical Society . . . . . \$7,000  
Fillebrown House Exterior Restoration Project. To restore siding on the Charles P. Noyes Cottage (Fillebrown House), which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. • White Bear Lake, MN, Ramsey County

**SENATE DISTRICT 54, HOUSE DISTRICT 54A**

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Eighth Air Force Historical  
Society of Minnesota . . . . . \$4,158  
Digital conversion and publication of past Minnesota veterans' presentations, educational outreach, and oral history interviews of veterans of the Eighth Air Force Historical Society of Minnesota. To convert 44 VHS tapes to digital format allowing greater public access. • Roseville, MN, Ramsey County

**SENATE DISTRICT 55, HOUSE DISTRICT 55A**

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Maplewood Area  
Historical Society . . . . . \$6745  
Research for Maplewood History Book. To conduct research on the comprehensive history of Maplewood from the 1850s to present. • Maplewood, MN, Ramsey County

**SENATE DISTRICT 57, HOUSE DISTRICT 57A**

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Dakota County  
Historical Society . . . . . \$6900  
www.dakotahistory.org 2.0. To develop a new website that enables better public access to Dakota County history. • South St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

Dakota County  
Historical Society . . . . . \$6,183  
Our Voices: Hastings State Hospital Oral History Project. To document in 20 interviews the history of the Hastings State Hospital, 1938–1978 • South St. Paul, MN, Dakota County



Hastings State Hospital, ca. 1940, MHS Photograph Collection.

**SENATE DISTRICT 57, HOUSE DISTRICT 57B**

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Afton Historical Society  
and Museum . . . . . \$6,992  
Collections Care & Management: Phase 3. To prepare a full catalog description for 823 priority museum collections. • Afton, MN, Washington County

**SENATE DISTRICT 59, HOUSE DISTRICT 59A**

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Firefighter's Hall and Museum . . . \$5,950  
I-35W Bridge Collapse Exhibit: Firefighter Response. To assemble historic resources necessary to complement a traveling exhibit about emergency response. • Minneapolis, MN, Hennepin County



**SENATE DISTRICT 59, HOUSE DISTRICT 59B**

Friends of the Immigration History Research Center . . . . . \$7,000  
Houses of Worship and Ethnicity in the Twin Cities. To document in 12 interviews the story of religious organizations efforts at community building in the Twin Cities. • Minneapolis, MN, Hennepin County

Regents of the University of Minnesota (Institute for Advanced Study) . . . \$6900  
Oral Histories of Small-Scale Food Initiatives in Southwest Minnesota. To document in 20 interviews the history of growing and marketing food in southwest Minnesota. • Minneapolis, MN, Hennepin County

Seward Neighborhood Group . . . . . \$6850  
A History of the Seward Neighborhood. To produce a book-length manuscript on the history of the Seward Neighborhood, Minneapolis. • Minneapolis, MN, Hennepin County

Twin Cities Daily Planet . . . . . \$5625  
History of Minnesota Theaters 1959-1981. To compile source materials about theater history throughout the state of Minnesota from 1959 to 1981. • Minneapolis, MN, Hennepin County

University of Minnesota Foundation (University of Minnesota Press) . . . \$7000  
Minnesota Railroads: A Photographic History, 1940–2012. To publish a book tracing Minnesota railroading over the last seven decades through carefully selected photographs, maps and ephemera. • Minneapolis, MN, Hennepin County

**SENATE DISTRICT 60, HOUSE DISTRICT 60A**

Cedar Lake Park Preservation and Development Association doing business as Cedar Lake Park Association . . . . . \$7000  
Cedar Lake Park Association History Project. To publish a history of the Cedar Lake Park Association, a volunteer citizens' group. • Minneapolis, MN, Hennepin County

Hennepin Medical History Center . . . . . \$4000  
Hennepin Medical History Center Website. To develop a new website that enables better public access to Hennepin Medical Center history. • Minneapolis, MN, Hennepin County

**SENATE DISTRICT 60, HOUSE DISTRICT 60B**

The Bakken Museum . . . . . \$7000  
Dakota Medicinal Plant Garden Phase 2. To complete fabrication and installation of the Dakota Medicinal Plant Garden Exhibit. • Minneapolis, MN, Hennepin County

**SENATE DISTRICT 61, HOUSE DISTRICT 61A**

Hennepin History Museum . . . . . \$7000  
From Exile to Resettlement: Voices of the Bhutanese in Minnesota. To document in 10 interviews the history of Bhutanese refugees in Minnesota. • Minneapolis, MN, Hennepin County

**SENATE DISTRICT 61, HOUSE DISTRICT 61B**

Lake Street Council . . . . . \$7000  
Museum in the Streets: Lake Street. To install three bilingual heritage discovery walks along Lake Street in Minneapolis. • Minneapolis, MN, Hennepin County

**SENATE DISTRICT 64, HOUSE DISTRICT 64A**

1006 Summit Avenue Society . . . . . \$7000  
Governor's Residence Interpretive Plan. To prepare a comprehensive interpretive plan for the Governor's Residence to identify how best to reach their audience. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

Maritime Heritage Minnesota. . . . \$6,997  
Lake Minnetonka Survey I. To survey archaeological resources in six sections of Lake Minnetonka. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

Maritime Heritage Minnesota. . . . \$6,993  
Minnesota River Survey I. To survey archaeological resources along 74 miles of the Minnesota River across Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Le Seuer, Scott and Sibley Counties. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

Saint Paul Domestic Abuse Intervention Project . . . . . \$7000  
What is an Advocate?—An Oral History Project. To document in five to seven interviews the many roles advocates play in helping victims to become successful survivors and helping to move society toward the elimination of abuse altogether. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

The Performance Lab . . . . . \$6650  
 Videotaping Dance Community's Oral Histories. To document in three to four interviews the history of the dance community in the Twin Cities. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

**SENATE DISTRICT 65, HOUSE DISTRICT 65A**

Hmong Cultural Center. . . . . \$6,500  
 Tshoob Kos (Marriage Ceremony) and Kev Cai Pam Tuag (Funeral Procedures) Publication Project. To translate into English from Hmong marriage and funeral cultural heritage customs to make both more accessible. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

**SENATE DISTRICT 65, HOUSE DISTRICT 65B**

Ce Tempoxcalli. . . . . \$7000  
 Born of Hunger - Research. To construct a historically accurate account and thorough context of the 1995 student hunger strike at St. Cloud State University. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

HAND in HAND Productions. . . . \$7,000  
 Saint Paul Police Oral History Project - Phase 5. To transcribe five oral history interviews with retired St. Paul Police officers. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

Minnesota Museum of American Art. . . . . \$6,660  
 Collections Inventory and Data Entry. To gain physical and intellectual control through a professional inventory of remaining uninventoried museum collections. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State (Civil War Commemoration Task Force). . . . . \$7000  
 Minnesota Civil War Commemorative Task Force Website. To enable public access through a website on the Minnesota Civil War Sesquicentennial. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

Ramsey County Historical Society . . . . . \$6,996  
 Collections Inventory. To gain physical and intellectual control through a professional inventory of approximately 3,800 objects documenting Ramsey County history. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

**SENATE DISTRICT 66, HOUSE DISTRICT 66B**

Minnesota Administrators of Special Education . . . . . \$6,999  
 MN Services for Infants/Toddlers With Disabilities. To document in up to eight interviews the history of special education for infants and toddlers, 1980 to present. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

Minnesota Veterinary Historical Museum . . . . . \$3105  
 Corridor Exhibit Wall Panels. To create and install an exhibit on the history of veterinary medicine in Minnesota. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

Twin City Model Railroad Museum . . . . . \$7,000  
 Interpretive Plan. To prepare a comprehensive interpretive plan for better public access to the history of model railroading. • St. Paul, MN, Ramsey County

TOTAL 29 Counties . . . . . \$288,187





## 2012 Report of Statewide History Programs



Participants of the ACHF-funded internship program, Minnesota History Center, summer 2011

The Minnesota Historical Society has been preserving and sharing Minnesota's stories since 1849. With support from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF), the Society is reaching and inspiring more Minnesotans than ever before. ACHF-funded history programs are creating new, innovative opportunities for Minnesota students and teachers, preserving and sharing our state's unique stories, giving Minnesotans unprecedented access to historical and cultural resources and empowering Minnesotans to connect with each other and enhance their communities.

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**2012-2013 APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE:** *Programs. \$4,800,000 the first year and \$4,800,000 the second year are for programs and purposes related to the historical and cultural heritage of the state of Minnesota, conducted by the Minnesota Historical Society.*

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**INNOVATIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS**

**“Hands-On” History Curriculum for Minnesota’s Students . . . . . \$190,000**

The Minnesota Historical Society is developing creative, hands-on learning projects for K-12 students that adhere to state social studies standards and introduce students to important aspects of Minnesota and U.S. history. For example, students will explore the role of slavery in American history by examining historical newspapers, letters and laws and by watching a series of dramatic portrayals of Dred and Harriet Scott who lived at Fort Snelling in the 1830s. These projects will be made accessible to teachers around the state and around the country.

**Creating Success for 21st Century Learners . . . . . \$183,387**

Research shows that traditional teaching tools, such as textbooks and lectures, don’t fully engage today’s students who have grown up surrounded by technology and who use it in their daily lives. In this ongoing project, an additional two Minnesota Historical Society historic sites will improve their service to “21st Century Learners” and their teachers and parents. A total of ten sites are revamping their field trip programs and developing online resources requested by teachers and parents in earlier research, so that “21st Century Learners” can develop a stronger connection to the study of history.



Students on a field trip at Mill City Museum

“I was always interested in history, but my internship has made it more relevant to today. I’ve gained valuable skills that I’ll use in future jobs.”

~Lauren Peck, MHS Intern, fall 2011

**Engaging Students in Minnesota History through Internships and Education . . . . . \$157,500**

The Minnesota Historical Society is launching a new component to its internship program by providing opportunities for high school students to develop work-readiness skills and learn about career paths available at the Society. The Society strives to attract interns from underrepresented communities to encourage engagement and diversify the institution. Students are placed across the Society in various departments and sites.

The Society also includes college students in its internship program. To enrich their experience, they participate in activities together over a semester-long period. The activities focus on learning more about the Society, current issues and trends by meeting staff and sharing intern experiences and building professional networks. During the 2010-2011 school year, Arts and Cultural Heritage funding supported 43 interns who contributed nearly 4,000 hours in 14 programs across the Society.



MHS interns explore ways to make history engaging to young audiences, summer 2011

**History Day Expansion . . . . . \$190,000**

History Day, an annual program co-sponsored by the Minnesota Historical Society and the University of Minnesota, challenges young people to research a historical subject related to an annual theme and present their findings in the form of exhibits, documentaries, performances, websites and papers. It is a rigorous program used by schools to meet state graduation standards for history and applied learning.

With more than 30,000 students participating, Minnesota is widely recognized as a national leader in using the History Day program to improve academic achievement in history.

The Minnesota Historical Society is enriching services to History Day students and helping more students across the state with researching and creating their History Day projects. Services include:

- classroom visits by Society educators
- support for field trips to county and university libraries
- the assignment of mentors from Minnesota State Colleges and Universities campuses to advise local students
- organizing regional professional development workshops for History Day teachers



Minnesota History Day Event at Red Lake Middle School

**History Live . . . . . \$218,502**

The award-winning History Live program, formerly called Interactive Video Conferencing or IVC, is creating new history lessons to deliver via video conferencing technology. History Live staff will also continue building a state and nationwide audience for these unique, high-energy history programs.

New History Live programs will focus on the fur trade, Dred and Harriet Scott, Dakota history, the Civilian Conservation Corps in Minnesota and the year 1968. History Live staff will also begin developing a way to deliver History Day training and support to students and teachers. History Live educators at the Minnesota History Center beam in-depth, interactive history programs into classrooms across the state and country.

In fiscal year 2012, **History Live won a Pinnacle Award from the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration for outstanding educational programming through video conferencing.** The award is based exclusively on feedback from teachers who have used History Live in their classrooms.



History Live lesson

“The Minnesota History Center has a great way of involving students while still providing facts about Minnesota history.”

~Teacher, Isanti Middle School

“This was a great alternative way to learn about Minnesota. All students were engaged the entire time.”

~Teacher, Wheaton Area Schools

“Our school does not have staff development money any more, so I got to go because my sub was paid for. The mileage subsidy helped when driving almost 200 miles.”

~ Teacher who attended “Technology, Tools and Resources” workshop at Bemidji State University, November 2011

### Innovative Training Opportunities for Minnesota’s Teachers . . . . . \$149,500

New ways of delivering professional development courses to teachers are necessary due to district funding cuts, restrictions on out-of-school training and the challenge of rural teachers traveling to training locations. To address these barriers, ACHF funds are allowing the Minnesota Historical Society to make enriched Minnesota history training opportunities available to teachers around the state through a series of professional workshops, conferences and immersion experiences.

Examples of teacher training opportunities and locations in fiscal year 2012 include Technology, Tools and Resources (Bemidji, St. Paul and Mankato), Teaching Minnesota in U.S. History (St. Cloud) and Historic Site Immersion (North West Company Fur Post, Pine City). Training reinforces state standards for Minnesota and American history. Arts and Cultural Heritage funds also reduce the cost of attending workshops for teachers who have limited access to professional development funding.



Teachers show off their new teaching kits from an agriculture workshop at Oliver H. Kelley Farm, summer 2011

### Legacy Field Trip Support Fund. . . . . \$85,000

The Legacy Field Trip Support Fund will allow more than 25,000 Minnesota students to experience field trips at Minnesota historic sites and museums statewide this fiscal year. The high cost of transportation prohibits many Minnesota teachers from taking their students on field trips. The Legacy Field Trip Support Fund offsets transportation costs to any of the Minnesota Historical Society’s 26 museums and historic sites statewide. Eligible schools are reimbursed \$3 per student.

### Mobile Learning Project . . . . . \$127,832

The Mobile Learning Project is entering the next phase of development of a mobile application that will create a new model for school field trips using mobile and web technologies to capitalize on the natural behaviors and learning styles of today’s students. “History in Our Hands: the Field Trip for the 21st Century Learner,” will demonstrate how museums can use technology with large numbers of “digitally native” students to create self-directed, personalized, responsive field trip experiences that deepen students’ connection to history while honing their critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

In fiscal year 2012, staff will complete a prototype of a mobile application called “History in our Hands” for the upcoming “Our Minnesota” exhibit to open in the fall of 2012. The mobile application will also allow students and teachers to capture items from the “Our Minnesota” exhibit with their handheld mobile devices for use in the classroom, thereby extending the exhibit experience. Society staff leveraged the initial research involved in creating the Mobile Learning Project, made possible by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, to earn a \$449,000 National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services in the fall of 2011.



Students testing mobile technology at the Minnesota History Center, December 2011



“Without these funds, this experience would not be possible for our grade 4 students. History will come alive again this year for Churchill Elementary students in Cloquet.”

~ Teacher, Churchill Elementary School, commenting on Legacy Field Trip Support Fund

**PRESERVING AND SHARING  
MINNESOTA'S STORIES**



Samuel D. Badger, anonymous, ca. 1870, MHS Collections

**Coordination of Statewide  
Civil War Activities. . . . . \$125,000**

2011 marked the beginning of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The Minnesota Historical Society will offer Minnesotans across the state opportunities to learn about the Civil War and Minnesota's contributions to it. Although the Civil War was not fought in our state, Minnesota did play an important role. The war, and Minnesota's connection to it, are of deep interest to many Minnesotans.

**Historic Sites Revitalization . . . \$140,111**

This project encompasses phase two of the Alexander Ramsey House Revitalization project and expands the scope of work to other historic sites in need of redevelopment. In particular, focused planning for the future of programs at Historic Fort Snelling will get underway and the Ramsey planning process will be shared with other historic sites in Minnesota.

The Alexander Ramsey House is an 11,000-square-foot mansion that was home to Minnesota's first territorial governor. The mansion contains approximately 14,000 original furnishings and has one of the most intact collections of Victorian-era artifacts in the Midwest.

Historic Fort Snelling is the state's first National Historic Landmark and played a central role in the development of the state and nation. The challenge is to create rich visitor experiences to match the diverse stories found at the site—including the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862, the presence of enslaved African-Americans in the 19th century and the role the site played in World War II.

Despite these assets and a sound public educational program, these and other sites have experienced a steady decline in attendance.

In phase one of the project, Arts and Cultural Heritage funding was used to determine the reasons for this decline. Phase two will implement what was learned, including making the sites more interactive and accessible to visitors.



Alexander Ramsey House decorated for holiday program

**Minnesota in the Civil War Exhibit . . . . . \$50,000**

Research will begin on a new exhibit that will explore Minnesota's role in the Civil War. The exhibit, opening at the Minnesota History Center in the spring of 2013, will draw heavily on objects and manuscripts from the Minnesota Historical Society's collections. 2011 marks the beginning of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The war and Minnesota's connection to it are of deep interest to many Minnesotans.

**Preserving Language and Culture through Stories: Jeffers Petroglyphs Site . . . . . \$25,000**

In phase two of this project, stories relating to the Jeffers Petroglyphs historic site told by Dakota elders will be transcribed, translated and made available to students, teachers and the general public. In phase one, the Minnesota Historical Society collected, recorded and interpreted the stories. The stories will be made accessible in Dakota and in English via the internet, DVD and also at Jeffers Petroglyphs. This project helps preserve and teach Dakota language and culture.

**Restoration of Governors' Portraits . . . . . \$32,000**

Sixteen more portraits of Minnesota governors will be cleaned and protected with the addition of high-quality, non-glare/UV filtering plexiglass. The portraits of Minnesota's governors grace the halls of the Minnesota State Capitol and provide an important legacy of the state's past and present leaders.



Brian Szott, Acting Head of Collections, and Tim Herstein, Conservation Assistant, reinstall the official portrait of Governor C. Elmer Anderson at the State Capitol

**Sustainability of Programs and Facilities . . . . . \$125,000**

Recommendations for reducing the Minnesota Historical Society's environmental impact will be presented and implemented during the second phase of this project. It's estimated that the recommendations can save the Society \$1.7 million over five years and divert two million kilograms of greenhouse gas emissions from the atmosphere. The recommendations are outlined in a sustainability audit done during the first phase of the project. In the audit, data on energy, water and resource use was collected from the Minnesota History Center and the Society's 25 other historic sites and museums, which adds up to more than 100 historic buildings and modern facilities. The Society recognizes the natural relationship between sustainability and historic preservation and the importance of environmental stewardship as we preserve our cultural heritage for future generations.

**U.S. and Minnesota Constitutions Exhibit . . . . . \$60,000**

The Minnesota Historical Society will bring the only traveling copy of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights to Minnesota. This copy of the Constitution dates back to 1787. The exhibit will also include two Minnesota Constitutions and will open at the Minnesota History Center in the spring of 2012.



Traveling copy of the United States Constitution on view at the Minnesota History Center in the spring of 2012

**U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 Exhibit . . . . . \$240,000**

In Spring 2012, an exhibit about the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 will open at the Minnesota History Center. The 2,200-square-foot exhibit will feature primary source documents and artifacts from Minnesota Historical Society collections that are related to the war. Questions directed at visitors will be used to prompt discussion and challenge assumptions. Throughout the exhibit, commentary from descendants of those touched by the war will provide multiple perspectives and interpretations of key artifacts and events.

These descendants are helping to shape the exhibit through meetings with the exhibits team. Artifact review sessions are being held with Dakota people from throughout the Midwest and Canada, with settler descendants from Brown and Nicollet Counties and with all who are interested in the exhibit and its contents. It is possible that the exhibit will open to the public as a work in progress, to underscore the Society’s commitment to incorporating multiple viewpoints and honest, productive conversations.

**U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 Public Programs . . . . . \$14,000**

The Minnesota History Center will invite the public to participate in programs that explore Dakota language and culture and also the history of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. Public programs will provide multiple perspectives on the war and give voice to Dakota history and identity through a variety of formats including lectures, films, tours and workshops.

**U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 Publications . . . . . \$25,000**

The Minnesota Historical Society Press (MHS Press) will continue to publish new books and also articles in Minnesota History magazine to help people further understand the complex history of the Dakota in Minnesota. Projects include:

- a book tentatively titled “Mni Sota Makoce” by Gwen Westerman and Bruce White
- a book titled “Dakota Women’s Work: Creativity, Culture and Exile” by Colette Hyman
- digital audio language resources to accompany the publication of “Beginning Dakota/Tokaheya Dakota Iapi Kin Teacher’s Edition.”

**U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 Sesquicentennial . . . . . \$243,000**

The Minnesota Historical Society will raise awareness of the significance of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 by communicating the experiences of people before, during and after the war. Programs and resources related to the commemoration of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 include:

- U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 Website — An interactive web site will tell stories of the war and its aftermath through oral histories, photos, journals, letters, newspapers, government documents and other primary resources. The site will also provide resources for classroom use.
- Oral History Project – Society staff are collecting oral histories from descendants of those touched by the war. Full transcripts and audio versions will be available to the public online.
- Minnesota River Byways Mobile Tour — A media-rich cell phone tour of significant places along the Minnesota River Valley. The tour will also be available online. Society staff leveraged \$46,800 in ACHF funding to secure \$183,000 for the mobile tour from the National Scenic Byways Discretionary Grants Program administered by the Federal Highway Administration.
- Art Exhibit — Contemporary American Indian artists will show works related to the war. The exhibit will open at All My Relations Art Gallery and later move to the James J. Hill House.
- Legalities Exhibit — William Mitchell College of Law and the Society will collaborate on an exhibit focusing on treaties and legal matters related to the war. It will open in fall 2012.
- Children’s Photo Project — Young people, including children of Dakota heritage, will use cameras to produce “day in the life” images for use online and/or in publications.

**U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 Public Information and Communication . . . . . \$60,000**

Minnesota Historical Society staff will work to increase public awareness about the tragic events surrounding the war which had a profound impact on shaping our state. Staff will also increase public awareness of new Society initiatives and programs related to the war to ensure that students, teachers and the general public use and benefit from them.

**UNPRECEDENTED ACCESS TO HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES**

**MNopedia: The Minnesota Encyclopedia . . . . . \$215,000**

This appropriation has allowed the Minnesota Historical Society to launch and expand MNopedia ([www.mnopedia.org](http://www.mnopedia.org)), the first online encyclopedia about Minnesota. MNopedia, now in a prototype stage, is a growing digital resource that will provide reliable, multimedia entries related to the state and its history. MNopedia will be tested, refined and broadened with additional content and tools, giving students, teachers, researchers and the general public greater access to information, images, documents and other historical resources relating to Minnesota.

**Digitization of Historical Collections . . . . . \$150,000**

The Minnesota Historical Society will continue to increase access to its collections by making historical resources available online for the general public at [www.mnhs.org/collections](http://www.mnhs.org/collections). This year, there will be a greater focus on posting collections items relating to the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 and the Civil War as part of the Society's wider commemoration of both events. Society staff is photographing 3D objects in the collections and completing corresponding descriptions to be published online, allowing website visitors to access an increasing volume of historical information.



Dakota hide quillwork man's shirt, approx. 1850. MHS Collections.

**Digitization of Minnesota's Newspapers . . . . . \$268,000**

This project will move from a development phase to an implementation phase during which the public will begin to gain access to a greater number of Minnesota newspapers from around the state on the internet. Society staff will refine and automate the newspaper management system it developed in the first phase of the project and continue to work out access agreements with publishers and also form new partnerships with many more publishers. Staff will continue the work of harvesting and archiving web-only news sources that was begun in the first phase of the project. They will also begin experimenting with digitizing existing newspaper microfilm to produce another content stream for public access. In spring 2012, staff will debut the Minnesota newspapers online project to the public.

**E-book Publishing . . . . . \$18,000**

To meet increasing demand, the Minnesota Historical Society Press (MHS Press) continues to digitize new and backlist titles, making them available in a variety of digital formats (XML and e-pub) for multiple e-book readers including the Kindle, the Nook, the Sony E-Reader and the Apple iPad. Digital editions of scholarly titles will also be made available to libraries and educators via the UPCC e-book Collections on Project MUSE and Google Editions. The MHS Press will hire a digital production specialist to serve other Legacy projects using MHS Press content such as MNopedia and the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 website. This specialist will also work on the revised edition of the Northern Lights history textbook and curriculum.

**Multimedia Support . . . . . \$120,000**

Multimedia support is helping the Minnesota Historical Society connect with teachers and students by producing videos that highlight field trip programs, enrich curriculum resources with media content and build research and presentation skills through training videos. This project also allows the Society to document the impact of Legacy history projects and to capture the stories of Minnesotans who participate in heritage programs.

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**6,000+** — Number of MHS Collections items to be digitized in FY12 and posted online at [www.mnhs.org/collections](http://www.mnhs.org/collections) for the public to access  
 .....

“Hosting the traveling exhibit, ‘Minnesota on the Map,’ has given us a boost in visitors and has been a great way for us to highlight historic maps in our own collections. Our visitors enjoy seeking out familiar places and noticing changes in ownership and infrastructure over the years.”

~ Ann Grandy, Pope County Historical Society

**Fort Snelling Virtual Tour . . . . . \$50,000**

Four new and unique views of Fort Snelling from various points in history will be available for students, teachers and the general public to access online. The Minnesota Historical Society has been collaborating with the Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities at the University of Virginia to build four computer models that illustrate a dynamic and changing Fort Snelling from 1820 to 1945. This year, the models will be refined and added to Fort Snelling’s website. The models will be linked to a rich and interrelated set of materials from all parts of the Society’s collections, including photographs and manuscripts.



Historic Fort Snelling

**Online Access to Oral History Collections . . . . . \$100,000**

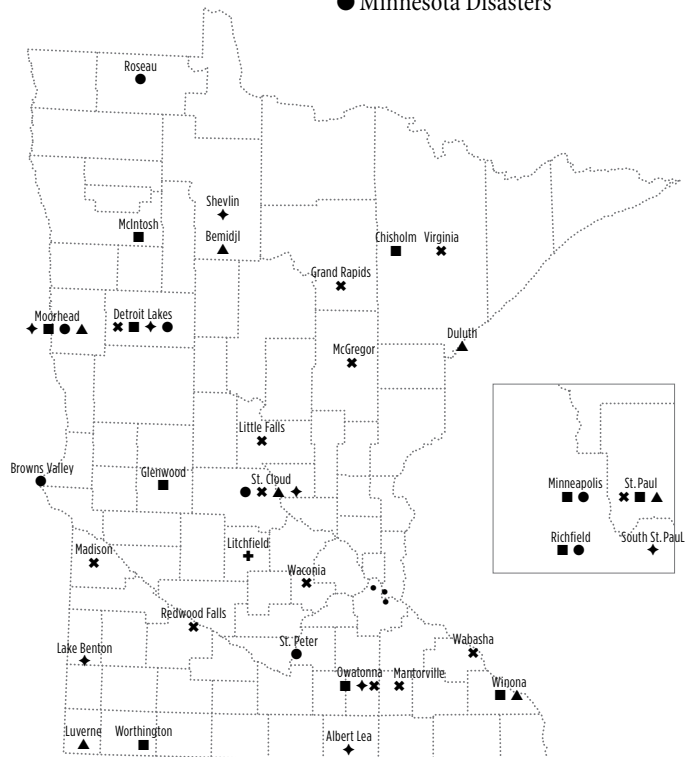
This project will promote the discovery and use of the Minnesota Historical Society’s oral history collection by digitizing and making more existing oral histories available to the public on the “Becoming Minnesotan” website. The collection represents a rich and unique source of history through the experiences of Minnesotans in their own words. Society staff plans to more than double the content already available on the website.

**Statewide Traveling Exhibits: “Exhibits To Go” . . . . . \$200,000**

More Minnesota communities will have an opportunity to experience history in their own backyards. A new traveling exhibit, “Minnesota Remembers: the 1960s,” will focus on the life, music, entertainment and issues of being a teenager during that decade. From June to August of 2012, the exhibit will stop at three libraries around Minnesota where local teens will create a community-based component that will remain after the traveling portion has moved on. Exhibits on other topics related to Minnesota history will travel to more than 30 communities statewide. The exhibits feature freestanding displays, audiovisual and interactive components, and onsite and online educational programming.

The five exhibits traveling statewide through the “Exhibits to Go” program are (see map):

- Minnesota on the Map
- ✕ Minnesota Homefront
- ◆ Electrifying Minnesota
- ▲ Uncle Sam’s New Deal
- Minnesota Disasters



**BUILDING COMMUNITIES  
THROUGH HISTORY**

**Intergenerational Learning  
Programs . . . . . \$190,000**

Minnesotans of all ages will participate in deep intergenerational learning experiences by working together to document community history and create lasting products (exhibits, documentaries, etc.) that can be shared with their communities. Projects in fiscal year 2012 will be held in Alexandria, Chisholm, Detroit Lakes, Minneapolis, Stillwater, St. Paul and at one historic site, North West Company Fur Post in Pine City. New members of the Teen Advisory Council (TAC) will also create intergenerational projects during a year-long after school program that hones their workplace skills. The TAC is a group of teens recruited from around the Twin Cities to help develop events and engage other teens in history. The projects will be shared at [legacy.mnhs.org/sharing-community-stories](http://legacy.mnhs.org/sharing-community-stories).

**Reaching Out to the  
Community through  
Historic Site Programs. . . . . \$24,000**

The Minnesota Historical Society will continue working with local historical organizations on assessing and improving their service to the public. The Society manages 26 historic sites and museums across Minnesota. Recognizing an opportunity to work more collaboratively with organizations where historic sites are located, the Society developed programs to expand history education and programming and elevate the level of professionalism in local history organizations.

In fiscal year 2012, Society staff from historic sites will work with partner organizations to assess historic site operations and possibilities for improvement. Team reviewers will work with the Nicollet County Historical Society, the Lower Sioux community, the city of Moorhead, the Taylor's Falls Historical Society and the Mayo House Interpretive Society. Reports from this work will provide a road map for improvements in the coming years.



Students from Gordon Parks High School in St. Paul record oral history related to the Central Corridor light rail project along University Avenue. Learn more about this intergenerational project at <http://legacy.mnhs.org/transitions>.

**CAPACITY TO SUPPORT ACHF  
PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS**

**Administrative Expenses . . . . . \$190,000**

In order to implement its Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF) projects, the Minnesota Historical Society employs an ACHF Program Coordinator to oversee the program administration. The Society is also supporting administration of the grants program and expanded financial management and administrative functions. The Society is diligently working to keep administrative costs low while adhering to the legislative mandate that costs be “directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation.”

**Program Evaluation . . . . . \$115,000**

To meet the expectations of the legislature and the people of Minnesota, an evaluation coordinator will measure the outcomes and value of programs, projects and partnerships supported by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF) through the Minnesota Historical Society. In October 2010, the Society worked with Wilder Research to improve the Society’s ability to evaluate its ACHF projects and programs. The Society’s staff and partners are now strongly positioned to ensure that ACHF projects and programs use best practices, current scholarship and when appropriate, incorporate state-of-the-art technology for demonstrating measurable outcomes. During the 2012-2013 biennium, the Society’s evaluation coordinator will continue to track the impact of ACHF projects and programs to ensure these initiatives demonstrate measurable outcomes as well as economic value for citizens. These results will be shared on two websites: [legacy.leg.mn](http://legacy.leg.mn) and [legacy.mnhs.org](http://legacy.mnhs.org).

**Public Awareness and  
Communication . . . . . \$240,000**

The Minnesota Historical Society is creating communication strategies and promotional materials for 2012 ACHF history projects and programs. Increasing public awareness of these ACHF investments will ensure that students, teachers and the general public will use and benefit from them.

**Support of Local History**

**Organizations . . . . . \$136,000**

This funding supports and ensures the success of the ACHF-funded Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program. The Society seeks out potential grant applicants, leads statewide grant-writing workshops and webinars, and helps applicants with technical information critical to submitting a successful grant application, as well as supporting recipients throughout the life of their projects. To assure transparency and measurable outcomes of projects, grants staff conducts onsite visits required by the Minnesota Office of Grants Management and, at the end of the fiscal year, staff closes out and accounts for all funds awarded.

**Technology Support . . . . . \$300,000**

This funding allows the Minnesota Historical Society to broaden access to many of its Legacy-funded programs through the internet. It supports the web development professionals who plan, build and implement digital components that are part of many Legacy-funded history projects. One example, the MNopedia website, was launched in August 2011. MNopedia will provide reliable, multimedia entries about Minnesota people, places, events and things.









## 2012 Report of Statewide History Partnerships



American Indian Museum Fellowship students at Jeffers Petroglyphs, summer 2011

Arts and Cultural Heritage funding has resulted in partnerships between the Minnesota Historical Society and more than a dozen organizations that will allow the sharing of knowledge and resources and help extend the reach of the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund across the state.

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*2012–2013 APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE: \$1,500,000 the first year and \$1,500,000 the second year are for partnerships involving multiple organizations, which may include the Minnesota Historical Society, to preserve and enhance access to Minnesota's history and cultural heritage in all regions of the state.*

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**INNOVATIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS**

**American Indian Museum Fellowship**..... \$100,000

**Partner: The Minnesota Humanities Center**

Fifteen American Indian students from across Minnesota participate in a unique educational summer experience. The students selected for this intensive three-week residential program attend classroom presentations and experience hands-on learning about the museum field and other historical and cultural preservation organizations. The students also learn about various career paths and academic requirements for working in these types of organizations, both on and off reservations, as well as particular challenges faced by American Indian communities related to preserving tribal history.



American Indian Museum Fellowship participants examine moccasins in the MHS Collections storage area at the Minnesota History Center, summer 2011

**History Museum Fellows Program** .....\$140,000

**Partner: The University of Minnesota-Twin Cities**

Through this partnership, a dozen undergraduate students have the opportunity to explore the museum field through a semester-long course at the University of Minnesota and then a paid summer internship at the Society. The course introduces the History Museum Fellows to issues related to diversity and museums. The Fellows then choose from a wide range of internship positions and also interact with professionals in the field during a museum study trip to Washington, D.C. The History Museum Fellows Program also engages students in discussions about ways to address the underrepresentation of communities of color and American Indian nations in historical organizations and public history graduate programs.

**Local History Education Outreach** .....\$75,000

**Partner: Southwest Minnesota State University**

Southwest Minnesota State University and the Minnesota Historical Society are teaming up to assess the needs of social studies teachers in southwestern Minnesota, what resources are available in their community to help them teach history and how they can effectively be connected to those resources. A 2009 education outreach survey showed a significant demand for training local history educators and enhancing their direct contact with their local schools and teachers.

**Online Teacher Professional Development** .....\$60,000

**Partner: The Minnesota Humanities Center**

New ways of delivering professional development courses to teachers are necessary due to district funding cuts and restrictions on out-of-school training. To meet this demand, the Minnesota Historical Society and the Minnesota Humanities Center will develop three online professional development courses for teachers to access at their convenience. The courses will reinforce the revised social studies standards and meet teachers' scheduling needs. The result will be increased teacher access and more cost-efficient delivery of programs.

**PRESERVING AND SHARING MINNESOTA'S STORIES**

**1968 History Theatre Performances** .....\$10,000

**Partner: History Theatre**

*1968: The Year that Rocked the World* features some of the most explosive events and personalities of 1968 including Hubert H. Humphrey and Lyndon B. Johnson, the war in Vietnam, the assassinations of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Senator Robert Kennedy, the Mexico Olympics, the election of Richard Nixon and the Apollo 8 mission broadcast on Christmas Eve. *1968: The Year That Rocked the World* gives new audiences the opportunity to learn about Minnesota's role during this tumultuous year. The play will be presented in the 3M Auditorium at the Minnesota History Center Jan. 21-Feb. 19, 2012.

**Asian-American Oral History Project**.....\$66,000

**Partner: Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans**

During the past 20 years, the Minnesota Historical Society has successfully worked with many immigrant communities in the state to ensure that the stories of their arrival, settlement and adjustment to life in Minnesota become part of the historical record.

In the second phase of this project, 15 oral history interviews will be conducted with leaders from the Asian community in greater Minnesota. The interviews will be available on the Society’s website, *Becoming Minnesotan: Stories of Recent Immigrants and Refugees* ([education.mnhs.org/immigration](http://education.mnhs.org/immigration)), which features individuals who comment with authority on their community’s composition, challenges, achievements and contribution to Minnesota’s cultural landscape.



TOP: Robert Zan, a participant in the Karen Oral History Project, as a young man  
 ABOVE: Zan today with his family. The Karen are an ethnic minority from Burma. Zan fought in the Karen resistance before emigrating to Minnesota and becoming a leader in Minnesota’s Karen community.

**Building on the Legacy of the Conservation Corps** .....\$70,000

**Partner: The Conservation Corps of Minnesota (CCM)**

The Minnesota Historical Society and the CCM are working together to keep the important legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) alive. In the summer of 2011, young adult members of the CCM interned at the Forest History Center in Grand Rapids. They

- learned about the history and legacy of the CCC
- conducted oral history interviews with CCC alumni
- interacted with and engaged the public in historic interpretation
- implemented on-the-job forest conservation practices
- taught conservation to students and other Forest History Center visitors



TOP: Conservation program at the Forest History Center, summer 2011  
 ABOVE: Building construction at CCC camp, 1936-1938, MHS Photograph Collection

**Chicano-Latino Oral History Project . . . . . \$66,000**

**Partner: Chicano Latino Affairs Council**

This year the Chicano-Latino Oral History Project will broaden its pool of interview subjects by documenting the experiences of 15 community leaders from across the state. The Chicano-Latino population in Minnesota has grown dramatically since 1980. During the past 20 years, the Minnesota Historical Society has successfully worked with many immigrant communities to ensure that the stories of their arrival, settlement and adjustment to life in Minnesota become part of our historical record. The interviews will be available on the Society's website, *Becoming Minnesotan: Stories of Recent Immigrants and Refugees* ([education.mnhs.org/immigration](http://education.mnhs.org/immigration)), which features individuals who comment with authority on their community's composition, challenges, achievements and contribution to Minnesota's cultural landscape.

**Geo-tagging Collections . . . . . \$25,000**

**Partner: The Minnesota Geospatial Information Office**

For the first time, students and the general public will be able to choose a specific place on an online map of Minnesota and historical images and information related to that spot will automatically appear. This new website, developed by the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office and the Minnesota Historical Society, will launch in early 2012. The site will give students and the general public a deeper knowledge of the history of particular places in the state. Geo-tagging staff has been adding geographical markers to more than 300,000 of the Society's historic photographs, maps and artifacts.

**Minnesota History Day and Programming at the State Fair . . \$34,000**

**Partner: The Minnesota State Fair Foundation**

The Minnesota Historical Society and the Minnesota State Fair Foundation are working together to increase awareness and knowledge of Minnesota history. The partners updated content for the Minnesota State Fair History Walking Tour, added a cell phone tour component and also made tour content available to smart phone users. Fairgoers also celebrated Minnesota History Day at the State Fair Sept. 4, 2011, with live multi-cultural entertainment, history trivia contests, kids crafts, historical characters and more.



Minnesota History Day at the State Fair, September, 2011

"[The State Fair Cell Phone Tour] encouraged me to see sections of the Fair I have never been to before. Great learning experience."

~ 2011 Fairgoer

**University of Minnesota Archaeology Collection . . . . . \$40,000**

**Partner: The University of Minnesota-Twin Cities**

A large and important collection of Minnesota artifacts will be organized and inventoried through this partnership between the Minnesota Historical Society and the University of Minnesota. Artifacts in the collection represent some of Minnesota's premier archaeological sites including the 8,000-year-old Itasca Bison Kill Site at Lake Itasca State Park and the Cooper Site, a 17th century Dakota village at Mille Lacs Kathio State Park. This work will ultimately give the public better access to this collection, comprised of 1400 boxes containing 70 years worth of materials. This project will also improve the security of the artifacts by bringing their storage conditions and collections management data up to museum standards.



A Hamline University intern prepares artifacts for photo-documentation.

“Archaeologists all over the Midwest know about these collections and want to work with them.”

~ Pat Emerson, MHS Head of Archaeology

### **BUILDING COMMUNITIES THROUGH HISTORY**

**Building Financial Capacity in Local Organizations . . . . . \$50,000**

**Partners: Metropolitan State University, Access Philanthropy**

The 500-plus historical societies and organizations throughout Minnesota have a deep passion and commitment to the work they do and the people they serve. Too often, however, these organizations lack the staff, time and skills necessary to secure ongoing financial support. Even the most experienced organizations have felt increased competition for funds in an increasingly uncertain economy. This project creates an opportunity for local history organizations to build their financial capacity through intensive training in non-profit fundraising and grants proposal preparation.

By offering this training, the Minnesota Historical Society and its partners hope to increase the capacity of local historical societies and organizations throughout Minnesota to not only apply for and receive grants, but to diversify and strengthen their funding and support base.

**Library Outreach Programs . . . \$157,000**

**Partner: The Minnesota Regional Public Library System**

The Minnesota Historical Society and regional public libraries across Minnesota will combine resources to educate, entertain and build community among library patrons around the state. Libraries and the Society will sponsor various events at local libraries that document and preserve community stories for future generations, educate people of all ages about the history of Minnesota and its people, and make high quality history programming accessible to all Minnesotans.



Participants in History Players for Adults—one of several Library Outreach programs.

“Let me start by saying WOW! It was more than I had hoped for... professional, engaging, accommodating and genuine—what a combination! Who would have thought that learning history could be so much fun?”

~ Librarian Dawn Johnson, Spring Grove Library

Minnesota Main Street Program .....\$150,000

**Partners: Preservation Alliance of Minnesota (primary), Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, University of Minnesota Extension Center for Community Vitality, University of Minnesota Tourism Center, Minnesota Design Team**

New applications from local communities are being accepted for the Minnesota Main Street Program: a proven, comprehensive strategy that helps communities create new jobs and businesses while preserving their historic downtowns.

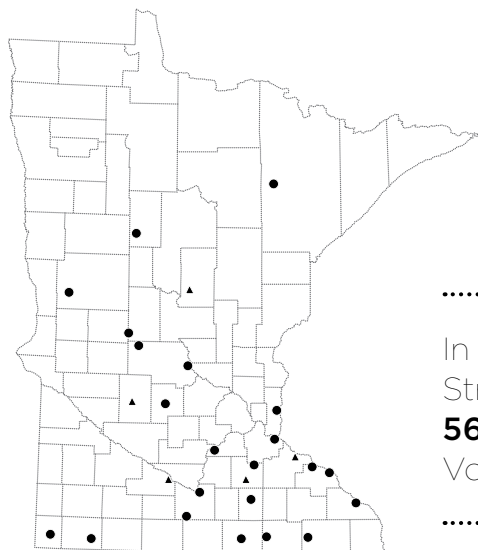
The Minnesota Historical Society's State Historic Preservation Office is working with the partners listed above to implement Minnesota Main Street, which provides the tools, training, information and networking communities need to revitalize their business districts.

There are already five Minnesota Main Street Designated Member communities (see map): Brainerd, Faribault, New Ulm, Red Wing and Willmar.

In the first three quarters of 2011, these cities gained 56 full-time jobs and 17 new businesses in their communities. Volunteers contributed more than 5,600 hours.

These cities also saw \$1.9 million in private investment for physical improvement projects and 35 building rehabilitation projects were completed.

In addition, there are more than 20 Associate Member communities that receive access to networking opportunities and discounted admissions to trainings (see map).



Communities Involved  
▲ = five Minnesota Main Street Designated Member communities  
● = 20 Associate Member communities

“Museums Creating Community” Video Production \$49,350

**Partners: The Minnesota Association of Museums, Minnesota Productions of Twin Cities Public Television**

Every county in Minnesota boasts at least one historical or cultural museum, often a distinct source of community pride. This video project will document and share stories from many Minnesota museums, revealing how they inspire and foster community.

The public will see the 30-minute video on all six Minnesota PBS stations, on the web and at Minnesota museums. The video will also be available for use in classrooms, libraries and senior centers, and it will be shown at the American Association of Museums national conference in the spring of 2012.

Neighborhood Leadership Program .....\$72,000

**Partner: The Amherst H. Wilder Foundation**

The Minnesota Historical Society and the Wilder Foundation are working with a new group of existing and emerging community leaders to help them learn how to take action to improve their communities.

During the six-month program, 30 participants explore neighborhood involvement and develop leadership skills to take effective community action. Through visits to the Minnesota History Center, participants learn about the diverse history of St. Paul, and also all of the resources the Minnesota Historical Society has to offer.

Participants come from a wide range of ages, cultural backgrounds and levels of community involvement and meet in bimonthly sessions that began in the fall of 2011.

.....  
In the first three quarters of 2011, Minnesota Main Street Designated Member communities gained **56 full-time jobs** and **17 new businesses**.  
Volunteers contributed more than 5,600 hours.  
.....



.....

**89%** – Number of participants who strongly agreed that what they learned in NLP will help them be more effective in their community work [2010-2011 survey results]

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“Through the partnership between the Minnesota History Center and the Neighborhood Leadership Program, I have been exposed to Minnesota’s immigrant history and have gained a new found appreciation for the diversity we have in the St. Paul community. The rich history makes Minnesota a welcoming and unique place to live.”

~ 2010-2011 Participant

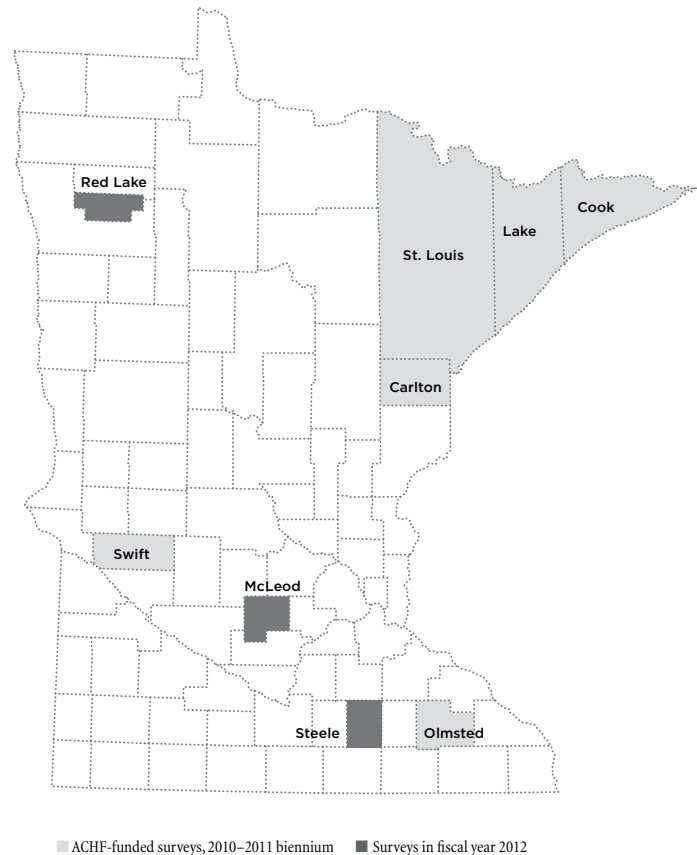






# Statewide Survey of Historical and Archaeological Sites

Current and accurate data on historic and archaeological sites is crucial to understanding our past and to preserving Minnesota's history for future generations. In fiscal year 2012, the Minnesota Historical Society, the Office of the State Archaeologist and the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council are awarding and overseeing contracts for survey projects in Steele, McLeod and Red Lake Counties. In McLeod County, only a dozen archaeological sites have been recorded. In Red Lake County, there are seven documented sites and in Steele County, there are 16. Last biennium, surveys were completed in six other Minnesota counties (see map).



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**2012–2013 APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE:** *Statewide Survey of Historical and Archaeological Sites. \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are for a contract or contracts to be let on a competitive basis to conduct statewide surveys of Minnesota's sites of historical, archaeological, and cultural significance. Results of this survey must be published in a searchable form, available to the public on a cost-free basis. The Minnesota Historical Society, the Office of the State Archaeologist, and the Indian Affairs Council shall each appoint a representative to an oversight board to select contractors and direct the conduct of these surveys. The oversight board shall consult with the Departments of Transportation and Natural Resources.*

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# Minnesota Digital Library



Baudette High School basketball team, 1926. Photo courtesy of Lake of the Woods County Historical Society.

This photo is one of more than 85,000 historical images, maps, documents and objects available to the public through the MDL's Minnesota Reflections website [reflections.mndigital.org](http://reflections.mndigital.org).

The Minnesota Digital Library (MDL) is a statewide, multi-institutional initiative. Its mission is to make the rich historical resources of the state's public and academic libraries, archives, museums and historical societies available to students, teachers and the public via the web and also to preserve these resources for future generations.

The 2012 appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund will allow the MDL to expand the number of historical resources online at [reflections.mndigital.org](http://reflections.mndigital.org) and continue its work preserving these digital resources.

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**2012-2013 APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE:** *Digital Library. \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are for a digital library project to preserve, digitize, and share Minnesota images, documents, and historical materials. The Minnesota Historical Society shall cooperate with the Minitex interlibrary loan system and shall jointly share this appropriation for these purposes.*

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# Update of ACHF History Expenditures from January through June, 2011

The 2010-2011 report detailing ACHF expenditures through the Minnesota Historical Society was submitted to the Governor and legislature on January 15, 2011. The following list updates ACHF history expenditures made after January 15, 2011 and before the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2011.

## 70 Years World War II Project . . . \$39,000

### Partner: The 70 Years Project

The Minnesota Historical Society and the 70 Years Project have developed a website that enables Minnesotans to share in the triumphs and tragedies of the 1,345 days of World War II. The site, [www.70years.org](http://www.70years.org), will feature oral histories from World War II veterans as well as a wartime headline taken from Minnesota newspapers for every day of the war. The website will serve as a resource for the general public, as well as for the relatives of the more than 300,000 Minnesotans who fought in the war.



## Collections Acquisitions . . . . . \$150,443

A vital part of the Minnesota Historical Society's mission is preserving and making available to the public a wide range of artifacts and materials chronicling our state's history. ACHF support is allowing the Society to create a more comprehensive legacy for future generations through the acquisition of important Minnesota manuscripts, books and artwork including:

### Manuscripts:

- Charles F. Mix Manuscript Collection
- Carver Grant Materials
- Charles M. "Speed" Holman papers and memorabilia

### Books:

- *Sioux Spelling-Book: Designed for the Use of Native Learners*. Published 1836.
- F. Scott Fitzgerald's Personal Copy of George Washington's *The Farewell Address of George Washington* / Daniel Webster's *The First Bunker Hill Oration*. Published 1911.

### Art:

- Arthur Allie, *Street Corner on W. 7th Street in St. Paul*, circa 1930
- David Lefkowitz, *Import/Export*, 1995 and *Rambler*, 1994
- Mike Kareken, *Magnet*
- George Morrison, *Untitled*, 1959
- Patrick Desjarlait, *Chippewa Dancer*, 1964

**George Washington Exhibit . . . \$131,680**

During “Discover the Real George Washington: New Views from Mount Vernon,” an exhibit at the Minnesota History Center in early 2011, Minnesotans got a once-in-a-lifetime chance to experience first-hand original artifacts associated with George Washington. Washington put his personal stamp on our country at the moment of its birth, a stamp that still resonates and has modern-day relevancy for today’s Minnesotans, as we learn about our state’s history in the larger context of our nation’s history. Today’s avid public interest in presidential politics, constitutional law and many other issues that can be traced to the early days of the American republic, are a clear demonstration of the usefulness of such an exhibition to Minnesota—a priceless opportunity to look and learn from Washington’s authentic example. Arts and Cultural Heritage funds helped pay rental and installation fees for the exhibit.



**Hill House Textiles . . . . . \$15,000**

ACHF funding allowed the James J. Hill House to create reproductions of two historic textiles: a Persian carpet in Hill’s den and a canopy shade for the art gallery. The previous canopy, also a reproduction, was 28 years old, stained and faded. Both the canopy and the reproduction Persian carpet will be seen by all site visitors and will enhance the Hill House for decades to come.

**Minnesota History Center  
Public Programs . . . . . \$51,063**

The Minnesota History Center hosted a number of diverse programs to engage, entertain and educate the general public about Minnesota history including:

- Asian Pacific Heritage Day, April 2011
- North Pole ‘86 Expedition: 25th Anniversary Celebration, May 2011
- Mississippi Megalops—A Floating Chautauqua, June 2011
- History Lounge, Tuesdays, Oct. 2010–May 2011
- Global Hotdish Variety Show, Jan., Feb., March 2011
- History Hijinx Make-it, Take-it Family Activity, daily in summer 2011 at the History Center and during the Flint Hills International Children’s Festival, May 2011
- Museum Theater performances in the “Minnesota’s Greatest Generation” exhibit, June–Aug. 2011
- Mid-Century Modern Architecture Tours, April and May 2011



TOP: Trying on a traditional Japanese kimono during Asian Pacific Heritage Day at the Minnesota History Center, April 2011  
ABOVE: Watching performers on stage during a Global Hotdish Variety Show



MSP Airport Photo Exhibit. . . . . \$10,498

**Partners: Metropolitan Airports Commission, NWA History Centre, Airport Foundation MSP**

The Minnesota Historical Society and its partners exhibited a collection of photographs that document the first 50 years of Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. "Views Across Time," showed MSP's transition from auto speedway to major U.S. airport. The exhibit, located on Concourse C, was displayed through September, 2011.

**"Our Minnesota"**

**Enhancement . . . . . \$225,386**

The Minnesota Historical Society is developing a major, new, hands-on exhibit designed to bring the rich cultural tapestry of Minnesota into vivid focus. Visitors to the "Our Minnesota" exhibit at the Minnesota History Center will explore the state's distinctive places and meet the people who have made their homes here. In 2011, Arts and Cultural Heritage funds supported staff time devoted to creating the exhibit which opens in the fall of 2012.

**Purchase of Historic Property on Leech Lake . . . . . \$679,710**

**Partners: Trust for Public Land, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe**

This partnership grant, awarded during the 2010-2011 biennium, was intended to fund the purchase of a 47-acre property on Ottertail Peninsula, Leech Lake, for preservation and management by the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. The site includes several burial sites, a fur trading post and the 1770s remnant of one of the first Ojibwe encampments on what is now the Leech Lake Reservation. However, a closing on the purchase of the Ottertail Peninsula property was not made before the end of fiscal year 2011, when these funds expired. Therefore, the ACHF funds that were to be allocated to the partners to purchase the site, have been returned to the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. A National Register nomination and a management plan for the site were completed by the end of fiscal year 2011. The partners may re-apply for ACHF funding in fiscal year 2012.

Construction of the passenger terminal building, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, 1960, MHS Photograph Collection









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651-259-3000 • [www.mnhs.org](http://www.mnhs.org)