



# WATER | WAYS



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

## ABOUT WATER/WAYS

The Smithsonian's Water/Ways exhibition dives into water—an **essential** component of life on our planet, environmentally, culturally, and historically.

In societies across the globe, water serves as a source of **peace** and **contemplation**. Many faiths revere water as a sacred symbol. Authors and artists are inspired by the complex character of water – a substance that is seemingly soft and graceful that is yet a powerful and nearly unstoppable force.

Water also plays a **practical** role in American society. The availability of water affected settlement and migration patterns. Access to water and **control** of water resources have long been a central part of political and economic planning. Human creativity and resourcefulness provide new ways of protecting water resources and renewing respect for the natural environment.

For more information, please visit – [museumonmainstreet.org/content/waterways](http://museumonmainstreet.org/content/waterways)

## WATER/WAYS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

**South Carolina Humanities** is bringing Water/Ways on a tour of six communities in South Carolina from June 2020 to April 2021. This will be the seventh **Smithsonian** traveling exhibit brought to the state by SC Humanities.

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

The exhibit requires 700 feet of exhibit space, 8.5 foot ceilings, and access to electrical outlets. Sites are chosen based on the strength of proposed ideas for auxiliary events, meaningful partnerships, geographic location, and physical display space. Preference is given to sites that have not recently hosted a **Museum on Main Street** exhibit and that do not charge admission.

Questions about eligibility? Contact T.J. Wallace at [tjwallace@schumanities.org](mailto:tjwallace@schumanities.org).



# HOST THE EXHIBIT

## HOST SITES RECEIVE:

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

## HOST RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide an enclosed and secure space of at least 700 square feet with 8.5-foot ceilings
- Appoint a Project Director who will attend 2 mandatory planning meetings
- On-site staff presence when the exhibit is open
- Contribute at least \$2,500 of in-kind support (time, supplies, etc.) or cash as cost-share and keep thorough records of cost-share
- Plan and implement at least 3 public humanities programs and a companion exhibit
- Publicize the exhibit widely in coordination with SC Humanities and provide sponsor acknowledgement when appropriate
- Complete attendance records and final paperwork for the close of the exhibit

Deadline for Applications

**April 2, 2019**

Date of Award Notification (approximate)

**May 31, 2019**

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

**Attn: Theresa Wallace**  
**Re: Water/Ways**  
**SC Humanities**

**Part 1**

**Sponsoring  
Organization**

ORGANIZATION NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

TEL

WEBSITE

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

EIN

DUNS#

**Project Director**

NAME

TITLE

TEL

EMAIL

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE FACILITY AND THE AREA WHERE **WATER/WAYS** WOULD BE DISPLAYED

DOES IT FIT THE SPACE REQUIREMENTS? (700 SQUARE FEET WITH 8.5-FOOT CEILINGS)      YES      NO

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE SECURITY AND CLIMATE CONDITIONS

NUMBER OF FULL-TIME STAFF

NUMBER OF PART-TIME STAFF

ANNUAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED AND/OR VISITATION

ANNUAL BUDGET FOR PUBLIC PROGRAMS (INCLUDING EXHIBITS)

POPULATION OF COMMUNITY/AREA/REGION SERVED

DAYS & HOURS OF OPERATION

HAS YOUR INSTITUTION EVER HOSTED A TRAVELING EXHIBIT?      YES      NO

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

- # SITE 1: SATURDAY, JUNE 27 – SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2020 – 6 WEEKS
- # SITE 2: THURSDAY, AUGUST 13 – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020 – 6 WEEKS
- # SITE 3: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2020 – 6 WEEKS
- # SITE 4: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2020 – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2021 – 8.5 WEEKS
- # SITE 5: MONDAY, JANUARY 18 – MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021 – 6 WEEKS
- # SITE 6: SATURDAY, MARCH 6 – SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2021 – 6 WEEKS

## Part 2

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

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

## Part 3

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

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**Attn: Theresa Wallace**  
**Re: Water/Ways**  
**SC Humanities**  
**PO Box 5287**  
**Columbia, SC 29250**

**Questions?** Contact T.J. Wallace at [tjwallace@schumanities.org](mailto:tjwallace@schumanities.org) or 803.771.2477.