

## **Museum on Main Street Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Would a church or brewery be an eligible host location?**

A: No, Host Sites must be 501c3, government entity, tribal entity or educational institution to be the host. Most commonly these exhibits are located inside small museums but they've also been hosted at libraries, colleges, schools, historical societies or community centers.

### **If organizations have a current grant with Mass Humanities are they eligible to apply?**

A: Yes, but all open grants with Mass Humanities, with the exception of SHARP, must be completed by March 2022 in order to be eligible to be a host for the exhibit.

### **Is it just the host venue for the exhibit that needs to be in a community of under 12,000? Could a regional organization that does not represent ONE town/community be eligible as the applicant?**

A: Yes, as long as the location of where the exhibit will be located at is in community with a population less than 12,000, the applicant organization and other project partners do not need to be located in a community with less than 12,000 population.

### **Will the required training workshops be virtual? How long will they be?**

A: There will be two required full-day workshops. One will be in February 2022 and one in March 2022. At this time the February workshop will most likely be virtual.

### **What does "Minimum standards of security" mean?**

A: Mass Humanities requires the exhibit will be stored in an indoor, secure place (lock and key is fine) and that there is a staff member/docent present at all times while the exhibit is open for public access.

### **Is there a minimum amount of time required for the exhibit to be open to the public?**

A: There is no minimum required amount of time the exhibition needs to be accessible, however the selection committee will taking into account how accessible the exhibit will be to the public as part of its determination. That said, Mass Humanities understands that smaller organizations will likely not be open every day of the week.

### **When will the awards be announced?**

A: Awards and scheduling will be decided in October 2021.

### **How is the schedule for the exhibit to travel to the six MA venues determined?**

A: Hosts sites host the exhibit for six weeks and will have one week to ship between sites. The date options for hosts to have the exhibit are:

9/10/2022 to 10/22/2022  
10/30/2022 to 12/10/2022  
12/18/2022 to 1/28/2023  
2/5/2023 to 3/18/2023  
3/26/2023 to 5/6/2023  
5/14/2023 to 6/24/2023

**One item on the checkoff list of requirements is: ‘arrange for shipping of crates in an enclosed 26’ U-Haul’. What exactly does this mean? Would the applicant be responsible for renting, packing and then transporting the exhibit to the next town?**

A: Yes, shipping the crates to the next host location will be the responsibility of the hosts. Some venues may use personal vans or rented trucks and others may decide to contract with a shipping/moving company. The cost of shipping should be covered in part by the MoMs grant. One other thought would be to contract with a larger museum with a truck. Security and liability should be considered as well:

- Crates should be carefully packed, not forced into the vehicle
- The vehicle should have enough space to allow each crate to travel upright on its wheels.
- Ropes or parachute cord should be used to prevent crates from rolling around
- One person should stay with the vehicle at all times during transport (most moving companies require this)
- The vehicle must be locked during transport

**Do the venues have input on the exhibit schedule? And when is that schedule determined?**

A: Awards and scheduling will be made in October 2021.

**Are there restrictions on what the grant funds can be spent on?**

A: Yes, once the six sites are selected, applicants will be required to submit budget and programming plans in order to receive funds. Please see the list of [Mass Humanities Budget Limits](#) here.

**Will we need to provide an accounting of grant funds spent on the programming, as well as on the in-kind cost sharing activities?**

A: Yes, if approved the applicant organization will need to submit a final budget and programming schedule prior to receiving the grant funds.

**Can the grant funds be disbursed by the Smithsonian separately and directly to all participating organizations (on an agreed % basis) or would they need to be disbursed by the lead local organization, in this case the library?**

A: The grant funds will be dispersed to a single partner.