



Minnesota Historical Society
Overview for
Senate Environment and Legacy Committee
March 2023

2023 Report to the Governor and the Legislature on Funding for History Programs and Projects supported by the Legacy Amendment's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund



Impact of History Legacy expenditures

AT A GLANCE

FOR EVERY \$1 OF LEGACY HISTORY FUNDS INVESTED, Minnesota receives a return on investment of \$2, which directly benefits state and local economies¹

100%
RETURN ON INVESTMENT

\$2.73

PER PERSON PER YEAR

LESS THAN THE COST OF A PEARSON'S SALTED NUT ROLL AND NUT GOODIE—that's how much each Minnesotan pays annually for the programs, partnerships, grants, and other statewide initiatives detailed in this report²

17,000

STUDENTS GRADES 6-12 AT

134 MINNESOTA SCHOOLS

participated in National History Day in Minnesota in FY22

STUDENTS GUIDED BY

230

EDUCATORS AND SUPPORT STAFF

10
TOP-TEN PROJECTS

in the National History Day Competition representing the work of 18 Minnesota students from seven schools

2 TO 1

DEMAND FOR HISTORICAL & CULTURAL HERITAGE GRANTS OUTWEIGHED AVAILABLE RESOURCES³

71

COUNTIES HAVE RECEIVED **\$100,000** OR MORE

Since July 1, 2009, Legacy history funds have supported grants in all 87 counties.



Minnesota History Coalition

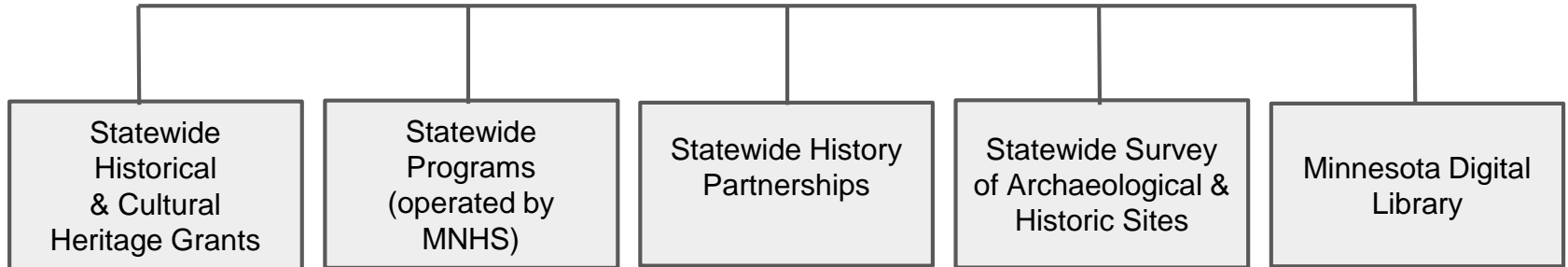
- Council for Minnesota Archaeology
- Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums
- Minnesota Archaeological Society
- Minnesota Association of Museums
- Minnesota Digital Library
- Minnesota Genealogical Society
- Minnesota Historical Society
- Minnesota History Advocates for Research
- Minnesota State Historical Records Advisory Board
- Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office
- Minnesota's Historic Northwest
- Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps
- Rethos (formerly Preservation Alliance of Minnesota)



Legacy Amendment Structure for History

Minnesota Constitution –
Four Legacy Funds, including Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund
“to preserve Minnesota’s history and cultural heritage”

Legacy / Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund
Appropriation Language



Legacy Appropriations for history – FY22-23

Category	FY22 Appropriation	FY23 Appropriation*
Statewide Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants	\$5,982,000	\$7,000,000
Statewide History Programs	\$6,213,000	\$6,990,000
Statewide History Partnerships	\$2,450,000	\$2,550,000
Statewide Survey of Historical and Archaeological Sites	\$475,000	\$525,000
Minnesota Digital Library	\$368,000	\$382,000
Additional Projects	\$100,000	50,000
Total	\$15,588,000	\$17,497,000



Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program

- Statewide Competitive Grants Program
- Citizen Review Committee – Historic Resources Advisory Committee (HRAC)
- Over 3,095 grants in all 87 counties
- Grants for history programs, museum collections and environments, preserving historic structures
- Small (less than < \$10,000) / Large (\$10,000+)
- Small grants available in 3-4 rounds per year



**Fire Station No. 24, Minneapolis
Grant for National Register of Historic
Places Nomination**



Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program

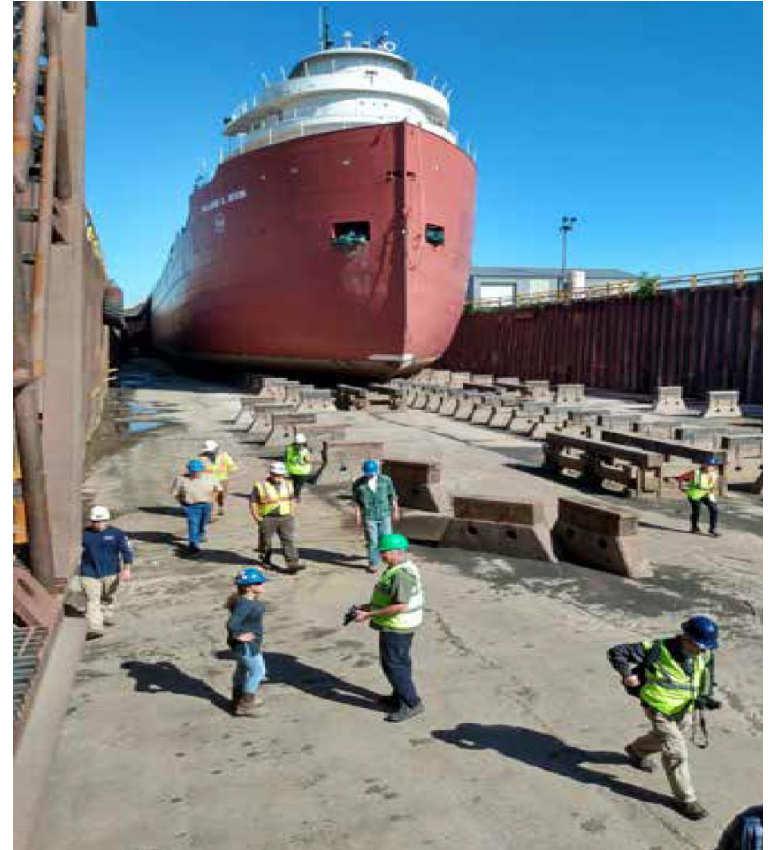
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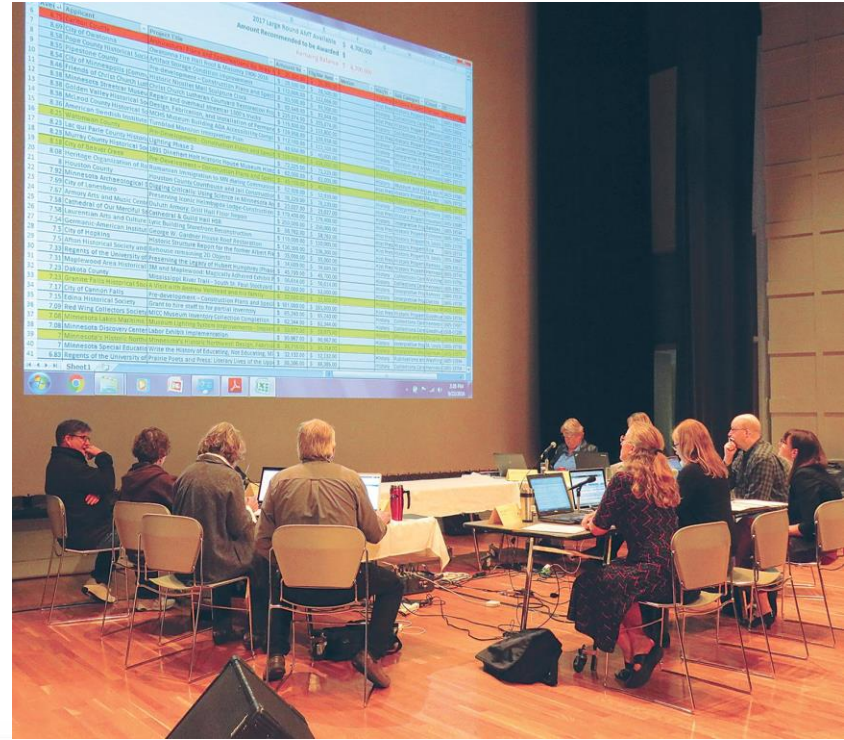


Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program



Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program

- Large grant recommendations made by 15-member citizen panel Historic Resources Advisory Committee (HRAC), with final approval by MNHS Executive Council
- HRAC membership outlined in appropriations language and includes: historic preservation, local history, archaeology, archival programs
- In 2022, HRAC members volunteered 500+ hours
- Paperless application system



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- In 2020, HRAC members volunteered 500+ hours
- Paperless application system
- MNHS Grants Office - is here to help!



HRAC meeting

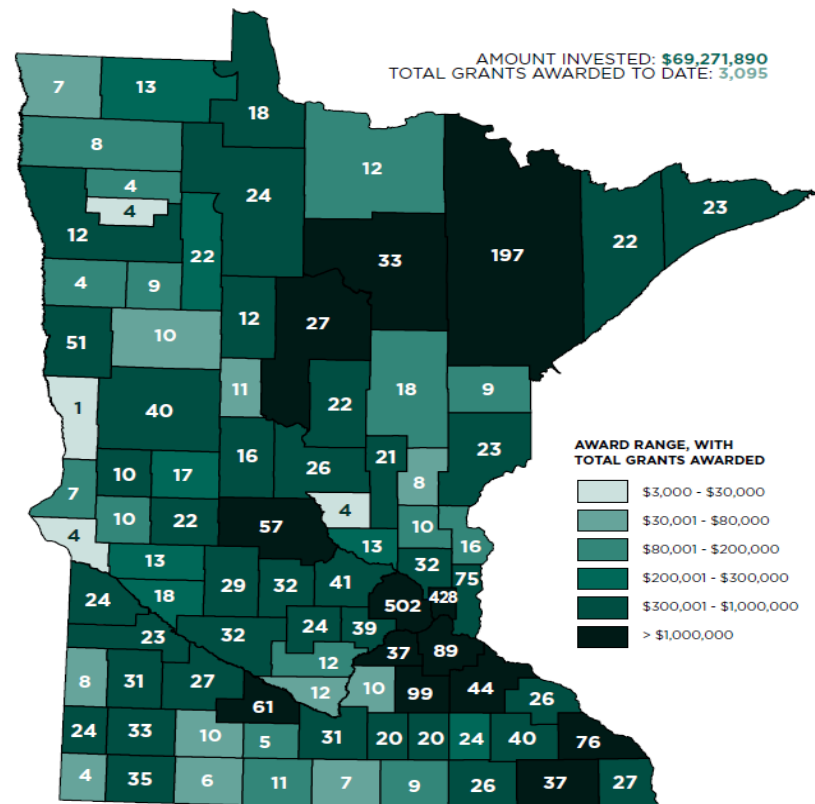


Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants by County

July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2022

- 3,095 grants have been awarded to 924 organizations in all 87 counties.
- \$69,271,890 awarded in grants to date since 2009
- 100% return on investment
- Demand for grants exceeds funds available

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE GRANTS
JULY 1, 2009-JUNE 30, 2022



Statewide Programs



Mission

We serve all the people of Minnesota by creating powerful engagement with history to cultivate curiosity and foster a more inclusive, empathetic, and informed society.

2021-2026 Strategic Imperatives

- Transforming Access
- Reenvisioning Space
- Expanding Authority and Expertise
- Creating a Sustainable Future



Statewide Programs

Preserving > Sharing > Connecting

Statewide History Programs

Preserving

- Digitization of Minnesota's newspaper and other MNHS collections
- Oral Histories
- Cataloguing of important archaeological collections
- Preserving and making Native American collections and archives available



The Free Homestead (Winnebago, MN), April 26 1865

Statewide History Programs

Sharing

- History Center Exhibits including Our Home – Native Minnesota; Then Now Wow
- Interpretive Signage (outdoor) at historic sites

Students in the *Then Now Wow* exhibit.



Statewide History Programs



Statewide History Programs



We Are Hmong exhibit, MN History Center



Statewide History Programs



Somalis + Minnesota
exhibit, MN History
Center



Statewide History Programs

Our Home - Native Minnesota,
MN History Center



Statewide History Programs



Statewide History Programs

Women of the Big Lake exhibit at Mille Lacs Indian Museum



Statewide History Programs

Connecting

- Curriculum development and educator support
- Legacy field trip support fund
- Diversity outreach
- Museum Fellows programs
- High school and college intern program

Students explore Minnesota's mining history in the exhibit Then Now Wow.



Statewide History Programs

Public Programs:



History Partnerships

- History Partnerships encourage organizations to share financial resources and expertise.
- Partnerships may be between two or more organizations and may include MNHS.
- Partners in FY22 include the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums, the Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps and Rethos.



History Partnerships

- Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps, working on historic windows at the Halfway Ranger Station in Ely, MN



Statewide Survey of Historical and Archaeological Sites

- The survey provides opportunities to expand our understanding of historic and archaeological sites statewide
- Projects are defined by an oversight board including Office of the State Archaeologist, Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, State Historic Preservation Office and MNHS.
- Competitive-bid contracts are awarded to conduct projects.
- FY22 projects included a survey of Kittson and Wilkin Counties and assessment of two sites in Wabasha County, which yielded important information about food history



Archaeological field crew conducting investigation in Lac qui Parle County.





Minnesota Digital Library

- Collaboration between MNHS, Minitex and other history partners
- MDL has partnered with over 180 organizations through the searchable online collection, Minnesota Reflections.
- Collection includes photos, maps, journals, letters, works of art and more.

Photo from Minnesota Reflections collection courtesy of Northeast Minnesota Historical Center.





Minnesota History Coalition

Recommendation for FY2024 and FY2025

- Historic and Cultural Grants
\$13,750,000 / year
- Statewide History Programs
\$13,750,000 / year
- History Partnerships
\$3,625,000 / year
- Statewide Survey of Historical and Archaeological Sites
\$500,000 / year
- Minnesota Digital Library
\$500,000 / year

Based on estimates from November forecast, 33% of ACHF



Thank You!

