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# Report to the Governor and the Legislature

on Funding for History Programs and Projects from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund

January 15, 2010



## Letter from Nina Archabal

*The Minnesota Historical Society is pleased to report on history expenditures and activities carried out with support from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund in this first year of the Fund's existence.*

We begin by thanking the people of Minnesota for their vote of support for history activities with their approval of the Legacy Amendment on November 4, 2008. Because of this landmark action, Minnesotans across the state will have an unprecedented ability to preserve their history for many years to come and to provide a true legacy gift to future generations.

The past six months have been very exciting in this initial start-up phase. We began our journey with a conversation with Minnesota's history community, through a series of public input meetings, as well as an online survey, to gather information to assist in implementation of history grant programs, as well as other history programs. Society staff members also have dedicated many, many hours to planning and implementing educational programs to deliver Minnesota history across the state, at the History Center, at historic sites and via the latest forms of technology. Many of these programs will be undertaken by the Society itself, while others will be carried out by the Society working in partnership with other organizations.

Due to the short amount of time since the passage of the first legacy appropriation bill, we consider this first report to be an interim or progress report. We look forward to providing the Legislature and the Governor with greater detail about history projects and their outcomes and impacts in future reports.

The format of this report reflects the six sections of the appropriations bill. We have described the process used to date, outcomes, if known, and activities expected to take place over the course of the next year. We would be pleased to provide additional updates on the progress of these history programs as we move forward.

The Society takes very seriously its responsibility to the voters of Minnesota, their Legislature and Governor, as we carry out their intentions to provide the resources that will help the state's people understand their past, and in turn, move on to a better future.

Sincerely,



Nina Archabal  
Director

## Preserving Our Legacy

*On November 4, 2008, the voters of Minnesota approved the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment to ensure the preservation of some of the most important elements that make Minnesota what it is today. This amendment is sometimes referred to, in shorthand, as the Legacy Amendment. The constitutional language contains a provision that funding shall be used “to preserve Minnesota’s history.”*

Since the American Heritage Dictionary defines legacy as “something handed down from an ancestor or a predecessor or from the past,” it is fitting that history is a part of this amendment. And it is further fitting that the Minnesota Historical Society, which has been preserving Minnesota’s past for future generations for 161 years, along with our partner organizations, will play an important role in the Legacy Amendment.

Shortly after the passage of the Amendment, individuals and organizations involved with various aspects of Minnesota history and historic preservation in Minnesota gathered to discuss how Legacy funds could be best used to further the educational and economic development benefits of historical work in our state. The group represented a broad coalition of history groups in Minnesota, including the Minnesota Historical Society, the Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums, the Council for Minnesota Archaeology, the Minnesota Archaeological Society, the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota and Historic Northwest Minnesota. This group, known as the Minnesota History Coalition, convened a series of town meetings across the state and created recommendations for expenditures of Legacy dollars for history programs. These recommendations were presented to the Legislature and formed the conceptual basis of appropriations made in 2009.

### **2009 Appropriations**

The 2009 Legislature provided generous funding for history purposes in the first appropriations made from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Funding was provided in six general areas — grants; statewide programs; partnerships to implement statewide and regional programs; an exhibit on Minnesota’s people, regions and cultures; an archaeological survey; and funding for a digital history library. This report provides an update on each of the six appropriation areas.

Since this is a new appropriation, which funds a series of new programs, we see this first report as an interim report, describing the progress of a series of new projects. We look forward to future reports which will detail the exciting work to be conducted by the Minnesota Historical Society, county and local historical organizations, historic preservation organizations and other history partners.

With a strong statewide historical organization, 87 county historical societies, over 300 other historical organizations and thousands of significant historic properties, there is a great deal of work to be done.

**Implementation process**

In order to maximize efficiency and effectiveness of appropriations made by the Minnesota Legislature for history purposes, the Minnesota Historical Society held a series of public meetings in June of 2009. Discussion at these meetings focused primarily on grants programs, but included many aspects of the Legacy Amendment and projects for which specific Legacy funding was provided.

In addition, throughout the summer and fall of 2009, Minnesota Historical Society staff worked to plan, design and begin implementation of programs to deliver history to the Minnesota public. Programs are described in greater detail later in this report.

**Fiscal Year 2010 History Appropriations from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund**

Historic and Cultural Grants Program	\$ 2,250,000
.....	
Statewide Historical Programs	\$ 3,000,000
.....	
Statewide History Partnership Projects	\$ 1,250,000
.....	
Exhibit on Minnesota's Regions and Cultures	\$ 2,500,000
.....	
Statewide Survey of Historical and Archaeological Sites	\$ 250,000
.....	
Digital History Library	\$ 500,000
.....	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,750,000</b>

# 1. Historical and Cultural Grants Program

## Appropriation language:

*(b) Statewide Historic and Cultural Grants. (i) \$2,250,000 in 2010 and \$4,500,000 in 2011 are appropriated 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, and with assistance from the advisory committee created herein.*

Minnesota is fortunate to have numerous active historical organizations across the state, ranging from county historical organizations to local historical organizations, to topical historical organizations, such as transportation history museums. In addition, our state has many historic structures that help to tell the stories of people and events of our past. Funding provided through the Legacy Amendment will help these organizations to preserve our state's past through a grants program, as directed by appropriations language. Legislation also created an advisory group, the Historic Resources Advisory Committee, to provide policy guidance and grant recommendations.

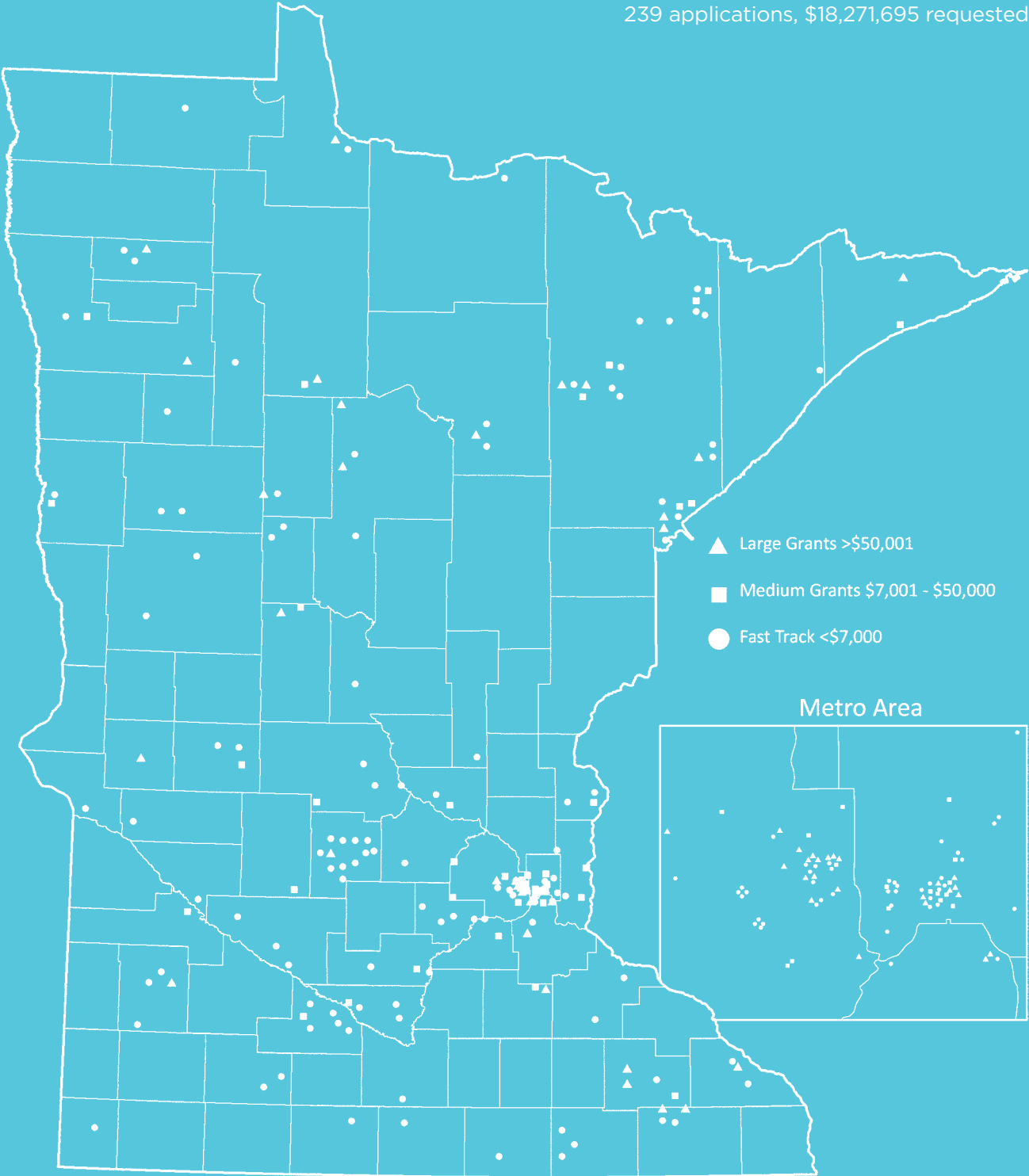
Input gathered at public meetings formed the basis of a draft grants program, which was presented to the Historic Resources Advisory Committee at its initial meeting in September, 2009. This draft grants program included grants funding at three funding level categories (including a Small grants category, which will be distributed monthly, as long as funds are available; Mid-level and Large grants categories); funding for history programs (with

more detailed categories defined) and historic preservation activities and eligibility criteria. Additional detail on grants program can be found at [www.mnhs.org/legacy](http://www.mnhs.org/legacy).

The first round of Small Grants (or "fast track grants") was approved by the Minnesota Historical Society's Executive Committee in December, 2009. Fast track grants will continue on a rolling, monthly basis, until funds are exhausted. On Jan. 11 and 12, 2010, the Historic Resources Advisory Committee will meet to consider Mid-level and Large grant applications, which were received in late November and subsequently reviewed by MHS staff and peer reviewers. Recommendations will then be submitted to the MHS Executive Council, for its approval, as called for in appropriation language. In this first round of Mid-level and Large grant applications, in addition to Small or fast-track grant requests, a total of \$18,271,695 in grant requests was received, with a total of \$2,250,000 available for fiscal year 2010.

**Historical and Cultural Grant applications  
October–December 2009**

239 applications, \$18,271,695 requested



**MINNESOTA HISTORICAL  
& CULTURAL GRANTS**

*Made possible by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the vote of Minnesotans on November 4, 2008. Administered by the Minnesota Historical Society.*

Minnesota Historical Society Grants Office  
345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul, MN 55402-1906  
[www.mnhs.org/legacygrants](http://www.mnhs.org/legacygrants)  
651-259-3459 • [grants@mnhs.org](mailto:grants@mnhs.org)

# 1. Historical and Cultural Grants Program, continued

## Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant Recipients: Fast Track Grants, October 2009

Each Historical and Cultural Grant project will preserve and enhance Minnesota’s cultural and historical resources. The first round of grant recipients for the October deadline of fast track grants of \$7,000 or less are:

<p><b>Albert Lea.:</b> Freeborn County Historical Society, acquire newspapers on microfilm      \$6,954</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Amboy:</b> Amboy Area Community Club, Dodd Ford Bridge engineering study      \$3,000</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Bemidji:</b> Beltrami County Historical Society, early medicine exhibit research project      \$6,896</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Chatfield:</b> Chatfield Economic Development Authority, Potter Center for the Arts Historic Structure Report      \$6,750</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Crookston:</b> Prairie Skyline Foundation, Inc., Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception reuse study      \$7,000</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Detroit Lakes:</b> Becker County Historical Society, acquire newspapers on microfilm      \$334</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Fergus Falls:</b> Otter Tail County Historical Society, water abatement project      \$2,790</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Fort Snelling:</b> Hennepin County, Fort Snelling West District Historic Building study      \$7,000</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Gaylord:</b> City of Gaylord, Gaylord City Park National Register Nomination      \$3,000</p> <p>.....</p>	<p><b>Glenwood:</b> Pope County Historical Society, rehouse Helbing Collection      \$7,000</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Grand Rapids:</b> Itasca County Historical Society, acquire newspapers on microfilm      \$2,303</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Lindstrom:</b> Chisago County Historical Society, Gustaf Anderson House climate control      \$7,000</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Luverne:</b> City of Luverne, Palace Theatre restoration      \$7,000</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Marshall:</b> Prairieland Genealogical Society, acquire newspapers on microfilm      \$7,000</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Minneapolis:</b> Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest, collections management upgrade      \$6,700</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Mountain Lake:</b> Lake Commission of Mountain Lake, “Mt. Lake and the WPA” historic marker      \$1,300</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>New Ulm:</b> Brown County Historical Society, improve collections security      \$6,939</p> <p>New Ulm Public Library, acquire newspapers on microfilm      \$6,966</p> <p>New Ulm Turnverein, Turner Hall handicap accessibility      \$6,995</p> <p>Wanda Gag House Association, Flavia Gag Art Restoration      \$6,757</p> <p>.....</p>	<p><b>Red Wing:</b> Red Wing Heritage Preservation Commission, Red Wing historic walking tour      \$1,000</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>St. Cloud:</b> City of St. Cloud, river walk self-guided audio tour      \$7,000</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>St. Joseph:</b> Haeahn Museum, conservation of Two Drawings      \$4,818</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>St. Paul:</b> Minnesota Transportation Museum, collection management upgrade      \$6,918</p> <p>Ramsey County Historical Society, interpretive programming for home school families      \$6,645</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Stillwater:</b> City of Stillwater, Hersey &amp; Bean Planing Mill wall stabilization      \$4,260</p> <p>Washington County Historical Society, John Runk film accessibility project      \$4,390</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Virginia:</b> Friends of B’nai Abraham, B’nai Abraham Synagogue stained glass window restoration      \$6,994</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Walker:</b> The Trust for Public Land, Two Points National Register Nomination      \$7,000</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Zumbrota:</b> Zumbrota Area Historical Society, microfilm reader/printer acquisition      \$2,290</p> <p>.....</p>
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(Fast-track grants will continue on a monthly rolling deadline as long as funds are available.)



## Historic Resources Advisory Committee (HRAC)

The Historic Resources Advisory Committee was created in appropriations language to provide policy guidance on grants programs, as well as recommendations on grant awards to the Minnesota Historical Society's Executive Council. Members are appointed by the Society and represent various organizations and disciplines statewide, as described in legislation.

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### Members

Ram Gada, Chair, New Brighton  
Abbot Apter, Duluth  
Brenda Child, Minneapolis  
Patricia Conley, St. Paul  
Tamara Edevold, Bagley  
Martha Kaemmer, St. Paul  
Kris Kiesling, Roseville  
William Latady, Tower  
Mark Peterson, Winona  
Peter Reis, White Bear Lake  
Chris Schuelke, Fergus Falls  
Missy Staples Thompson, St. Paul  
William Stoeri, Minneapolis  
Carolyn Sundquist, Duluth  
Benjamin Vander Kooi, Luverne





## 2. Statewide Historic Programs

### Appropriations language:

*(c) Programs. \$3,000,000 in 2010 and \$4,750,000 in 2011 are for programs and purposes related to the historical and cultural heritage of the state of Minnesota, conducted by the Minnesota Historical Society.*

The Minnesota Historical Society has been preserving Minnesota's history since its creation by the Territorial Legislature in 1849. Today, the Society continues to collect evidence of our past, and presents award-winning exhibits and educational programs that share these stories with Minnesotans of all ages. Legacy funds will allow the Society to reach new audiences and use innovative technological methods to bring lively history programs to a statewide audience. Many projects are in the planning stage, and will be rolled out over the next several months.

### STATEWIDE PROGRAM DELIVERY

#### **Cornerstone Curriculum and Teacher Education: Align MHS programs with the latest understanding of needs for Minnesota history education.**

- Develop curriculum materials related to American Indian history, the connections between Minnesota history and the broader themes of American history.
- Extend the outreach services of the MHS Teacher Education Program by providing support for teachers through academies, workshops and professional development programs that emphasize the core connections of Minnesota history to the state academic standards.



**Equity of Education Access: Expand ability to remove student’s obstacles to access MHS programs, including geographic locations, financial hardships and individual physical impairments.**

- Expand service to schools throughout the state by using the latest interactive video technology to deliver high quality programs that support state academic standards and history curriculum instruction.
- Meet the needs of 21st-century learners by remaining a relevant, challenging and viable educational resource and institution for the changing needs and demographics of Minnesota’s students.
- Establish the Minnesota Minority Museum Fellowship Program which creates an academic program and undergraduate internship program, in conjunction with the University of Minnesota, that will significantly increase the connections between MHS and pre-professional minority students.
- Broaden the outreach services of the National History Day in Minnesota program by increasing direct support to schools and developing partnerships with higher education institutions and libraries.

**Connecting Historic Sites and Museums to Minnesota’s Communities: Strengthen the role MHS historic sites and museums provide as community and outreach centers.**

- Preserve community history by developing high-impact programs that bring young adults and senior citizens together to learn from each other as they create tangible products that document their community’s history.
- Enhance MHS historic sites’ outreach to local schools and historic and cultural heritage organizations that share the same community or region of Minnesota by strengthening relationships and developing new collaborations.
- Boost capacity to support the outreach and educational activities conducted by the State Historic Preservation Office to county and local historical societies and cultural heritage organizations.



**Delivering Minnesota History in the Digital Age:  
Providing Minnesotans technology-based programs of enduring value.**

- Increase access to books on Minnesota’s history and cultural heritage by converting them to e-book formats, initially focusing on American Indian language preservation.
- Create computer models of Historic Fort Snelling that are incorporated into a public website which provides every citizen with information about the fort, its history, and its significance to Minnesota and American history.
- Provide online access to Minnesota’s newspapers through extensive archiving, cataloging and recording of print and online editions.
- Develop The Encyclopedia of Minnesota, which will challenge and engage individuals while advancing citizens’ understanding of the state.

**Institutional Sustainability Initiative:  
Positioning MHS to be a public institution recognized for its environmental stewardship of history and cultural heritage.**

- Provide for a baseline assessment and audit of the statewide MHS network, including the History Center and historic sites, seeking opportunities to advance and promote energy efficiency, resource sustainability and waste reduction.



**Institutional Capacity to Support Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF) Initiatives: The following initiatives and positions will enable the Society to implement its ACHF projects.**

- ACHF Administrative Support: includes finance and human resource functions.
- ACHF Coordinator: monitors, manages and coordinates all ACHF initiatives.
- ACHF Program Evaluator: develops methods and processes for setting objectives, goals and outcomes for ACHF projects.
- ACHF Public Information: provides information to the public regarding ACHF programs, grants, partnerships and exhibits and how citizens can participate or attend.
- ACHF Technology Infrastructure: supports web development and technical infrastructure for MHS programs, grants, partnerships and exhibits.
- ACHF Institutional Multimedia Specialist: produces multi-media resources that will help document programs, create video resources, generate content and train staff to produce high quality programs and productions for students and teachers.
- Support for the creation of the Legislative mandate of a 10-year Plan and 25-year Framework for the ACHF.

### 3. Statewide History Partnership Projects

**Appropriation language:**

*(d) History Partnerships. \$1,250,000 in 2010 and \$2,750,000 in 2011 are for partnerships between and with the Minnesota Historical Society and partnering organizations to enhance access to Minnesota's history and cultural heritage in all regions of the state.*

This appropriation will enable the Minnesota Historical Society and other historical and cultural organizations to share resources and expertise to expand the reach of Legacy dollars. Partnership projects will allow organizations to leverage additional resources, build capacity for all participants and add value to history projects delivered to the public.

#### STATEWIDE PARTNERSHIPS

**Minnesota Main Street Preservation Program**

Partners: Preservation Alliance of Minnesota, State Historic Preservation Office, Explore Minnesota, University of Minnesota Horizons Program, National Main Street Center, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Initiative Foundations, Minnesota Design Team.

Establishing the National Main Street Preservation Program in Minnesota to assist the revitalization of the state's historic small town and urban commercial corridors through leveraging of public and private investments.

**Minnesota Latino Community Oral History Project**

Partners: Minnesota Historical Society, Minnesota Chicano/Latino Affairs Council.

Creation of a new project that would record, document and make available the history of Minnesota's large Latino population.

**Minnesota Radiocarbon Partnership**

Partners: Minnesota Historical Society, Council for Minnesota Archeology, Minnesota Archaeological Society.

Increasing the inventory of radiocarbon dates to better understand the state's earliest sites and artifacts.



### **Geotagging Minnesota's Historical Photographs**

Partners: Minnesota Historical Society, Minnesota Geospatial Information Office.

Development and creation of an online interface that allows citizens to view historic photographs on a map, making connections to Minnesota's historic built environments.

### **Smithsonian Institution's Museums on Main Street Program**

Partners: Minnesota Historical Society, Minnesota Humanities Center.

Providing the opportunity for rural historic and cultural organizations to experience high quality traveling exhibits from the Smithsonian Institution.

## 4. Exhibit on Minnesota's Regions and Cultures

### Appropriation language:

*(e) \$2,500,000 in 2010 is appropriated to the Minnesota Historical Society for an exhibit on the regional, local, and cultural diversity of Minnesota's history and cultural heritage. These funds are available until expended. These funds are for the creation of both traveling exhibits to be made available to local historical and cultural organizations and an exhibit to be housed at the Minnesota History Center. The Minnesota Historical Society shall raise funds from private sources to augment this appropriation, with a goal of \$1,500,000 in private funds to be raised. This is not a match requirement, but the Minnesota Historical Society shall certify that a good faith effort has been made.*

### **Our Minnesota exhibit at the Minnesota History Center**

*Our Minnesota* (a working title) is a 14,000-square-foot exhibit showing the distinctive regional cultures that make up the state. The exhibit will be designed with school field trips as its primary audience and families with children as the secondary audience, and will be designed to complement state history standards and curriculum for history and social studies. The exhibit will show how Minnesota's land has shaped our culture and how our culture has shaped the land. Divided into three areas, the prairie, the cities and the woods, the exhibit will cover a wide period of history from pre-contact to today and will cover such subjects as American Indian history, settlement, immigration, manufacturing, agriculture, timber and mining industries, railroads and other subjects of state significance. The exhibit will open in three phases, the first phase in December 2010 and the last phase in December 2013. The Minnesota History Center serves over 60,000 schoolchildren per year who attend on organized visits.

### **Traveling Exhibitions Program**

As a component of *Our Minnesota*, the Minnesota Historical Society will develop a number of traveling exhibits which will be available to historical organizations, libraries and other venues throughout Minnesota. The number of exhibits has not been determined, but it is anticipated that at least 10 exhibits will be made available through the program in its initial start up. The design of the program has been informed by extensive surveys of potential venue organizations. Subjects will be chosen based on the demands of these organizations and will be adapted from *Our Minnesota*, as well as other popular exhibits produced by the Society. The program will be supported in part by nominal rental and shipping fees and funding from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. The first exhibit, *Minnesota on the Map*, will be completed by late February 2010 and the entire first suite of 10 exhibits will be completed and available by December 2011.





## 5. Statewide Survey of Archaeological and Cultural Resources

### Appropriation language:

*(f) Statewide Survey of Historical and Archaeological Sites. \$250,000 in 2010 and \$250,000 in 2011 are appropriated to the Minnesota Historical Society for a contract or contracts to be let on a competitive basis to conduct a general statewide survey 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 Board of Indian Affairs shall each appoint a representative to an oversight board, to select a contractor and direct the conduct of this survey. The oversight board shall consult with the Minnesota Departments of Transportation and Natural Resources. Funds appropriated for this purpose do not cancel and may be carried over from one year to the next.*

As required by the implementing legislation, an oversight board was appointed for the Statewide Survey of Historical and Archaeological Sites. The board's duties are to select contractors to undertake the survey activities and to direct the conduct of the surveys.

The oversight board consists of Scott Anfinson (State Archaeologist), Patricia Emerson (Minnesota Historical Society) and Jim Jones (Minnesota Indian Affairs Council). The board and the Minnesota Historical Society sponsored a public meeting to discuss the survey and ask for ideas on Sept. 9, 2009 at Historic Fort Snelling. As required by the legislation, the board consulted with MnDOT and DNR prior to issuing any requests for proposals (RFPs). The board also consulted



with the Council for Minnesota Archaeology.

In October 2009, two RFPs written by the oversight board were advertised: one for a survey of burial mounds in Scott and Crow Wing Counties utilizing existing Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) data and a second for a survey of Indian sacred sites in the Twin Cities area. The Minnesota Historical Society received eight proposals for the LIDAR Mound survey and three propos-

als for the sacred sites survey. The oversight board awarded contracts for these two initial surveys in November 2009. The LIDAR Mound Survey of Scott and Crow Wing Counties has been awarded to the Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist, Joe Artz, principal investigator. The Sacred Site Survey of the Metro Area has been awarded to St. Cloud State University, Kelly Branham, principal investigator. Contracts have been implemented by the Minnesota Historical

Society and the oversight board will meet with both survey teams. Both surveys will be completed in June 2010.

The oversight board and the Society anticipate releasing RFPs for additional surveys in early 2010. The board will continue to consult with the DNR, MnDOT and other stakeholders prior to issuing the RFPs.

## 6. Digital History Library

### Appropriation language:

*(g) Digital Library. \$500,000 in 2010 is appropriated for a digital library project to preserve, digitize, and share Minnesota images, documents, and historic materials. The Minnesota Historical Society shall cooperate with the MINITEX system and shall jointly share this appropriation for these purposes.*

The Minnesota Digital Library (MDL) is a statewide, multi-institutional initiative to make the rich historical resources of the state's public and academic libraries, archives, museums and historical societies available to the public via the web. It complements the public access to the book catalogs and indexes to the collections of these institutions currently provided by the MnLINK Library Gateway and the Electronic Library of Minnesota (ELM). In September, the MDL's Steering Committee identified three objectives for the current biennium.

First, Minnesota Reflections, an online database of historic photos and documents from the collections of more than 100 institutions in the state and the MDL's signature project, would add additional information from more institutions. During the first five months of the fiscal year, 7,349 new documents, maps and photos were added from 21 institutions, including five that were participating for the first time. It now contains more than 40,000 images. It is anticipated that this number will reach at least 50,000 by the end of the current fiscal year. On average, there are about 20,000 researcher visits to the database each month. It is accessible directly through its own website as well as through the MnLINK Library Gateway, OCLC WorldCat, the international catalog of library collections, and through the Great Rivers Network, a regional portal to historical collections and indexes.

Second, the current software that supports the Minnesota Reflections database was selected several years ago because of its strong support for access to photographic collections. However, there are concerns about its suitability to support a wider range of historical materials including books, newspapers, and digital audio and video on a large scale. Technical staff at the Society and the University of Minnesota, which supports the current database, will investigate alternative solutions during the next fiscal year.



The MDL's third concern has been for the permanent preservation of the public's substantial investment in the development of digital versions of these important historical materials. Without attention to their long-term preservation, these digital files are at substantial risk of being lost. Fortunately, the MDL can benefit by the experience of the nation's university libraries which are developing considerable expertise in this area, especially since Google began large-scale digitization of their book collections. Work has begun on developing a small prototype preservation project over the next nine months. This will involve the MDL's primary partners (the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Historical Society and Minitex) and other potential partners

including Minnesota Public Radio, Twin Cities Public Television, and county and local historical societies. Through such a modest initiative, the MDL can explore the technical, administrative and governance issues of such a cooperative venture.



## Appendix: Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund history appropriations language

**Session Law Reference: Laws of Minnesota, 2009, Chapter 172, Article 4, Section 2.**

*(a) The appropriations in this subdivision are to the Minnesota Historical Society from the arts and cultural heritage fund to preserve and enhance access to Minnesota's history and its cultural and historical resources. Grants agreements entered into by the Minnesota Historical Society and other recipients of appropriations in this section 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. Funds appropriated in the first year may be carried over to the second. No more than 2.5 percent of each appropriation may be used for administration by the Minnesota Historical Society. The Minnesota Historical Society, with the assistance of recipients funded under this section, shall report on all expenditures made from these funds to the legislature and governor by January 15 of each year.*

*(b) Statewide Historic and Cultural Grants. (i) \$2,250,000 in 2010 and \$4,500,000 in 2011 are appropriated 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 resour-*

*es. Funds are to be distributed through a competitive grants process. The Minnesota Historical Society shall administer these funds using established grants mechanisms, and with assistance from the advisory committee created herein. The Preston grain elevator restoration and recreation project shall be eligible for grants under this program. Also eligible for a grant under this section are projects previously approved by the Minnesota Historical Society that have had this approved funding refused by a public board or governing body, provided that these projects are now administered by a nonprofit organization. Ironworld is eligible for a grant under this program. (ii) The Minnesota Historical Society shall appoint a historic resources advisory committee, with balanced statewide membership and representatives of local, county, and statewide historical and cultural organizations and programs, to provide policy and grant making guidance on expenditures of funds from this paragraph. This membership 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. This committee shall seek input from all interested parties, and shall make recommendations for expenditures from these funds to the executive council of*

*the Minnesota Historical Society; all expenditures must meet the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 138.01.*

*(c) Programs. \$3,000,000 in 2010 and \$4,750,000 in 2011 are for programs and purposes related to the historical and cultural heritage of the state of Minnesota, conducted by the Minnesota Historical Society.*

*(d) History Partnerships. \$1,250,000 in 2010 and \$2,750,000 in 2011 are for partnerships between and with the Minnesota Historical Society and partnering organizations to enhance access to Minnesota's history and cultural heritage in all regions of the state.*

*(e) \$2,500,000 in 2010 is appropriated to the Minnesota Historical Society for an exhibit on the regional, local, and cultural diversity of Minnesota's history and cultural heritage. These funds are available until expended. These funds are for the creation of both traveling exhibits to be made available to local historical and cultural organizations and an exhibit to be housed at the Minnesota History Center. The Minnesota Historical Society shall raise funds from private sources to augment this appropriation, with a goal of \$1,500,000 in private funds to be raised. This is not a match requirement, but the Min-*

*nesota Historical Society shall certify that a good faith effort has been made.*

*(f) Statewide Survey of Historical and Archaeological Sites. \$250,000 in 2010 and \$250,000 in 2011 are appropriated to the Minnesota Historical Society for a contract or contracts to be let on a competitive basis to conduct a general statewide survey 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 Board of Indian Affairs shall each appoint a representative to an oversight board, to select a contractor and direct the conduct of this survey. The oversight board shall consult with the Minnesota Departments of Transportation and Natural Resources. Funds appropriated for this purpose do not cancel and may be carried over from one year to the next.*

*(g) Digital Library. \$500,000 in 2010 is appropriated for a digital library project to preserve, digitize, and share Minnesota images, documents, and historic materials. The Minnesota Historical Society shall cooperate with the MINITEX system and shall jointly share this appropriation for these purposes.*



Minnesota Historical Society, 345 Kellogg Boulevard West, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102  
651-259-3000 • [www.mnhs.org](http://www.mnhs.org)