

1993 Project Abstract
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 1995

JUL 05 1995

This project was supported by the Minnesota Future Resources fund.

Title: Summer Youth History Program
Program Manager: Ian Stewart
Organization: Minnesota Historical Society
Legal Citation: M.L. 93 Chpt. 172, Sect. 14, Subd. 7(f)
Approp. Amount: \$ 100,000

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Summer Youth History Program is to provide an educational and employment opportunity to approximately 50 high school age youth (at least 50% of this group is to be minority or disadvantaged), at the Minnesota History Center or State Historic Sites. The program will increase institutional awareness of the Minnesota Historical Society among diverse communities throughout the state and expand the Society's programs for youth.

RESULTS

The Summer Youth History Program employed 59 student interns during the summers of 1993 and 1994. These students were assigned positions with a significant degree of responsibility to the preservation and interpretation of Minnesota history. Positions ranged from public interpretation at historic sites to document and textile preservation at the Minnesota History Center. Other students participated in the research and presentation of exhibits, assisted patrons in the research center, or worked in administrative departments of the Society. The vocational goals of the program were combined with educational orientations to the Society and its mission. Overall, participating students expressed tremendous satisfaction with their internships and the applicability of the skills and knowledge they learned to future employment or education. Minority and disadvantaged students accounted for 68% of the summer interns. These students advanced the institutional goals of creating awareness of the Society and its programs among diverse communities. The program also created direct vocational opportunities for students, as 12 interns were eventually employed by the Society on their own merit.

PROJECT RESULTS USE AND DISSEMINATION

The project has created a model for youth employment at the Society. Initial apprehensions by the staff concerning the abilities of high school age youth have been transformed into enthusiasm for the continuation of this type of program. Detailed internal reports concerning the program were prepared and distributed throughout the institution. The structure and application of the program will also be presented at professional history and museum conferences.

JUL 05 1995

July 1, 1995

LCMR Final Workprogram Update Report

I. **Project Title:** Summer Youth History Program

Program Manager: Ian Stewart
Agency Affiliation: Minnesota Historical Society
Address: 345 Kellogg Boulevard West
St. Paul, MN 55102-1906
Phone: (612) 297-5513

A. **Legal Citation:** M.L. 93 Chpt. 172, Sect. 14, Subd. 7(f)

Total Biennial LCMR Budget: \$100,000
Balance: \$ 0

This appropriation is from the future resources fund to the Minnesota state historical society to provide summer employment for high school students of at least 50% minority or disadvantaged at historic sites.

B. **LMIC Compatible Data Language:** Not Applicable

C. **Status of Match Requirement:** Not Applicable

II. **Narrative:**

The Minnesota Historical Society is seeking to expand institutional awareness and educational programming to high school students statewide, with a special emphasis on minority and disadvantaged students. The request will provide summer employment and educational enrichment for 50 students over two summers at historic sites and the Minnesota History Center.

III. **Statement of Objectives:**

Planning for the summer employment program, (including identification of employment opportunities, hiring and orientation of coordinator, and recruitment of students) will be completed by Historical Society staff. Selected students will receive an educational orientation to the Minnesota Historical Society and half-time employment within the institution facilitated by the program coordinators and MHS staff.

IV. **Objectives:**

A. **Title of Objective:** Planning for Summer Employment Program.

A.1. **Narrative:** This phase of the program will be developed within the MHS Education Department. Staff will identify the most promising employment opportunities within the institution and its historic sites, hire a coordinator for the two year life of the project, and prepare materials for soliciting student applications. *Note: Much of this planning will take place prior to the appropriation of funds with costs borne by the Society.*

A.2. **Procedures:** A general request will be made to Minnesota Historical Society staff for half-time employment proposals. The most promising of these proposals will be refined into specific work plans and create a pool of potential jobs. A program coordinator will be hired and provided an orientation to the institution and staff providing employment opportunities. Student applicants will be recruited through materials sent to teachers, counselors, and minority education networks.

A.3. **Budget:**

- a. \$ 19,000 (primarily two year coordinator salary)
- b. Balance: \$ 0

- A.4. **Timeline:**
- | | 1/93 | 7/93 | 1/94 | 6/94 | 1/95 |
|---|------------------|------|------------------|------|------|
| Preparation, planning, and administration | | | | | |
| | xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx | | xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx | | |
| Hiring and orientation of coordinator | | | | | |
| | | xx | | | |
| Hiring students | x | | | x | |
- A.5. **Status:** Program facilitator has completed work with student participants and prepared summary of program activities.
- A.6. **Benefits:** Pre-planning by Historical Society Staff will insure the viability of the program for the summer of '93 and the creation of rewarding job opportunities. Coordinator will be hired and provided with an orientation in order to be prepared to effectively facilitate the activities of student employees.
- B. **Title of Objective:** Employ students for summers of 1993 & 1994
- B.1. **Narrative:** This phase of the program will be implemented by the program managers and coordinator. Selected students will be provided with an educational orientation at the History Center prior to starting their work assignments. Student employees will be supervised by Society staff with monitoring by program coordinators. Student employees will attend a closing meeting where reports and evaluations will be submitted.
- B.2. **Procedures:** Student applicants will be placed in positions drawn from the pool submitted by Society staff. Program coordinators will organize student orientation at the History Center. Students will be orientated to their work assignments by Society staff with program coordinators making regular written and personal contact with student employees. Program coordinators will make arrangement for closing convocation at History Center and draft appropriate report and evaluation forms.

- B.3. **Budget:**
- \$ 81,000 (student salaries and expenses)
 - Balance: \$ 0
- B.4. **Timeline:**
- | | 1/93 | 7/93 | 1/94 | 6/94 | 1/95 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|---------|------|---------|
| Student placement and orientation | | | | | |
| | | xx | | xx | |
| Student employment | | | | | |
| | | | xxxxxxx | | xxxxxxx |
| Closing convocation | | x | | | x |
- B.5. **Status:** 34 student interns were hired and trained during the summer of 1994. 68% of these students were minorities or met the requirements for disadvantaged status. Some students continued working during the school year until the budget balance was zeroed out. Overall 58 students were selected for the program. 12 students were eventually hired by the society in regular staff or interpreter positions.
- B.6. **Benefits:** Opening and closing orientations will provide students with a greater understanding of the mission and vocational opportunities within the Society. Orientations will also enhance the educational benefit of the program by providing collegial relationships for students of diverse backgrounds. Employment positions will provide students with an in-depth educational experience vocational experience.

- V. **Evaluation:**
- The results of this project will be evaluated by 1) written reports presented by student participants; 2) work summaries drafted by MHS supervisors; 3) exit interviews with student participants conducted by program coordinators.

VI. **Context:**

- A. The facilities and program focus of the Historical Society, prior to the opening of the Minnesota History Center, limited the ability of the institution to serve high school students with research and vocational opportunities. Although the Society manages diverse historic sites and has collected and catalogued a variety of different sources related to minority communities, there have not been programs to facilitate student use of these materials or to expose students of color to vocational opportunities within an historic institution.
- B. The proposed summer employment program will create the opportunity for students of diverse backgrounds to participate in an educational employment opportunity that will emphasize 1) an understanding of the Minnesota Historical Society and its various divisions; 2) a supervised work experience related to their interests and abilities; 3) a collegial association with the staff and students participating in the program. The emphasis on employing minority and disadvantaged students will increase the significance of the institution to communities of color, and encourage broader awareness of the Society's commitment to serve an increasingly diverse citizenry.
- C. Educational programs and materials developed by the Minnesota Historical Society for elementary, secondary, and college students have expanded rapidly over the past four years. Over 35,000 sets of the *Northern Lights* Minnesota history curriculum are currently in use, thousands of students visit historic sites during school field trips, and over 5,000 students participated in the History Day program statewide. LCMR funding has helped maintain the quality of Minnesota's historic resources and this proposal will provide a diverse group of high school students with an understanding of the vocational opportunities that exist within an historic institution.

Future needs may include expanding educational awareness of the need to preserve and interpret Minnesota historical resources.

VII. **Qualifications:**

1. Program Manager

- a. Ian Stewart, Deputy Director - Interpretive Programs
Minnesota Historical Society

Mr. Stewart directs all interpretive programs for the Minnesota Historical Society. These include the network of historic sites and the public and school programs at the History Center.

- b. Minnesota Historical Society, Administration, Interpretive Programs

2. Cooperators/Other Investigators

- a. Tim Hoogland, Outreach Programs Coordinator
Education Department
Minnesota Historical Society

Mr. Hoogland will assist Mr. Stewart in planning and administering the employment program. Mr. Hoogland will also supervise and assist the program coordinator with the facilitation and evaluation of student employees. He has developed school based history education programs for four years and is responsible for expanding the student audience for Minnesota Historical Society programs.

- b. Minnesota Historical Society, Education Department

VIII. **Reporting Requirements:**

A final status report will be submitted not later than June 30, 1995.