

MHC USE ONLY
MHC-
Proposal Number 19689
Date Received 11.1.07

Mississippi Humanities Council

Minigrant Application Form

1. Title of Project Connecting the Generations through Untold Stories: A Visual and Oral History Portraying the People of the Delta

2. Name and address of applicant (organization)

College of Education, Delta State University
 DSU Box 3112
 Cleveland, MS 38733

3. MHC funds requested

\$

 \$2,000 Maximum for Minigrants

4. Project Director a. Name and Mailing Address

Dr. Jenetta Waddell

 DSU Box 3112
 Cleveland, MS 38733

b. Title/Position

Chair, Division of Teacher Education , Delta State University

c. Telephone (Include Area Code and Extension)

662-846-4370

d. Email jwaddell@deltastate.edu

5. Fiscal Agent a. Name and Mailing Address (Project Director cannot serve as Fiscal Agent)

Mrs. Vicki Williams
 Kent Wyatt Hall 217, Delta State University
 Highway 8
 Cleveland, MS 38733

b. Title/Position

Accountant, Office of Finance

c. Telephone (Include Area Code and Extension)

662-846-4009

d. Email vwilliams@deltastate.edu

6. Proposed Grant Period

From: February 1, 2007 To: May 15, 2008

7. Program Date(s) and Time(s)

Opening Reception – April 12, 4:00 p.m.
 Presentation – April 12, 5:00 p.m.
 Exhibits available for view from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.,
 April 14 - 18

8. Program Location(s) (Town, Building, Address)

College of Education, Delta State University

Highway 8, Cleveland, MS 38733

9. Estimated number of persons served by project

20 middle and high school students, 7 educators from the Sunflower School District, and 2 educators from the Delta State College of Education will be directly involved. The larger audience will be the residents of Sunflower County and the Mississippi Delta.

10. Congressional District

(check one)

1st 2nd 3rd 4th

11. Description of proposed project (do not exceed space provided). **Project narrative and format to be attached.** (See Guidelines)

Delta State University is partnering with the Sunflower County School District to collect, interpret, and present oral and visual histories of the people of the Mississippi Delta. Twenty middle and high school students will be trained in collecting the histories; elderly residents of Sunflower County will be the informants. The students will interview informants with open-ended questions about their life experiences, with a focus on those who knew Fannie Lou Hamer in north Sunflower County and on hardships, such as school integration, in south Sunflower County. The goal of the project is two-fold: first, to capture the life stories of the elderly informants and, second, to assist middle and high school students in better understanding the historical contexts of the places in which they live. The final product will be a public exhibit of the findings and a dramatic presentation based on the stories, both of which will be student-created.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Give a brief overview of the project. Please limit your response to the space provided. As specified in the grant application guidelines, the detailed narrative attached to this application form should describe further details of the proposed project activities.

A. Humanities Content. Why is this a humanities project? Explain which disciplines are central to the project.

The disciplines of history and the social sciences, particularly the field of education, are central to the project. The goal of the project is to train middle and high school students to capture the life histories of elderly persons in the Mississippi Delta via video. The students and educators will work together to interpret and present these histories to the students' peers, families, and communities.

B. Personnel. List persons involved in the planning and implementation of the project and briefly describe their qualifications and roles. Attach a MHC Resume Sheet (page 23) for each person who will be paid with MHC funds.

Name	Institution	Humanities Discipline	Role in Project
Dr. Jenetta Waddell Qualitative researcher with emphasis on case studies and life histories	Delta State University	Doctor of Education degree	Project Director
Dr. Cheryl Pinkney Qualitative researcher with emphasis on oral histories	Sunflower County Schools	Doctor of Education degree	P-12 School Partner
Mrs. Linda Rule Trained by the Children's Defense Fund to collect oral and visual histories of children living in poverty	Sunflower County Schools	Life historian/filmmaker	P-12 School Partner

C. Audience. (*Projects that do not have an audience, such as planning grants, need not complete this section.*) Who is the target audience? How will you reach them? Describe publicity plans and/or distribution.

The target audience is the students who attend middle and high school in the Sunflower County School District, as well as their families and communities. The larger audience is the residents of the Mississippi Delta. The students, their families, and their communities will be invited to an exhibit and dramatic presentation of the findings. The school district will coordinate the publicity for the students, families, and communities, and the Center for Culture and Learning at Delta State University will coordinate the publicity for the broader Delta audience as part of the Delta State University Year of Delta Heritage celebration.

D. Evaluation. Describe the evaluation plan for assessing how well the project achieved its objectives. Attach a sample audience evaluation form.

The evaluation to be completed by the students and educators who participate in the project is attached. If the minigrant is awarded, the MHC Audience Evaluation form will be used for families, community members, and Delta residents who view the public exhibit and attend the dramatic presentation.

BUDGET

A budget narrative/explanation should be attached with sufficient detail to demonstrate that the costs are reasonable and directly related to the plan of activities for the project. Scholars and others who will be paid and amounts for each should be listed individually, including evaluator's honorarium. Expenses for salaries, wages, and fringe benefits should be shown as matching funds; MHC funds may not be requested in these categories.

EXPENSES

Item	MHC Grant Request	Cost Share			TOTAL
		Cash from applicant	In-kind	Cash other sources	
Salaries and Wages	XXXXX				
Fringe Benefits	XXXXX				
Honoraria (include evaluator)					
Travel (include evaluator)	\$522.50				\$522.50
Supplies	\$680				\$680
Printing and Duplicating	\$180				\$180
Postage and Telephone					
Equipment Rental					
Facilities Rental					
Advertising		\$200			\$200
Other (specify) Equipment, software, training, reception		\$300			\$300
TOTALS	\$1,382.50	\$500			\$1,882.50

CERTIFICATIONS*

The applicant certifies that the conduct of this program will be in compliance with the provisions set forth by the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 (as amended) and the policies of the Mississippi Humanities Council.

1. Certification Regarding the Nondiscrimination Statutes.

The applicant certifies that it will comply with the following nondiscrimination statutes and their pending regulations:

(a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 200d et seq.), which provides that no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the applicant received federal financial assistance;

(b) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1972, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance;


(c) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance; and

(d) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination of age in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance, except that actions which reasonably take age into account as a factor necessary for the normal operation or achievement of any statutory objective of the project or activity shall not violate this statute.

2. Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion -- Lower Tier Covered Transactions (45 CFR 1169)

(a) The prospective lower tier participant (applicant) certifies, by submission of this application for a grant, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency.

(b) Where the prospective lower tier participant (applicant) is unable to certify to any of the statements in the certification, such prospective participant will attach an explanation to this application for a grant.

NAME (please print) Dr. Leslie Griffin
 TITLE Dean, College of Education
 ADDRESS DSU Box 3121, Cleveland, MS 38733
 EMAIL lgriffin@deltastate.edu
 PHONE: Office 66-846-4400 HOME 662-843-3198
 SIGNATURE 

*Signature of authorizing official of non-profit organization required for certification. Original signatures required on two copies.

Project Narrative

Delta State University is partnering with the Sunflower County School District to collect, interpret, and present oral and visual histories of the people of the Mississippi Delta. Dr. Curtis Austin of the University of Southern Mississippi Center for Oral History will be available to facilitate the process. The goal of the project is two-fold: first, to capture the life stories of the elderly informants and, second, to assist middle and high school students in better understanding the historical contexts of the places in which they live.

Seven educators from Sunflower County and Delta State University, three of whom are qualitative researchers, will work with 20 middle and high school students to collect the oral and visual histories from elderly residents of Sunflower County. Mrs. Linda Rule, one of the educators and a life historian and filmmaker, will train the students in the craft of interviewing informants, using training materials and techniques from the Children's Defense Fund.

The students, facilitated by the educators, will interview informants with open-ended questions about their life experiences, with a focus on those who knew Fannie Lou Hamer in north Sunflower County and on hardships, such as school integration, in south Sunflower County. The informants will initially be interviewed in two focus groups. The focus group interviews will be captured on video. Follow-up visits to individual informants may be made to probe deeper into particular topics.

After the data are collected, the educators will work with the students to analyze and interpret the data, identifying common themes that run through the informants' histories. The final product will be a public exhibit of the findings and a dramatic presentation based on the stories. These will be student-created; Sunflower County and Delta State educators will assist and facilitate. The exhibit and presentation will take place at Delta State University, with the possibility of also exhibiting and presenting at the school district central office. Finally, students who participate will be interviewed to identify the impact of the project on their lives. Copies of the informant and student interviews will be placed in the Delta State University archives and at the University of Southern Mississippi Center for Oral History.

The project will be evaluated by having the students and educators who participated complete a written evaluation. The public exhibit and dramatic presentation will be evaluated using the MHC Audience Evaluation.

Budget Details

Travel

Interviews - Focus groups will be held at the Sunflower County School District instructional support office in Indianola, Mississippi. Follow-up interviews may also be necessary. Mrs. Linda Rule, who lives in south Sunflower County, will accompany students to informants' homes.

- 4 informants from south Sunflower County (4 X 25 miles round trip = 100 miles X \$.25 = \$25)
- 4 students and their teachers from south Sunflower County (2 cars, 2 X 25 miles round trip = 50 miles X \$.25 = \$12.50)
- 4 informants from north Sunflower County (4 X 50 miles round trip = 200 miles X \$.25 = \$50)
- 4 students and their teachers from north Sunflower County (2 cars, 2 X 50 miles round trip = 100 miles X \$.25 = \$25)
- Follow-up interviews by students and Mrs. Linda Rule to informants' homes in south Sunflower County, as needed (4 visits X 10 miles round trip = 40 miles X \$.25 = \$10)
- Follow-up interviews by students and Mrs. Linda Rule to informants' homes in north Sunflower County, as needed (4 visits X 10 miles round trip = 40 miles X \$.25 = \$10)
- TOTAL COST FOR INTERVIEW TRAVEL: \$ 132.50

Data Analysis and Exhibit Preparation – Students and their teachers will meet with Mrs. Linda Rule at the Sunflower County School District instructional support office in Indianola, Mississippi to initially analyze data from the focus group interviews and then prepare the exhibits for the public display.

- 4 students and their teachers from south Sunflower County (2 cars, 2 X 25 miles round trip = 50 miles X \$.25 = \$12.50 X 4 trips = \$50)
- 4 students and their teachers from north Sunflower County (2 cars, 2 X 50 miles round trip = 100 miles X \$.25 = \$25 X 4 trips = \$100)
- TOTAL COST FOR DATA ANALYSIS AND EXHIBIT PREPARATION TRAVEL: \$150

Exhibit Set-up and Rehearsals of the Dramatic Presentation at Delta State University

- 4 students and their teachers from south Sunflower County (2 cars, 2 X 70 miles round trip = 140 miles X \$.25 = \$35 X 4 trips = \$140)
- 4 students and their teachers from north Sunflower County (2 cars, 2 X 50 miles round trip = 100 miles X \$.25 = \$25 X 4 trips = \$100)
- TOTAL COST FOR EXHIBIT SET-UP AND DRAMATIC PRESENTATION TRAVEL: \$ 240.00

- GRAND TOTAL OF TRAVEL COSTS: \$522.50

Supplies

- Materials for Props for Dramatic Presentation (e.g., lumber, paint and painting supplies): \$300
- Materials for Costumes for Dramatic Presentation (cloth, buttons/ornaments, glue gun and glue): \$200
- Legal pads for taking notes during focus groups, two dozen: \$40
- DVD+R Recordable Media Spindle, two sets of 50: \$65
- Camcorder Digital Video Discs, 10 sets for 5: \$75
- TOTAL COST FOR SUPPLIES: \$680

Printing and Duplicating

- Photo paper for printing photographs, one packet of 100 sheets: \$55
- Colored Ink Cartridges, two cartridges: \$75
- Printing of flyers inviting students, families, and communities to exhibit and dramatic presentation: \$50
- TOTAL COST FOR PRINTING AND DUPLICATION: \$180

Sunflower County Oral and Visual Histories
Project Evaluation by Student and Educator Participants

1. What was your role in the project? (Check all that apply)

Student oral/visual historian _____

Student actor _____

Student behind-the-scenes support worker _____

Educator _____

2. What was your favorite part of the project? (Check all that apply)

Collecting the oral/visual histories _____

Interpreting the data _____

Developing the exhibit _____

Participating in the dramatic presentation (as an actor or support worker) _____

Other (list) _____

3. How could the project have been improved? _____

4. What next step should we take to continue the project? _____

Thank you for your participation.