ADMINISTERING YOUR HUMANITIES TEXAS MINI-GRANT

All forms required for the grant’s administration are available on our website at the following address: http://www.humanitiestexas.org/grants/forms/

If you are not able to download any or all of these forms, please contact the Humanities Texas office, and we will mail them to you.

- Review the financial procedures overview, provided below, to familiarize yourself with the procedures Humanities Texas follows when awarding mini-grants.

- Review the grant agreement, paying close attention to the grant period (listed in the first paragraph) and the payment and reporting terms (on the final page). Confirm that all expenditures listed in your approved budget (including both cash and in kind) occur within the grant period. If they do not, contact Humanities Texas staff immediately.

- If Humanities Texas has awarded your project NEH matching funds, please follow the instructions in the document titled administering a grant awarded with NEH matching funds when submitting documentation regarding the outside funds you’ve raised.

- Have the project’s Authorizing Official sign the grant agreement and return ONE COPY to Humanities Texas within fifteen days of receipt. Keep the other copy for your records. Once HTx receives the signed grant agreement, we will issue payment within three weeks.

- Use the grant adjustment request form to notify us in writing of any changes in dates, times, or program participants well in advance of the event. Significant changes to the project or the budget require prior approval by HTx staff. See item C(2) of the grant agreement.

- Use the revised budget summary form to submit proposed changes in your project budget.

- We encourage you to invite your organization’s U.S. Representative, State Senator, and State Representative to your event. You can find your federal and state representatives online at http://www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us/.

- Review the note on ADA legislation and labor practices to ensure that your project is in compliance with federal law.

- Complete and submit the Mini-grant final report form to Humanities Texas within 90 days of the termination of your grant period. Note: If your organization was awarded a grant for the rental of a Humanities Texas exhibition, please complete the Program Director's Report (PDR) in addition to the Mini-grant final report form.
FINANCIAL PROCEDURES FOR MINI-GRANT RECIPIENTS

The financial management of each mini-grant is the responsibility of the grantee. Though the grantee’s accounting system does not have to be elaborate, it should (1) provide a method of depositing and disbursing funds for the purpose(s) outlined in the approved grant application and (2) provide a record that can be easily audited. The system of accounting employed by the grantee should be in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, which must be applied in a consistent manner so that all project expenditures and in-kind contributions can be clearly identified. It should also be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement.

If you have any questions regarding the financial procedures, please contact Deputy Director Yvonne González at 512.440.1991 x124 or e-mail at ygonzalez@humanitiestexas.org.

PAYMENTS
Disbursements of mini-grant funds from Humanities Texas (HTx) to sponsoring organizations will be made in one payment, made upon receipt by HTx of the signed Grant Agreement but not before the beginning date of the grant period. No payments can be issued until this signed Grant Agreement is received. See Item N in the Grant Agreement. Once your signed Grant Agreement is received and the grant period has begun, please allow up to three weeks for the release of your payment.

Humanities Texas awards federal funds identified as either 45.129, 45.149 or 45.168 in the Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance. Please see p. 4 of your Grant Agreement to determine from which fund your grant is derived.

GRANT PERIOD
The beginning and ending dates of a grant period should cover all phases of a project, from early publicity to the conclusion of the public events. All expenditures listed in your approved budget (both in kind and cash) must occur within the grant period listed in your GRANT AGREEMENT.

BUDGET GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES
The APPROVED BUDGET SUMMARY accompanying your Grant Agreement is considered a part of the agreement. See Item C for details.

Significant changes to the APPROVED BUDGET SUMMARY require prior approval by HTx staff, per item C(2) of the Grant Agreement. Please submit a GRANT ADJUSTMENT REQUEST form (available on the HTx website) to obtain approval. In an emergency, you may call for approval before submitting the written request.

Please note the following restrictions when planning your program and submitting your final report.

- Honoraria: This includes fees for consultants, speakers, and other humanities scholars. Although participants may receive a higher honorarium, no more than $500 per speaker per presentation may be paid with HTx funds.

- Travel & Lodging: Travel in connection with project activities is reimbursable at the current rate listed on the U.S. General Services Administration website at www.gsa.gov for both privately owned vehicles and rental cars, and at economy class for airfare. Actual food and lodging expenses are reimbursable, although no more than $135 per day per presentation may be paid from HTx funds. Except for Canada and Mexico, only the U.S. portion of international airfare may be paid from HTx funds. In the case of Canada and Mexico, participants should use U.S. carriers where possible and feasible.
• No HTx funds may be used to pay for alcoholic beverages.

• HTx funds may not be used to pay for food (unless under the “travel” expense category). Receptions and dinners should be part of the sponsor’s cost-share.

If you have any questions about these or other grant requirements, feel free to contact the HTx office.

FINAL REPORT
The following general provisions and instructions apply to the submission of mini-grant final reports to Humanities Texas:

1. All grantees must submit a final report no later than ninety (90) days after the termination of the grant. The date of termination (i.e., the end of the grant period) has been designated in the Grant Agreement. Final reports are to be submitted on the MINI-GRANTS FINAL REPORT form. Changes made to the approved budget should be noted either on that form, on the approved budget itself, or on a separate sheet.

   Please note that significant changes to the APPROVED BUDGET SUMMARY require prior approval by HTx staff. Changes that violate funding guidelines will not be approved.

2. If there is an unexpended grant balance at the end of the grant period, a check for the amount of unexpended funds should be made payable to Humanities Texas and sent to HTx.

3. Certification: final reports must be certified by the authorizing official in charge of the project budget and the project director. Signatures must be original, in ink.