

# KENTUCKY AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

## America250KY Kentucky Heritage Council

### Preservation Grant Application



As the United States prepares to celebrate the 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 2026, the KHS, KHC and partners across the commonwealth are exploring the history of the state from the nation's founding to today.

This commemoration will recognize the people, places, and events over the past 250 years that created our shared history. It will also allow us to examine Kentucky's role in the development of the United States and how our country's ideals of freedom, liberty, and justice have evolved since 1776.

Through educational programs, preservation projects and statewide events and activities, we will celebrate our history while considering what it means to be a Kentuckian.

The Kentucky African American Heritage Commission is offering grants to eligible agencies and programs as part of the America 250-KY Kentucky Heritage Council Preservation program. Applicants will submit this application no later than May 15, 2025, indicating their interest in one of two categories. We are providing five grants for \$1000.00 and three grants at \$5000.00, maximum against your budget. If your budget is \$1000.00 to \$4,999.00, apply in the \$1000.00 category. Above \$5000.00, apply in the \$5000.00 category. Awards will be disbursed by June 1, 2025. Projects must be completed by December 31, 2025 and a final report submitted by April 1, 2026. Commission members will follow up with grantees during the life of their project. Eligible program examples are as follows:

- Research
- Publications
- Exhibition planning or implementation
- Interpretive signs
- Events and public programs
- Educational programs
- Production and implementation of tours
- Purchasing collections (artifact or archival)
- Historic preservation

Funds may **not** be used for:

- Public art
- State historical markers

- Building maintenance, utilities, grounds keeping, insurance costs, interest or debt payments, or other projects that the Kentucky Historical Society considers to fall under an organization's day-to-day operations
- Fundraising events
- Oral history projects
- Personnel, payroll, benefits, or indirect costs.

### **Application Deadline: May 15, 2025**

In any publication for this project, you are to acknowledge financial support provided by the Kentucky African American Heritage Commission and the Kentucky State Historic Society. Please note that incomplete applications will not be accepted. **All required supporting information must be attached to the application when submitted.** Carefully read all the application to be sure you provide the needed information. Applications can be downloaded, completed and submitted online, forwarded to the attention of the Kentucky African American Heritage Commission Grants Committee, Kentucky Heritage Council, 410 High Street, Frankfort, KY 40601 or emailed to the attention of [Tressa.Brown@ky.gov](mailto:Tressa.Brown@ky.gov). Questions or concerns regarding your grant application should be addressed to Tressa Brown at 502-892-3607 before the application deadline.

Your signature is permission for the Commission to take pictures of your project and use them for publicity on our website and printed materials.

### **Applicant Information**

Section 1:

Initial General Project Information

Organization Information:

Organization Name:

Contact Person Name:

Street Address:

City:

State:

ZIP:

Phone Number:

Email:

Fax Number:

**Are you applying for America250KY funds from a different source?** \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

Type of Organization:

\_\_\_ Local Government \_\_\_ Certified Local Government \_\_\_ University \_\_\_ Church

\_\_\_ Non-Profit Organization \_\_\_ State Agency or Regional Planning Agency

\_\_\_ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

With the exception of churches, is your organization designated 501c3? If so, attach your designation letter from the IRS.

Project Category \_\_\_\_\_ \$1000.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$5000.00

**Provide proposed budget to support grant request.**

Submission Date:

Project Name:

Street Address:

City, State, Zip:

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Congressional District: \_\_\_\_\_ Legislative District: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Location of Site/Facility (if different):

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Address not for publication? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Summary Statement:** Describe in 500 words or less, the significance of this project to the preservation of Kentucky African American history as a site, program, or facility nominated for funding. Your statement is to provide information to answer the following: **How does your project support one of the themes indicated below from the Kentucky Historical Society?**

**Revolutionary Experiment**

Our founding mothers and fathers did not have all the answers. They knew America was a revolutionary experiment and they expected future generations to improve upon their work. The four editions of the Kentucky constitution serve as a prime example of this experiment as people advocated for their inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. This history is not always uphill, but full of both advancements and setbacks. This theme allows us to reflect on Kentucky's and the nation's founding ideals and encourages discussions about our democracy and civic institutions.

**We The People**

Since the settlement of Kentucky lands by Native groups, what it means to be a Kentuckian has changed. The definition and process of citizenship has altered drastically over the past 250 years in both Kentucky and the United States. Today, there are many different people that call Kentucky home.

**Power of Place**

Our natural and built environments shape our identities. Over the past 250 years, our environment and those that reside in it, have changed. Across the regions of Kentucky today, how people identify with the Commonwealth varies. Although our experiences and perspectives differ from region to region, we all share history. This history allows us to draw similarities between different places to help us better understand the past and present.

## **Crossroads in History**

Since 1776, Kentucky has stood at the crossroads of multiple historic movements, from westward expansion, the Civil War, the Trail of Tears, the Underground Railroad, the Great Migration, and more. Moreover, Kentucky's political and cultural output has expanded far beyond the state, influencing our nation's history and broader social trends.

## **Doing History**

By exploring state and local history during the 250th, Kentuckians can use the past to better understand our roles and responsibilities within our communities today. To accomplish this, Kentuckians can visit museums and historic sites and discuss why history is important today. By engaging with history, we become better informed citizens who understand where America has been and where it's going.

If approved, how will KAAHC funds be applied?

Anticipated project completion date: \_\_\_\_\_

Both during and at the conclusion of your project, you will be contacted by a representative of the Commission. They may request a site visit to see progress of the project and at the conclusion, we will seek a letter stating such and a means of publicizing the project identifying the Kentucky African American Heritage Commission and the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Office as supporters.

## **In addition to the response to each question, applications must also include the following attachments:**

- Letters of consent from all property owners or concerned parties.
- Text and/or photographs of all present or intended site markers
- Photographs illustrating the current appearance and condition of the site being nominated for funding.
- Maps showing the location of the site.

## **If this grant involves property, provide the following information:**

Site type:   \_\_\_ Urban       \_\_\_ Rural       \_\_\_ Cemetery   \_\_\_ Park   \_\_\_ Building

Is the site listed in the National Register of Historic Places?   \_\_\_ Yes       \_\_\_ No

What is the listing name? \_\_\_\_\_

Ownership of site:   \_\_\_ Private   \_\_\_ Private non-profit (501c3)   \_\_\_ Multiple ownership

\_\_\_ Public, local government   \_\_\_ Public, state government   \_\_\_ Public, federal gov.

- Describe current educational programs, tours, markers, signs, brochures, site bulletins, or plaques at the site. Include text and photographs of markers.
- Describe any other local, state, or federal historic designation, records, signage, or plaques the site currently has. N/A
- Is the site open to the public, and if so under what conditions?

FOR KAAHC USE	
Assigned Commissioner: _____	
_____	
_____	
_____	
Signature of Certifying KAAHC Official	Date
_____	

