



# 2018 African American Civil Rights History Grant Fact Sheet

## Grant Due Date: October 8, 2018

### African American Civil Rights (AACR) History Grants

The National Park Service's (NPS) FY 2018 African American Civil Rights Grant Program (AACR) seeks to document, interpret, and preserve the sites related to the African American struggle to gain equal rights as citizens in the 20th Century. The NPS 2008 report, "Civil Rights in America, A Framework for Identifying Significant Sites," will serve as the reference document in determining the appropriateness of proposed projects and properties. AACR Grants are funded by the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), administered by the NPS. **Grants will fund a broad range of planning and research projects for historic sites including: survey, inventory, documentation, interpretation, and education.** Grants are awarded through a competitive process and do not require non-Federal match.

- History grant projects must range from \$15,000 to \$50,000.
- Eligible costs include survey, planning, and documentation of historic sites/events, as well as the creation of interpretive and educational materials around significant sites (including oral histories).
- Projects must be associated with the African American civil rights movement of the 20th century.

**Successful applications will emphasize innovative strategies, and creative projects with measurable results, and include cross-generational engagement that promote and preserve the community's civil rights resources.** Projects should involve public-private partnerships and serve as models to communities nationwide. Projects must fit one of the categories listed below. If a project overlaps more than one category, candidates will need to select the dominant category:

### 3 Project Categories:

1. Survey and Planning
2. Research and Documentation
3. Interpretation and Education

### **Evaluation Criteria**

Project descriptions must address, and applications will be rated on, each of the criteria listed below. NPS will evaluate and consider only complete applications that separately address each of the **four criteria**. You are required to provide a detailed narrative of these elements using the project information form.

**1. Significance:** Describe the historic resource(s) in the proposed project that played a role in the African American civil rights movement in the 20th Century. Describe the community and the historic resources affected by this project including its significance, whether listed in the National Register of Historic Places and/or designated at the state, tribal, or local level, and the story that its continued preservation tells. Preference may be given to sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places or designated as National Historic Landmarks. **(25 points)**

**2. Need/Urgency/Threat:** Describe how the proposed work will enhance the recognition, understanding, and preservation of resources association with the African American civil rights movement in the 20th Century. Describe the need, urgency, and threat the project addresses and how the activities are necessary to achieve the project objectives. Tell how the proposed project will help preserve the resources and cultural assets associated with communities that are currently underrepresented in the stories of your jurisdiction. **(25 points)**

**3. Feasibility:** Demonstrate how you will successfully complete the project within the given timeframe (2 to 3 years) and resources while meeting all federal requirements and guidelines. List and describe all tasks



and their results. Provide a detailed timeline for the work and budget justification, using the form provided, for all project costs to show why costs are necessary, reasonable, and allowable. Describe who will be involved in carrying out the project and their qualifications. Projects will be evaluated to determine if the project is feasible, if the costs are eligible, and if the project is the next logical step toward the resource(s) preservation. Partnerships, matching funds and other forms of community support, though not required, will be considered. **(25 points)**

**4. Sustainability:** Describe how the public will be actively involved, and how the project meets the goals of relevant state, tribal, or local historic preservation plans. The specific goal(s) and plan(s) should be identified. Describe the impacts of the project after completion, including long lasting effects. Describe the public-private partnerships and community engagement involved in the project and how these partnerships will sustain and continue to support the resource(s) after the grant project is complete. Extra consideration may be given to projects with cross-generational involvement, educational results, or those with maintenance plans for historic resources. **(25 points)**

## Evaluation and Selection Process

Reviewers' evaluations are based solely on the material provided in the application. Additional materials not specifically required by the application, and materials sent separately from the application, will not be considered.

NPS personnel, and in some cases, other Federal reviewers, will review all the proposals. All proposals for funding will be considered using the criteria outlined above. A summary of the review panel comments may be provided to the applicant if requested.

Each of the 4 criteria elements will be scored on a scale of 0 to 25 with a top possible score of 100.

- **25:** Superior
- **20 – 24:** Good
- **14 – 19:** Satisfactory
- **10 – 13:** Marginal
- **6 – 9:** Poor
- **0 – 5:** Not acceptable

The average score of a successful grant application for FY 2017 was a 24.25 for each criteria or a 97 average overall score. The scoring of each criteria is based on the strengths and weaknesses of the application narrative.

## Previous Awards

The projects below were announced on March 12, 2018 and were awarded to entities in the state of Alabama:

- **Birmingham Civil Rights Institute - \$44,918**
  - 21st Century Preservation & the Next Generation of Global Activism: Archives Preservation and Digitization Project
- **University of North Alabama - \$45,364**
  - Civil Rights Struggle in the Shoals
- **Alabama Historical Commission - \$50,000**
  - Freedom Rides Museum 60th Anniversary Commemoration Exhibit Plans
- **City of Montgomery - \$50,000**
  - Montgomery Alabama Civil Rights Survey/Planning/Research/Documentation

## Important Dates

In order to apply, all applicants must have an up-to-date SAMS and DUNS number and will need to have their applications submitted on grants.gov in order to be considered.

- **Posted: August 7, 2018**
- **Due: October 8, 2018**

## Additional Information

For more information about the FY 2018 African American Civil Rights History Grant, go to: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=308041>.

**For questions about the grant or for requests for letters of support, please contact Kaia Greene, Grants Coordinator, at 205.254.1960 or [Kaia.Greene@mail.house.gov](mailto:Kaia.Greene@mail.house.gov)**