

Application & Guidelines for

**ALEXANDER HAMILTON:  
THE MAN WHO MADE MODERN AMERICA**

A Traveling Exhibition for Libraries and National Park Historic Sites

*Application receipt deadline: January 21, 2005; Notification: week of May 16, 2005*

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The New-York Historical Society, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, and the American Library Association (ALA) announce a tour to 40 libraries and National Park historic sites of a new traveling exhibition called “Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America.” The traveling exhibition is based upon a major exhibition of the same name on display at the New-York Historical Society from September 10, 2004 until February 28, 2005 (See <http://www.alexanderhamiltonexhibition.org/>).

The traveling exhibition and tour are funded by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to the New-York Historical Society. Applications for the tour are invited from public, academic, and special libraries, and from National Park historic sites.

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### Exhibition Overview

Using reproductions from the New-York Historical Society’s and Gilder Lehrman Institute’s renowned collections, and drawing on recent scholarship about Alexander Hamilton, this traveling exhibition will examine Hamilton’s central role during the Revolutionary War and Founding period (1774-1804) in creating the economic, constitutional, social, journalistic, political and foreign policy templates for modern America. It will acquaint visitors with a statesman and visionary whose life inspired discussion and controversy and shaped the America we live in two hundred years after his death.

Alexander Hamilton was one of the leading Americans who recognized the need for a strong centralized government and understood the structures that were needed to support the new Republic and allow it to grow and flourish. Hamilton’s vision, probably more than that of any other Founder, is reflected in the modern America in which we now live. Yet his contributions are hardly recognized today. He is primarily known for the duel which claimed his life in 1804 at the age of 47.

Hamilton made his impact felt on the world stage for more than a quarter century, and his innumerable articles, letters, pamphlets, and reports—including his role in the organization and authorship of the majority of *The Federalist Papers*—create a rich resource for studying and understanding his ideas and their results. The exhibition will guide visitors through Hamilton’s legacy with an examination of documents Hamilton wrote and published as student, soldier, lover, lawyer, family man, Federalist, Treasury Secretary, policy advisor, and duelist; the institutions he shaped—the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the Bank of New York, the New York Manumission Society, the Federalist Party, the *New-York Evening Post*; and the conflicts that made him notorious in his time—his entanglement with Maria Reynolds, the scandal that erupted over that affair, party politics, and the fatal duel.

Through Hamilton’s words, visitors will experience this restless, prescient, practical man, whose role in the foundations of modern America was momentous and far-reaching.

Two copies of the six-section, 75-foot-long panel exhibition will each travel to 20 sites, for a total of 40 sites, from September 2005 to March 2009. The exhibition is organized in six thematic sections:

- ☞ The **first section** examines Hamilton's birth on the Caribbean island of Nevis in 1757, and how his illegitimate status fueled a lifelong concern with honor. Raised in St. Croix, he gained firsthand knowledge of the sugar economy, slavery, and international commerce through his work in a New-York based merchant house. Coming to New York in 1773, when the colonies were on the brink of war with England, Hamilton impressed his sponsors with his intellect and abilities. His identity as an immigrant forever shaped his identity as an American; his loyalty was only and always to the United States.
- ☞ **Section two** covers Hamilton's experience in the American Revolution as an artillery captain and later, a colonel on George Washington's staff. He wrote pamphlets in defense of the patriot cause and fought in three major battles. Hamilton brilliantly analyzed the political and economic inefficiencies of the new nation, and advocated giving Congress the power to tax and raise loans. He also married Elizabeth Schuyler, the daughter of a rich and well-connected New York landowner, during this time.
- ☞ The **third section** looks at Hamilton as a lawmaker and advocate of a strong central government to ensure stability for the new nation. After the Constitution was drafted, Hamilton organized one of the most effective propaganda campaigns in history on its behalf, writing more than 50 of the 85 essays now called *The Federalist Papers* that brought the case for ratification of the Constitution to the public. In the essays, he supported judicial review, executive power, and the political benefits of economic unity.
- ☞ **Section four** finds Hamilton as the first Secretary of the Treasury under President George Washington. In this role, he restored America's financial integrity by consolidating state and national debt, and paying off all debt holders equally. Hamilton also advised Washington on foreign policy, cautioning against expecting favors from any nation, and advising the country to stay out of wars. During this period, he also strongly advocated abolition and the extension of civil and religious liberty to all slaves.
- ☞ **Section five** looks at the final years of Hamilton's life—years marked by innovation, controversy, and personal animosities. He clashed with Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, and was involved in the first American political sex scandal through his liaison with Maria Reynolds. Hamilton's ongoing criticism of Aaron Burr during both the 1800 election campaign and Burr's quest for the New York governorship resulted in Burr challenging him to a duel, in which Hamilton was fatally wounded. He died three days later.
- ☞ **Section six** looks at Hamilton's legacy in many arenas of government. He left an unusually vast collection of writings containing his ideas and opinions on immigration, politics, economics, and foreign policy that resonate in 21<sup>st</sup> century America. From global capitalism to immigration, from disputed elections to constitutional challenges, Hamilton's ideas continue to have relevancy to the government and the people of the country he helped to create in the late eighteenth century, and to which he was passionately loyal.

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## Requirements for Libraries/National Park Historic Sites

All libraries and National Park historic sites chosen for the exhibition tour are required to:

- ☞ Sponsor an opening reception or preview of the exhibition for the public.
- ☞ Present a minimum of two programs featuring a lecture/discussion by a scholar in the humanities and focusing on exhibition themes (one of these programs may be combined with the opening reception). These programs must be free and open to the public. Exhibition sites are encouraged to apply to state humanities councils for honoraria for lecturers and/or discussion leaders.
- ☞ In the case of academic and special libraries, present at least one program that is open to and marketed to public audiences beyond the library's customary user groups. Academic libraries and National Park historic sites are encouraged to collaborate with neighboring public libraries on programming and publicity.
- ☞ Demonstrate that they have sufficient space to display the exhibition – 1,000 square feet in one area of the library or other display area is preferred – and that they can provide security for the exhibit, i.e., monitor the

exhibit at least every half-hour during peak times and every hour at less busy times when institution is open. A description of the exhibit space or floor plan must accompany the application.

- ☞ Charge no fees for viewing the exhibit.
- ☞ Provide required reports, including an exhibition condition report and a final report, to sponsors by the set deadlines. Selected sites which fail to provide a final report in a timely manner may forfeit opportunities to participate in future ALA-managed traveling exhibitions.
- ☞ Appoint one staff member as the local coordinator of the exhibit. The coordinator is required to attend an exhibition orientation seminar at The New-York Historical Society in mid-June, 2005 (dates to be determined).

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## **Benefits for Libraries/National Park Historic Sites**

Libraries and National Park historic sites selected for the tour will receive:

- ☞ A \$1,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for travel/accommodation expenses for the exhibit coordinator's attendance at the orientation seminar and/or exhibition programming expenses.
- ☞ The traveling exhibit for a six-week loan period; shipping is supported by the grant.
- ☞ Up to 1,500 exhibit brochures and 25 posters.
- ☞ Two banners that will travel to each site for display with the exhibition.
- ☞ Lesson plans for students and other educational support materials.
- ☞ Insurance coverage for reasonable damages to the exhibit. Sites may be held responsible for extensive damages or loss of the exhibit when it is under their control. Many previous exhibition sites have put a rider on their insurance for the exhibit display period. Sites will be asked to replace banners damaged while on display.
- ☞ Both print and online Site Support Notebooks with press materials, art, shipping and installation instructions, suggestions for programming, and more.
- ☞ Technical and programming support from the ALA Public Programs Office throughout the tour, including participation in an online discussion list for tour sites.
- ☞ An orientation seminar for exhibit coordinators in mid-June, 2005 at the New-York Historical Society, New York City. Seminar participants will meet with the exhibition curator and planning team, learn about exhibition themes, interpretive materials, program funding, marketing and public relations, additional bibliographic and other resources, and exhibition logistics and assembly/dismantling. Participants will also have an opportunity to view the traveling exhibition.

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## **Selection Criteria**

The ALA, the New-York Historical Society, and the Gilder-Lehrman Institute will recommend 40 libraries and National Park historic sites to the NEH for the exhibition tour, based on the following criteria:

1. Excellent ideas and plans for public programs, including an agreement that at least two program for adults will feature a lecture/discussion by a qualified speaker on exhibition themes. Applications for institutions previously selected for traveling exhibitions have contained an average of five or more programs.
2. Available and appropriate exhibition space and ability to provide security for the exhibition.
3. Location of the sites. The selection committee would like the exhibition to visit all regions of the country.
4. Size and demographics of the community. The selection committee seeks a mix of different size communities and varied demographics.

5. Evidence that the site has support of community groups and other organizations in planning for the exhibition. Support letters from partner organizations and potential speakers who describe specific ideas and support for the exhibition help to strengthen applications. Selectors welcome programming collaborations among academic and public libraries and National Park historic sites in a community. However, sending the exhibition to more than one venue in a community during the six-week exhibition period is not encouraged.

6. Evidence of the site's ability to reach target audiences and market the exhibition and related programs effectively. For academic institutions or park sites, examples of programs that have reached public audiences successfully are helpful.

7. Commitment of the library or National Park historic site director for the staff time required for a successful display of the exhibition in the community and development of related programming.

Applicants are encouraged to address questions about the selection guidelines, process and requirements to the Public Programs Office, American Library Association, phone (312) 280-5045, fax (312) 944-2404, or e-mail [publicprograms@ala.org](mailto:publicprograms@ala.org).

## **Application Form Follows**

***Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America***

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_  
(include name of university or other governing body if relevant)

ALA Member Number (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Institution Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Web site: \_\_\_\_\_

Size of Service Population: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Budget (main and branches): \_\_\_\_\_

Exhibition Coordinator Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator's ALA Member Number (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Coordinator's Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator's E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

If Coordinator is not the Director, Director's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director (type name) Signature Date  
(If the Director is also Exhibition Coordinator, please include signature of director's supervisor or Chair of Institution Board.)

**Please send the original application, support letters and other materials, and FOUR COPIES OF THE APPLICATION, SUPPORT LETTERS AND OTHER SUPPORT MATERIALS to the address below.** Please submit your application stapled with the application cover sheet on top. Do not put applications in folders or binders. For each copy, staple the application cover sheet and your answers to the application questions together, and put them on top of your supporting materials. Secure with a clip or rubber band.

Alexander Hamilton Exhibition Applications  
Public Programs Office  
American Library Association  
50 E. Huron St.  
Chicago, IL 60611

**NOTE: Applications must be received by January 21, 2005 (this is not a postmark date). Faxed applications and late or incomplete applications will not be accepted (please send 4 copies of your support materials or some reviewers may not see them!). To request this application in Word (.doc) format, please send an e-mail to [publicprograms@ala.org](mailto:publicprograms@ala.org) or call (312) 280-5045. Thank you!**

## **APPLICATION QUESTIONS**

**Please respond to the following questions (use no more than five pages single or double-spaced). Repeat the first sentence of each question on your response sheets.**

1. Why would your institution like to display “Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America”? Please describe unique collections and local resources and interests related to the exhibition, and other organizations that will help you to support this exhibition (collaboration with other libraries and park sites is encouraged; support letters from partners strengthen your application).
2. Libraries and National Park historic sites displaying this exhibition must commit themselves to at least two public programs led by a humanities scholar and based upon the exhibition themes. Please describe your plans for this program and include information about possible scholars and their credentials (resumes are not required). Beyond that, what other ideas do you have for programs related to the exhibition themes? Letters of intent from individuals or groups you plan to work with are encouraged. (Institutions chosen for past exhibitions have proposed an average of five public programs.)
3. Describe the audience you will target and how you will publicize the exhibition to that audience. If your institution is an academic or special library or national park historic site, describe how you will ensure that the public beyond your own user community will see the exhibit and attend at least one humanities program (saying only that the public will be invited to all programs is not sufficient for academic and special libraries and park sites).
4. Describe the space your institution has available for exhibitions. This exhibition will require 1,000 square feet of floor space, or about 125 running feet if placed along a wall. Please include a floor plan of the proposed exhibit space.
5. What is the scope of your current (i.e., within the past year) adult cultural programming, including type and frequency (e.g., book discussion weekly, annual fall lecture series on local history).
6. Has your library participated in (in last five years) or is it scheduled to participate in any other ALA Public Programs Office sponsored program? If so, please tell us which programs.
7. Are there any dates between September 2005 and March 2009 that you would prefer to display the exhibition, or cannot display the exhibition? Selected sites will have the exhibition for six weeks. We will try to accommodate requests, but WE CANNOT GUARANTEE REQUESTED DATES. Sites which have the exhibition near major holidays will have the exhibit for eight weeks.
8. All applicants must complete the following “Application Cover Sheet for NEH Grant Programs” and submit it with their applications. Please do not add any other budget details to this form.

**Thank you for your application.**

# APPLICATION COVER SHEET FOR N E H GRANT PROGRAMS

*Traveling exhibition applicants: Please only fill out sections 1, 2, 3, 11 & 13. The other sections are complete.*

## 1. PROJECT DIRECTOR OR INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT

Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.  Dr.  Prof.

Major Field of Study: \_\_\_\_\_ H3 \_\_\_\_\_

Name (last, first, middle): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (work): \_\_\_\_\_ (home): \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. INSTITUTION INFORMATION

Name of institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

DUNS Number \_\_\_\_\_ Employer ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. TYPE OF APPLICANT (apply as an institution or an individual)

Institution

Individual

*Fellowships, stipends, etc.*

Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship  US  Other

University Teacher

Status:  Private Nonprofit

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

College Teacher / Indep. Scholar

Unit of State/Local Gov.

Month/Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Scholar

Sr. Scholar

4. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

5. GRANT PROGRAM: \_\_\_\_\_

6. TYPE OF APPLICATION:  New  Supplement Current Grant Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

7. PROJECT FIELD CODE:  A3

8. PROJECT TITLE:

9. PROJECT DESCRIPTION (use only space provided):

10. REQUESTED GRANT PERIOD: From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICATION COVER SHEET FOR N E H GRANT PROGRAMS ~ Page 2

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**11. PROJECT FUNDING FOR INSTITUTIONS**

*Programs other than Challenge Grants*

a. Outright Funds \$ 1,000  
b. Federal Match \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
c. Total from NEH \$ 1,000  
d. Cost Sharing \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
e. Total Project Costs \$ 1,000

*Challenge Grants applicants only*

a. Fiscal Year #1 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
b. Fiscal Year #2 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
c. Fiscal Year #3 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
d. Total from NEH \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
e. Non-Federal Match \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
f. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**12. ADDITIONAL FUNDING**

Will this proposal be submitted to another NEH division, government agency, or private entity for funding?

Yes  No If yes, indicate where and when: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**13. GRANT ADMINISTRATOR INFORMATION FOR INSTITUTIONS**

Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.  Dr.  Prof. Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (last, first, middle): \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**14. FELLOWSHIPS AND SUMMER STIPENDS**

List the name, department, and institutional affiliation of referees.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Stipends applicants only: Provide the name and signature of your nominating official.

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**15. CERTIFICATION**

By signing and submitting this application, the individual applicant or authorizing official certifies that all statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief, and, if applying for more than \$100,000, is providing the certification on lobbying activities as set forth in these guidelines.

Printed name of individual applicant/authorizing official: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of individual applicant/authorizing official: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For NEH use only: date received: \_\_\_\_\_

application #: \_\_\_\_\_

initials: \_\_\_\_\_