

Recovering Voices



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History

September 11, 2015

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Federal Funding for Native Languages: Introduction to
Agencies, Programs, Staff

Recovering Voices: Overview

Recovering Voices works with communities worldwide to document, revitalize and sustain languages and the knowledge embedded in them.



Wanapum Band of Priest Rapids, Community Research Visit



Oneida Group, Breath of Life 2015

Activities of Recovering Voices

- Breath of Life Archival Institute for Indigenous Languages
- Education and Outreach
- Research Program
- Digitization at the National Anthropological Archives
- Partnerships
- Community Research Grants Program



Funding Opportunity: Community Research Grants

Community Research Grants support indigenous communities' efforts to revitalize their languages, cultures and knowledge systems by increasing access to the Smithsonian's collections and archives.

- Sole funding program of Recovering Voices
- Grants are made from private endowment funds, not with federal monies
- Currently no more than 3 grants funded annually

Community Research Grants: Funding Information

- Maximum grant amount: \$10,000
- Funds a research trip to Smithsonian collections/archives in Washington, DC
- Next call open July 15, 2016 to September 15, 2016 for projects in 2017
- All application materials are online:
 - recoveringvoices.si.edu
 - Supplemental materials include Budget template, SI Collections Information

Community Research Grants: Eligibility

- Eligible applicants include any group whose heritage language, knowledge, or material culture is represented in the Smithsonian's collections
- Eligible proposals utilize Smithsonian collections and/or archives as the main resource for the grant
- Eligible projects focus on language OR cultural knowledge research, you don't need to focus on both

Community Research Grants: About the Grant Visit

- Grants can pay for travel, per diem, lodging, and resources for research at the SI
- Groups size is up to the applicant
- Length of the research stay at the Smithsonian is up to the applicant
- Any Smithsonian repository can be utilized; some research proposals include multiple repositories

Community Research Grants: Proposal Don'ts

- Grants are not meant to fund
 - Language documentation/linguistic research in the field
 - Digitization of materials
 - Research without community involvement
 - A trip to the Smithsonian to “learn what is in the collections”
 - The acquisition of technology
 - Salaries

Community Research Grants: The Research Visit

- Preparation: Groups can expect
 - Administrative and travel support from Recovering Voices staff
- During the Visit: Groups can expect
 - To work directly with SI staff knowledgeable about the collections and archives
 - Video recording of the visit; all video is shared with the community to be put to use how they see fit

Past Funded Projects

- 2012
 - Tlingit, Basketry
 - Yup'ik, Sewing
 - Anishinaabe (Great Lakes Research Alliance for the Study of Aboriginal Arts & Cultures-GRASAC)
 - Hopi, Pottery
- 2013
 - Heiltsuk, Nuwaqawa, Snakila (Rivers Inlet, British Columbia), review of Northwest Coast Bella Bella & Bella Coola materials
- 2014
 - Barbareño Chumash, Šmuwič Language
 - Samoa, Tapa cloth motifs
 - Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, Educational materials from clothing, games & fans
- 2015
 - Wanapum Band of Priest Rapids, Fishing Technology
 - Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Kiksht Language
 - Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Cheyenne Language & Educational programming

Recovering Voices Contact Info

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Alutiiq Group, Breath of Life 2015



Anishinaabe Community Research Visit