

OFFER FOR IOWANS

Capitals for Culture

Identifying Information

Offer Identifier: 265_TRA_003
Offer Name: Capitals for Culture
Result(s) Addressed: Economic Growth
Contact Information: Mary Jane Olney, Deputy Director, Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs 515/281-8824 or MaryJane.Olney@iowa.gov

RIIF FUND REQUEST:

Historic Site Preservation Grants

The Historic Site Preservation Grant program provides funds to acquire, repair, rehabilitate and develop historic sites across Iowa that preserve, interpret or promote Iowa's cultural heritage. HSPG projects promote an understanding of the record of human experience within Iowa. Continued funding at FY 2009 levels (\$1,000,000) will assure the preservation of important historic resources in all parts of the state. These grant funds are matched at the local level by at least a dollar-for-dollar cash match. Most grant recipients provide considerably more in local cash and in-kind support.

Great Places Infrastructure Grants

The Iowa Great Places Initiative creates a partnership between the State of Iowa and local communities to help communities develop a vision for the community. This initiative brings all players in a local community to a common table for community-wide planning. Those communities the Iowa Great Places Advisory Board deems ready for certification as an Iowa Great Place receive the designation and become eligible to apply for any infrastructure funds appropriated to the Department of Cultural Affairs for competitive grants. As of September 2008, sixteen Great Places have been formally identified by the Advisory Board. In accord with Code of Iowa, the Great Places Advisory Board named four additional Iowa Great Places on September 25, 2008. In FY 2007, Iowa provided \$3 million for competitive infrastructure projects in the initial 3 Great Places pilot communities and provided \$3 million in FY 2008 and \$2 million in FY 2009 for infrastructure project in Great Places communities.

The Department of Cultural Affairs requires that communities match state investment in infrastructure projects with at least an equal number of non-state dollars. In many cases the local match far exceeds a 1 to 1 ratio. The Department of Cultural Affairs requests the continued state investment for a competitive grant program for infrastructure projects in Iowa Great Places.

Battle Flags

The Iowa Battle Flag Preservation Project is saving threatened historical treasures for Iowans and future generations of Iowans – battle flags from the Civil War, Spanish American War and World War I. Continued support at \$220,000 annually (the same level as in FY 2009) assures steady progress in preserving these iconic symbols of Iowa's role in America's military history.

State Historic Site Maintenance

The State Historical Society of Iowa manages eight historic sites consisting of 770 acres of land, 29 historic buildings and three contemporary interpretive centers. Infrastructure needs as these facilities include roof and window repairs at the American Gothic House in Eldon and roof, window and foundation at the Edel Blacksmith Shop and House in Haverhill, roof and gutters on the Montauk Mansion in Clermont, and mitigation of mold at Plum Grove in Iowa City. Maintenance of land at Montauk requires the use of a tractor with snow plow and mower. Combined, these needs total \$80,000.

OFFER JUSTIFICATION:

Competitive grant programs of the Department of Cultural Affairs, including the Historic Site Preservation Grant program and the infrastructure grants component of the Iowa Great Places program enhance the ability of local communities to capitalize on their unique heritage to augment tourism efforts and local economic development initiatives. The Department requires a minimum match ratio for all projects. Usually that match requirement calls for \$1 of local, non-state, funding for each \$1 of state funds provided. In virtually all cases, matching funds provided for local project far exceeds the minimum requirement. Improved infrastructure through the Iowa Great Places infrastructure grant program and the Historic Site Preservation Grant program enhance the ability of Iowa communities to improve their economic base and to serve as tourist destinations.

The Iowa Battle Flags project, including the exhibition of restored flags in the Capitol and the State Historical Museum, has been a very popular program. As the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War approaches, research interest in Civil War related materials held by the State Historical Society of Iowa, especially its collection of Civil War flags will increase. The State of Iowa annually invests in the conservation and preservation of the Civil War battle flags to honor the memory of those who served in that conflict and to preserve and commemorate the important role Iowa played in preserving the Union.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGETS:

1. Support local historic preservation across the state by funding \$1,000,000 of HSPG applications with minimum local matching investment of \$1,000,000.
2. Support identified Iowa Great Places across the state by funding \$2,000,000 of competitive infrastructure grants with a minimum local, non-state, matching investment of \$2,000,000.
3. Maintain historic structures and grounds at state owned historic sites.
4. Maintain the established battle flag preservation schedule.

FISCAL INFORMATION:

Appropriation	Source	FY 09 State Funds	FY 10 State Funds	Federal Funds	Total FY 10
(Appropriation #0iM2) 2009 – Kimball Organ Repair 2010 – Historic Site Maintenance	RIIF	\$80,000			
	RIIF		\$80,000		\$80,000
Appropriation # 0iM3 Great Places Infrastructure Grants	RIIF	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000		\$2,000,000
Appropriation # 0iM1 Historic Site Preservation Grants	RIIF	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000
Appropriation # 0iM4 Battle Flags	RIIF	\$220,000	\$220,000		\$220,000
TOTAL REQUEST		\$3,300,000	\$3,300,000		\$3,300,000

Price and Revenue Source

\$3,300,000 RIIF