

# Host We Are Water MN in your community!

*We Are Water MN* is a traveling exhibit and community engagement initiative that

- Builds a common awareness about local water issues
- Reinforces Minnesotans' individual relationships with water
- Reinforces Minnesotans' individual responsibilities to water
- Shares locally relevant solutions
- Builds strong community relationships that focus on collaboration and resource sharing



***We Are Water MN* is currently seeking host organizations who are eager to add to and learn from the statewide network.\***

These host organizations will:

1

Be supported through face-to-face and virtual meetings to learn about local water issues and build a network of 20 partnering organizations within their communities.

- The Minnesota Humanities Center will host a kick-off retreat in St. Paul, Oct 2017 for all host organizations and 1-2 key partners from each site.
- The host organizations will build relationships with new groups in their community, with a goal of bringing at least 20 partnering organizations/individuals on board for this project.
- The Minnesota Humanities Center will co-plan (and cover costs for) a community workshop at each site, to bring together the partnering organizations to learn about local water issues, identify an area of focus for their work together, and start planning programming. Community workshops will start in early 2018 and occur one per month in the order of exhibition schedule.
- The Minnesota Humanities Center will host monthly virtual meetings with host organizations to learn, share, and develop project ideas.



2

Be supported through resources, funding, and capacity building to develop high profile programs, events, and stewardship projects.

- Funding is being sought so that each site will have an opening ceremony with a Water Bar ([water-bar.org](http://water-bar.org)), an indigenous-led water walk along a local river ([nibiwalk.org](http://nibiwalk.org)), and \$10,000 to support the planning and implementation of at least one additional activity that engages the community around a priority water issue they identify.
- Based on phase 1 results, we expect communities to host between 5 and 20 events before and during the 6-week exhibition dates.



- Planning for these events will start in July 2018 and run through each community's exhibit dates, with the final tour dates ended in December 2019.

3

Share a traveling exhibit and public programs for 6 weeks in your community. Tour dates will be 6 weeks in each site, beginning October 2018 and running through December 2019.

- Funding is included to hire professional interviewers to conduct interviews with local people that will then be shared as exhibit stories, create custom content for each site, and cover moving expenses. Host sites will have access to these professionally edited stories and have the option to purchase a permanent exhibit for these stories.
- Based on phase 1 results, we expect at least 1000 participants/community would will attend.



\*Commitment to this project needed by August 2017.

\*Funding is being sought to fulfill all of the above activities, but is not secure. Activities, especially under #2, will be scoped based on funding.

\*Communities will be selected based on their ability to commit to the above responsibilities and the partners' desire for a statewide spread and diversity of host organization types (arts, cultural, environmental, etc.).

## For more info, contact

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### State Partners

