

# Douglas County Natural & Cultural Heritage Grant Program 2019 Grant Application

# Application Deadline: Thursday, March 7, 2019

**Applications must be hand-delivered or postmarked by Thursday, March 7, 2019 at 5 p.m.** Late applications will <u>not</u> be accepted. Grant awards will be announced in May.

- □ Answer all questions. Do not use smaller than 11 point font.
- □ Signature of the Authorized Official is required if an organization is submitting the grant application.
- Submit 1 original signed application, 1 set of original support materials (if applicable) and 7 additional copies of all materials. Staple or paperclip application materials. Do not include binders, folders and/or plastic sleeves. Submit one electronic copy of the application and support materials on a thumb drive (or CD).
- □ Please refer to grant guidelines for more information about completing this application and requirements for applicants.
- □ Individual appointments must be held with HCC Program Coordinator on or before Tuesday, February 26, 2019.
- □ Non-profit organizations must have proof of 990 and be in good standing with the IRS and related filings. (Submit 1 copy of the 990 with original application.)

# 1. Project Applicant (Provide 2 contacts for this application.)

Applicant Name (and all partners if applicable): Douglas County Historical Society

Authorized Official/s: Steven J. Nowak

Title: Executive Director

Project Director's Name: Kerry Altenbernd Title: President, Guardians of Grover Barn

Project Director's Email: kerryaltenbernd@gmail.com Project Director's Phone: 785-840-8029

Official Grant Project Address: Watkins Museum, 1047 Massachusetts St

City: Lawrence State: KS Zip: 66044

Secondary Contact's Name: Steve Nowak Title: Executive Director, Douglas Co. Historical Society Secondary Contact's Email: <u>snowak@watkinsmuseum.org</u> Secondary Contact's Phone: 785-841-4109 Secondary's Address : Watkins Museum, 1047 Massachusetts St

City: Lawrence State: KS Zip: 66044

## 2. Project Summary

- a) Type of Grant (Check One) □ Major Grant (≥ \$ 40, 000 and no more than \$74, 000)
  - **X** Target Grant (≤ \$39,999)

Amount requested for this project: \$7,300

b) Project Title: Interpretive Kiosk Project: Grover Barn Heritage Site

c) Full Street Address of this project (please include Township name) 2819 Stone Barn Terrace, Lawrence, KS 66047, Wakarusa Township

d) Name of individuals/organization that own the property: City of Lawrence

e) Contact information for those individuals: dstoddard@lawrenceks.org

f) For projects involving historic structures. If applicable, please check all that apply. The structure is:

- \_\_\_\_\_Listed on the National Register of Historic Places
- Listed on the Kansas Register of Historic Places
- \_\_\_\_\_Not listed but is eligible for listing
- \_\_\_\_\_Located in a Historic District
- <u>X</u> Date of building construction (if known) 1858
- \_\_\_\_Original architect(s) (if known)
- <u>X</u> Listed on the Lawrence Register of Historic Places
- <u>X</u> Listed on the National Network to Freedom
- <u>X</u> Listed on the Kansas African American History Trail

Explain the historical/architectural significance of the building and attach any additional historical or architectural information to this application.

Built of native stone and local timber, the Grover barn (2819 Stone Barn Terrace, near Clinton Parkway and Lawrence Avenue) is one of the most significant Underground Railroad sites in Lawrence, Kansas. Ardent abolitionists Joel Grover, who arrived in Lawrence in 1854 with the second New England Emigrant Aid Company party, and his wife Emily, sheltered freedom seekers in the 1858 stone barn on their farm southwest of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas Territory during the late 1850s. The site's role as a "station" on the Underground Railroad is well documented in the historical record. In addition, it is one of the few territorial period structures and perhaps the only historic agricultural structure remaining in Lawrence (See Historic Overview and Network to Freedom application [attached] for more detail.)

g) For organizations with board of directors or other oversight group, attach a complete list of members, including brief resumes, and contact information (email address, street address, phone number, term limits.)

Do you have directors' liability insurance? <u>Yes</u> No

Name of Insurer <u>Philadelphia Insurance Company</u>

h) Project Summary – describe the nature and scope of the proposed project (<u>200 words</u> <u>maximum</u>):

In partnership with the City of Lawrence and the Guardians of Grover Barn, a citizens group dedicated to building awareness of the history of this important territorial period structure and FFNHA Partner, the Douglas County Historical Society seeks grant funding to support the development, fabrication, and installation of ADA accessible interpretive kiosks at the Grover Barn site. The stone barn was built by abolitionists Joel and Emily Grover in 1858. In addition to its important presence as one of the few territorial period agricultural structures still standing in Lawrence, the barn was a station on the Underground Railroad through which John Brown conducted a group of freedoms seekers on their way to Canada in the winter of 1859. This extraordinarily well-documented story of national importance has qualified the barn for inclusion on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom and the Kansas African American History Trail. There is nothing on site, however, to identify the structure, which was adapted for use as a fire station in 1980, or reveal the barn's rich and varied history and national significance to the public. This project would address that need, increasing public awareness of the site and providing access to its heritage stories.

### i) Total Project Budget \$9,894.50

j) Amount of Grant Funds Requested from Douglas County \$7,300.00

k) Scope of Project: (Please check all that apply)

 $\Box \mathbf{X}$  Historic structures

Prairie, woodlands, waterways, habitat restoration/preservation

 $\exists \mathbf{X}$  Agriculture; working farms; heritage farms

**X** Freedom's Frontier themes (Civil War and pre-Civil War heritage; Settlement stories before and after Civil War; Enduring struggle for freedom)

Pre-settlement history

## 3. Project Description

a) Specifically explain the proposed project, including any regulations, guidelines, or best practices that will be followed.

What do you plan to do? When? How?

This project will develop, design, fabricate, and install a series of four interpretive panels on the property associated with the farm of Joel and Emily Grover and the barn that still stands on the site. The presence of the panels, developed either as a series of four single-sided or two double-sided kiosks, will create interpretation that is available on-demand, whenever a visitor encounters the site, enhancing the site's usefulness as a school field trip or tour destination and increasing the Grover Barn's visibility on the Kansas African American History Trail and the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, a presence currently unidentifiable when visiting the site.

The interpretive kiosks will use text, historic photographs, and quotes from diaries and letters related to the site to convey the details of the site's historic significance:

- The role it played as a station on the Underground Railroad and John Brown's activities there;
- Stories of Joel and Emily Grover and their lives as early settlers, farmers, and abolitionists;
- The agricultural history of the site, which served as a family farm for over a century;
- Its role as a community cultural center when it served as the studio of sculptor Bernard Frazier;
- Its preservation and adaptation by the City of Lawrence for use as a fire station.

The design, which is subject to approval by Lawrence's Historic Resources Commission, will be based on the design of the Hike Through History panels installed on the Burroughs Creek Trail (see supporting materials), but scaled to be more appropriate in the neighborhood setting and for the pedestrian and tour participant public engagement likely at the site. The installation will be compliant with ADA guidelines for accessibility.

Please include separately any supporting materials such as photos, plans, drawings, illustrations, building condition reports, building inspections, and copies of regulatory approvals, if applicable, that are related to the proposed project.

b) Describe the natural and cultural heritage significance of the project, structure, and or property.

The barn built by Joel and Emily Grover in 1858 and still standing at 2819 Stone Barn Terrace, southwest of downtown Lawrence, has a significant agricultural, historic, social, and cultural story. The Grover family farmed this site until 1963. Though its fields and orchards now hold suburban housing, the barn stands in a wooded area studded with walnut trees, one of the crops grown by Grover. Three blocks south, an old hedge row along 27th Street marks the southern boundary of a former field. Much of the original structure of the barn remains, giving a sense of early Kansas agriculture. Most significantly, the site had a central role in one of the most well-documented Underground Railroad events in Kansas. Eleven slaves and a free-born baby hid at the barn in January 1859. Abolitionist, John Brown and his men liberated the group from slavery in Missouri and, after a brief stay at Grover barn, led the freedom seekers to Detroit, where they moved on to Windsor, Canada. After its sale by Grover descendants, the barn was used as an artist's studio by sculptor Bernard Frazier. In 1980, the City modified the barn for use as a fire station.

The site's Underground Railroad heritage and its connection to John Brown link it with a number of sites regionally and nationally, particularly Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area partner sites in Kansas and Missouri—including the site in Vernon County, Missouri where the freedom seekers originated and Underground Railroad sites in northeastern Kansas, such as the Ritchie House in Topeka. The Grover Barn is listed on the Lawrence Historic Register, recognized by the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area, included on the Kansas African American History Trail, and has recently been listed on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, administered by the National Parks Service, as an Underground Railroad site of national importance (see attachments).

c) Describe the urgency of the project.

The Grover Barn has been of interest to scholars of the Underground Railroad and featured in public tours by the Underground Railroad Association of Douglas County from 1997 to 2006. With designation on the Network to Freedom and recent coverage in regional radio, metro Kansas City television, national C-SPAN history programming, and area newspapers, public interest in the site is increasing. It has recently been featured on tours arranged for the Boys and Girls Club summer program, the Watkins Museum of History's Civil War on the Western Frontier program, the National African American Quilt Conference, and the Kansas African American Trail High School Tour, and will be featured on Underground Railroad tours offered through the Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department in 2019. There is nothing at the site, however, to identify it for members of the public who seek it out on their own or to relate its historic importance to people passing through the neighborhood.

d) If applicable, describe the condition of the property and include photos.

The property is owned and maintained by the City of Lawrence. The structure is in stable condition and the exterior landscape receives regular upkeep.

e) Provide an expected timeline for completion of this project.

Summer 2019—develop interpretive content September-October 2019—develop and approve designs and panel locations Late October, early November—fabricate and install panels

f) How will the HCC Natural & Cultural grant funding be acknowledged in this project?

The HCC will be acknowledged as funder for the project on the intro panel onsite and on the Guardians of Grover Barn website, in news releases, and in future interviews on regional radio and television.

# 4. Community Impact

a) Describe how the project provides a substantial benefit to the conservation of Douglas County's natural and cultural resources.

This project provides public benefit by creating access to an important and multi-faceted story of the history of Douglas County. With the interpretive kiosks in place, casual visitors to the site, participants in scheduled tours, programs, or school field trips, or those who merely pass by on foot or bicycle, will have an opportunity to discover:

- The Grover Barn's role on the Underground Railroad;
- The site's distinction as one of the best preserved Underground Railroad stations still standing in Lawrence;

• Its national significance, not only because of its connection to John Brown, but also because of the rich documentation that exists about the twelve freedom seekers who sheltered there and their route to Canada.

In addition, visitors will learn of the site's agricultural history, providing insights on how farmers made a living from the land and an example of the type of structure and architecture that was once an integral part of the rural landscape in early Kansas. As a territorial period agriculture site, the barn offers a public forum in which the relationship between Kansas settlers and the natural environment they relied on can be explored and can build public awareness of early Douglas County residents' reliance on the land for survival. This project will unlock the site's educational potential in an engaging and accessible way.

b) How will this project connect the physical sites and interpretative stories of Douglas County?

Onsite interpretive kiosks will connect the history of the site to the larger regional and national stories of the Underground Railroad and the struggle to abolish slavery. The Underground Railroad creates a natural link with county heritage sites in the Wakarusa River Valley/Clinton Lake area and the connection to John Brown links the site with the Black Jack Battlefield and Nature Park. The association with John Brown also links Grover's Barn with many of the Kansas and Missouri Freedom's Frontier sites that relate a portion of the freedom seekers' story — from slave rescue sites in Missouri, to eastern Kansas Underground Railroad sites, to Grover's Barn, then on to the Ritchie House and Lane Trail. As one of the few structures standing where John Brown's Underground Railroad journey is documented, Grover's Barn is central to conveying this statewide, and nationally significant, historic Underground Railroad journey.

Interpretive kiosks will increase awareness and aid use of the site by regional and national tourists visiting sites on the Kansas African American History Trail and the National Park Service Network to Freedom. The interpretive panels will also facilitate collaborative efforts to interpret the site through programs developed by the Guardians of Grover Barn, Watkins Museum of History staff, and the Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department and through tours developed to link the Grover Barn with other related sites in the Douglas County, such as the Black Jack Battlefield and Nature Park or the Clinton Lake communities/Wakarusa River Valley Heritage Museum. Such tours are already planned for 2019

c) Please describe the public benefit derived from this project.

The project will serve the general population of Lawrence and Douglas County, particularly those with an interest in local history, the Underground Railroad, or agriculture, and a regional/national audience of heritage tourists. Supported by local neighborhood associations, the project will enhance the site for residents of the surrounding neighborhoods. The project

will also support use of the site by schools and other student groups like the Boys and Girls Club. All visitors will benefit from the availability of onsite interpretation of the Grover Barn's important history and the history of agriculture in territorial Kansas and rural life in early Douglas County whenever they access the site, rather than having to rely only on scheduled programs for access to this information.

The Underground Railroad Association of Douglas County, KS gave numerous tours for the public, from 1997-2006, for local groups, such as the Boys and Girls Club on Juneteenth, and a full day tour of Underground Railroad and Quantrill related sites for a National Civil War group. In 2006, this group developed a proposal to establish an Abolitionist/Underground Railroad Museum at the Grover Barn site.

The Grover Barn has received considerable distinction, though there are currently few ways to convey that to the public and nothing at the site to indicate its historic significance or designation on local, regional, and national historic registers. There is already community interest in the site--tours in 2017 and 2018 offered as part of the Watkins Museum's Civil War on the Western Frontier program were sold out in advance of the event. Designation on National Park Service Network to Freedom already provides a national profile for the site. Information on the site and its story are listed on the Network's website. Recognition as a partner in the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area and listing on the Kansas African American History Trail increases regional awareness and potential public interest. The elements are in place to increase the Grover Barn's public profile locally, regionally, and nationally. All that is lacking is an onsite interpretive presence to activate the educational potential of the barn.

d.) Will the project incorporate educational programs?



Please explain your response above.

The project will support and enhance tours and programs developed by the Guardians of Grover Barn, Watkins Museum of History, Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area, and the Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department. Examples of the kinds of programs already offered include Underground Railroad tours offered by the Watkins Museum during Civil War on the Western Frontier, bus tours developed by Lawrence Parks and Rec, summer programming provided for the Boys and Girls Club, and site visits offered in conjunction with the National African American Quilt Conference.

e. Will you allow public access to the facility/property?

X Yes No

Please explain your response above.

Public access for tour groups can be arranged in advance with the City of Lawrence. Though public parking is limited, the site is currently accessible to passersby or individuals who seek it out. Parking lots at nearby Holcom Park could provide parking for events at the site or for tour busses. The presence of interpretive kiosks on site will make the Grover Barn more identifiable and its stories more accessible to the public.

## 5. Project Costs

a) Provide an estimated budget for this project using the budget template provided with this application. Include explanatory and clarifying information (a budget narrative) below the budget form in the space provided. For estimates over \$20,000, explain how cost estimates were determined.

b) How will the project be sustained once the project is completed? For instance, how will ongoing maintenance costs be financed?

The kiosks will be maintained as part of the City's regular upkeep of the property.

Once the interpretive kiosks have been installed on site, the citizens' group, Guardians of Grover Barn, will continue to work with the City Manager's office and staff of the Watkins Museum to build public awareness of the site and encourage visitation by the public and use by school groups. The Guardians will also explore possibilities for podcasts or online exhibits chronicling the story of the site and will continue to develop and facilitate guided tours of the site, with permission of City government. The Guardians are working to encourage the City to develop a long-term plan for use of the site that assures public access when the City's need for it ends. The Guardians are advocating for a use for the site that opens it to the public on a permanent basis and engages the public with its significant importance in local and national history.

c) Explain if there are any other resources you intend to use in order to complete this project. This may include other sources of funding, loans, or in-kind contributions.

Members of the Guardians of Grover Barn have already donated a significant amount of volunteer time researching and documenting the site's history and working with the city's Historic Resources office to secure designation on the Network to Freedom. Guardians members will also develop the content for the interpretive panels as volunteers. The Watkins

Museum will provide staffing and administrative support associated with development of interpretive content and management of this project as a gift-in-kind.

6. Signature(s)			
1. Signature	Printed Name	Date	
2. Signature (if necessary)	Printed Name	Date	
3. Signature (if necessary)	Printed Name	Date	

# Mail or Deliver the Original Application Packet, 7 Copies, and an electronic version on a thumb drive (or CD) to:

## Douglas County Heritage Conservation Council Attention: Jan Shupert-Arick

Douglas County Courthouse, Administrative Services 1100 Massachusetts Street, Third Level Loft Area Lawrence, KS 66044-3064

**Staff Contact:** For questions about the Natural & Cultural Heritage Grant Program, contact the HCC Program Coordinator, Jan Shupert-Arick at <u>jshupertarick@douglascountyks.org</u> or 785-330-2878.

Douglas County Heritage Conservation Council Website: https://www.douglascountyks.org/hcc/who-we-are

## <u>COMPLETE THE SEPARATE BUDGET FORM and then explain the entries in a brief</u> <u>narrative.</u>

### **Budget Narrative**

1. Personnel: Members of the Guardians of Grover Barn, particularly Kerry Altenbernd, Jeanne Klein, and Judy Sweets, will volunteer their time to research and develop interpretive content. Steve Nowak, Executive Director of the Douglas County Historical Society will serve as project director and liaison with graphic designer and City staff. He will provide his assistance as a gift-in-kind.

2. Consultant/Professional Fees and Services: The project will engage Lauren Weege of Laurenmary Design as graphic designer. She was the designer for the University of Kansas history panels, the Burroughs Creek Trail Hike through History panels, and the signage for the Watkins Museum's Maggie's Garden outdoor exhibit. Her fees will cover design and preparation of final artwork for fabricators.

3. Materials/Supplies: This expense is based on cost estimates (attached) for fabrication of four onesided or two double-sided interpretive panels. It includes an estimated \$500 for materials associated with installation, such as concrete, mounting brackets, bolts, etc.

4. Travel: No travel expense is associated with the project

5. Marketing: No marketing expense is associated with the project

6. Printing Copying: No printing expense is associated with the project

7. Equipment: The City of Lawrence will provide equipment and labor to install the interpretive panels.

8. Other (reproduction fees): This expense accounts for any fees associated with acquiring or reproducing images on the panels. The Watkins Museum will waive reproduction fees for any images from their collection that may be requested.

## 2019 Douglas County Natural & Cultural Heritage Grant Program

#### **Grant Budget Form**

Guardians of Grover Barn for City of Lawrence
Gover Barn Heritage Site Interpretive Signage
11-Jan-19
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### Instructions

Please provide a budget that shows revenues (cash & in-kind support) and expenses for your entire project.

### **Revenues & Expenses**

Please list all sources of funds for the project in the cash and in-kind columns and describe funds in your budget narrative.

Please list all expected expenses. Group expenses into categories and explain expenses in your budget narrative.

Project Budget	<b>Total Project Amount</b>	Grant Request	Cash	*In-Kind	Sub-Totals
Personnel Expense	\$1,594.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,594.50	\$1,594.50
Consultants/Professional Fees	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Materials/Supplies	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,800.00
Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Marketing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Printing & Copying	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment (installation)	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Other (reproduction fees)	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Total	\$9,894.50	\$7,300.00	\$0.00	\$2,594.50	\$9,894.50
% of Project		74%	0%	26%	100%
		<b>Total Applicant Resources:</b>			\$2,594.50

\* Inkind = the value of non-cash contributions (goods & services) provided by the grant recipient or by third parties directly related to the grant activity.