

# Turning Points: Stories of Change

The Kansas Humanities Council Short Film Initiative

Request for Partners

Deadline: July 31, 2013



## Turn Your Community History Into a Short Film!

THE KANSAS HUMANITIES COUNCIL is pleased to announce the *Turning Points: Stories of Change* short film initiative. KHC will partner with four nonprofit organizations to develop 5-minute short films that explore a significant moment of change in each of their communities.

*This project is supported by a generous gift from Suzi Miner in memory of Kansas historian Craig Miner.*

**Goals:** The *Turning Points: Stories of Change* short film initiative is intended to support grassroots organizations interested in:

- Examining the circumstances and impact of a community Turning Point through the humanities
- Increasing understanding of the ways in which their own community adapts to change
- Integrating stories of change into future planning and decision-making

**What is a Turning Point?** A Turning Point is an idea, event, action, or moment in time that directly or indirectly causes decisive change in a community. This change can be social, cultural, or economic but one that ultimately, in some significant way, affected your community's way of thinking or doing. A Turning Point often occurs when members of a community introduce something new or respond to something beyond their control. Community Turning Points can be light-hearted or serious, positive or negative.

Of special interest to this initiative are proposals that highlight a local Turning Point from the last 50 years; offer a unique, one-of-a-kind story; includes several points of view; and will help spark discussion across the state. Examples of local Turning Points include, but are not limited to, the election of the first female city council member in your community, the retirement of the last doctor who made house calls, the integration of schools and theaters, the return of soldiers after a war, or the innovation of a librarian who pushed for the purchase of the first computer in the public library.

**Who can apply?** KHC invites museums, historical societies, public libraries, art centers, Main Street organizations, PRIDE community organizations, and other nonprofit cultural and civic organizations to apply for this special opportunity. Experience in filmmaking is not a requirement to participate. KHC will provide professional filmmakers to do the production design, location shooting, and post-production.

### What will KHC look for in Turning Points partners?

KHC will select project partners based on the strength and uniqueness of the Turning Points story and accompanying plans, geographic distribution, community partnerships, and enthusiasm for community programming.

**Organizations selected can expect** opportunities to meet and share inspiring stories with project directors from across Kansas; new community partnerships; a professionally produced film that tells a key story about your community; and the opportunity to tell your community's story within a larger state initiative. Each organization's film will stand-alone, but all of the stories will be compiled into a longer film

and premiered locally at each of the partner locations.

### **How To Apply**

All applicants must complete and submit the Application for the Turning Points initiative by July 31, 2013. Successful proposals will include the following:

- Brief description of the Turning Points story. Consider *Context*—what led up to the change? *Impact*—what lasting change did it create? and *Perspective*—what were some of the opposing views of the change? What is the significance of this change?
- Provide a list and description of the people, places, photographs, and artifacts that will help tell the story. Powerful stories of change are often told by the people closest to the experience. Interviews with your town’s residents, rather than voice-over narrators, will propel the story forward in an engaging and meaningful way.
- Plans for sharing the project “in-progress” with the public through Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, or other social media platforms.
- Ideas for innovative ways to share the 5-minute film with the public.
- A project evaluation plan: How will you measure success?
- Please note that the following will not be considered as competitive applications: Use of re-enactors or actors, promotional pieces primarily for tourism or economic development, institutional histories, or projects that advocate on behalf of a political cause.

### **KHC will provide selected partners with:**

- Experienced, professional filmmakers
- A humanities scholar to help you tell your community’s story
- \$1,500 research and programming funds
- Orientation meeting with filmmakers and scholars
- Statewide publicity and promotion of your film
- Collaborative network of other partners and filmmakers
- Feature on the KHC website

### **Organizations selected to be partners will:**

- Provide a one-time cash fee of \$200 to assist with expenses for statewide publicity and promotions for the Turning Points premieres and projects
- Designate a local coordinator for the project who will attend the orientation meeting, organize the interviewees, and serve as the point-person for the humanities scholar and filmmakers
- Publicize and promote the project locally
- Organize and host a local film premiere and discussion at the project’s end
- Submit a cost share report at the project’s conclusion, which requires tracking all staff and volunteer time, facility expenses, and other donated resources
- Keep the final short film and all of its raw footage, plus receive a copy of the longer film compilation featuring all four Turning Points films.

### **Important Dates**

- |                               |                                    |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Submission Deadline         | July 31, 2013                      |
| • Notification by KHC         | By August 30, 2013                 |
| • Orientation with filmmakers | Pending, but likely September 2013 |

### **Eligibility**

In-state nonprofits are eligible. 501(c)(3) status is not required, but applicants do need a DUNS number.

### **For More Information**

Contact Leslie Von Holten, Program Officer, 785-357-0359 or [leslie@kansashumanities.org](mailto:leslie@kansashumanities.org)



## Turning Points: Stories of Change APPLICATION

**DEADLINE: July 31, 2013**

Please answer the following questions and submit your word document by email to [leslie@kansashumanities.org](mailto:leslie@kansashumanities.org) at the Kansas Humanities Council by 5 PM on July 31, 2013.

Questions? Contact Leslie Von Holten, Program Officer, at [leslie@kansashumanities.org](mailto:leslie@kansashumanities.org) or 785-357-0359.

1. Organization Name, Address, City, ZIP, and Website URL/Address
2. DUNS Number
3. Name of the Project Director, Title, Phone, Fax, and Email
4. Number of permanent staff (full & part-time)
5. Provide a description of your community's Turning Points story and its impact and significance on your community. Be sure to include why this story is unique to your community. *Please see page 1 of the Turning Points RFP for more details as to what should be included in your answer.*
6. Include a list and brief description of a few key people, places, photographs, and artifacts that will help tell your Turning Points story.
7. Outline plans for sharing the project "in progress" with the public through Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, or other social media platforms.
8. Identify at least two additional organizations in your community or region that will contribute to the success of this project. Include letters of support from these organizations to show broad community involvement and commitment to the short film project.
9. Describe initial plans for innovative ways you hope to share the final 5-minute film with the public and what you hope will be its impact on your community.
10. A brief description of the project evaluation plan. How will you measure success of the project?

**DEADLINE: July 31, 2013**

Emailed applications must be received by 5:00 PM.

Send to: **Leslie Von Holten**, Program Officer, [leslie@kansashumanities.org](mailto:leslie@kansashumanities.org)