

Illinois Humanities Council



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KEY INGREDIENTS AMERICAN FOOD TRADITIONS

COMING TO ILLINOIS IN 2003



The Illinois Humanities Council invites smaller museums, libraries, and historical societies in towns of fewer than 20,000 residents to apply to host a Smithsonian traveling exhibition called KEY INGREDIENTS, AMERICAN FOOD TRADITIONS. The Smithsonian developed this portable 5-kiosk display especially for rural audiences and small museums with limited access to traveling exhibitions due to space and cost limitations.

The exhibit will tour five Illinois communities from March to December 2003. Sites will be chosen based on geographic location, strength of proposed ideas for auxiliary events, and physical display space. Applications are due by September 1, 2002. Selections will be announced within two weeks.

To apply, complete the information on the reverse side and return it to:

Illinois Humanities Council
203 N. Wabash, Suite 2020
Chicago, IL 60601-2417
Fax: 312/422-5588

ABOUT THE EXHIBIT

KEY INGREDIENTS explains the origins of the often mystifying foods, flavors, and food names, as well as traditions in food etiquette found throughout varying regions of the United States, both in public places and private homes. By looking at culinary traditions as a means of understanding a region's cultural, technological and geographical history residents will be able to reflect upon factors which have influenced their own unique local cuisine, ultimately bringing communities together through the common language of food.

The exhibition is comprised of five freestanding kiosks containing photographs, advertisements, postcards and pamphlets. The units require 900 square feet of display space with 8-foot ceilings. Additional space is recommended to show local culinary memorabilia and special exhibits. Applicants should also consider nearby facilities that can accommodate groups attending auxiliary events associated with hosting the display.

THE ILLINOIS HUMANITIES COUNCIL WILL PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING FOR EACH HOST COMMUNITY:

- Rental of the Smithsonian exhibit for \$250 for a six-week period
- An exhibit support manual covering installation, object collection and conservation, public relations and evaluation
- Exhibition brochures and posters for distribution
- Assistance in program planning and ready-made promotional materials
- Travel expenses for a project director to attend an installation and planning meeting at the opening site of the Illinois tour
- \$2,000 in grant funds in support of community programs, such as oral histories, guest lecturers, film series, artifact collections, workshops, reading discussion programs, dramatizations, etc.
- A humanities scholar who will visit your town to consult on the exhibition and present an opening night lecture
- A committee of experts that will provide technical assistance in all aspects of the exhibition

IN RETURN, HOST COMMITTEES WILL BE ASKED TO:

- Identify a staff member or volunteer who will serve as director of the project for its duration and who will attend the installation and planning meeting and site visit
- Plan and implement public programs during the exhibition
- Raise matching local funds for public programs
- Track all staff and volunteer time, facilities, and other resources donated to the project and provide a report of this local cost share at the projects conclusion
- Pay for shipping

For more information, please contact Angel Ysaguirre at 312/422-5585 ext. 225 (phone), 312/422-5588 (fax) or ang@prairie.org (e-mail).



**APPLICATION TO HOST THE EXHIBIT
KEY INGREDIENTS
AMERICAN FOOD TRADITIONS**



Return the completed form to:

**Illinois Humanities Council
203 North Wabash Avenue
Suite 2020
Chicago, IL 60601-2417**

by September 1, 2002

Part 1 Tell us about your Organization

Name of Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Describe your facility and the area where "Key Ingredients" will be displayed:

Describe security and climate conditions:

Number of Full-time Staff: _____

Number of Part-time Staff: _____

Preferred dates for hosting "Key Ingredients" – Please indicate first and second choices:

_____ March/April _____ May/June _____ July/August
_____ September/October _____ November/December

Part 2 Share your preliminary ideas for making "Key Ingredients" a successful event for your community. Use a separate sheet of paper to respond to the following.

- A** Identify community resources (organizations, special facilities, etc.) that will help make the project successful.

- B** Briefly describe some ideas you have for community programs to enhance the exhibit (Note: You will have a chance to develop your ideas further at planning meetings for the project.) Be creative. Include fun activities (exp: food and film festival) as well as educational programming.

- C** Please discuss ways in which the exhibit can further your organization's goals (for example: initiate a building campaign, get new members, or learn how to store and display historical artifacts.)