

COVER PAGE

2016 Budget Request Form

Tompkins County Tourism Program

I. BASIC INFORMATION

Program: County Historian

Applicant Organization:

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2015 Request: \$7,500 Product Development or
Marketing? Product Development.

Year	Tourism Program Allocation**	\$ Change	% Change	
2012	5000			
2013	5000			
2014	5000			
2015	7500			
Request 2016	7500	No change		

* Enter the % of the total program budget that would come from the Tompkins County Tourism Program.

** Enter modified budget amounts where applicable.

II. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Describe the program in two or three sentences.

The position of County Historian is mandated by New York State law to gather and preserve documents regarding the county's history, to disseminate information to the public regarding county history, and to lead the municipal historians within the county and be a local resource..

III. CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

Very briefly state overarching challenges and opportunities related to your program (current or anticipated in 2015) and describe you how propose to address them.

The challenge is that whatever the County Historian undertakes there is always more to be done and this too is the opportunity: that there are many ways in which the history of the county can be used to inform and education and delight county residents.

IV. BUDGET NARRATIVE

Describe how you propose to use the requested funds. You may also use this section to expand on your answers to questions II and III.

The Historian's stipend is to support the many ways that the county historian functions.

V. PROGRAM GOALS

List and describe program goals for 2015, using the sample format. For each goal listed, describe how you will measure achievement of that goal (you may list more than one measure of achievement for each goal). This will require you to consider appropriate numerical measures and baselines.

The goals for the coming year include, chairing monthly meetings of the Municipal Historians of Tompkins County; to collaborate with the Tompkins County Public Library and the History Center to strengthen county residents' experience of county history and its cultural traditions; to co-chair the Tompkins County Bicentennial Commission; to respond to questions posed by members of the public, by the media and especially from the Tompkins County Legislature, and to complete work on a history of African Americans in the County, from the earliest times to the 20th century, to serve as a consultant and support to others interested in or concerned with our history and for the preservation of historical documents and traditions; to work on a plan regarding the ongoing diversity of the county's population.

Also, which goals and critical actions of the Tompkins County Strategic Tourism Plan does this program respond to, and how do your proposed program goals align with goals stated in the 2020 Strategic Tourism Plan?

All these activities within the mandate of the position of County Historian and work as a support, the STPB goals of enriching the experience of residents and visitors to Tompkins County.

VI. ACHIEVEMENTS

Please describe your most significant program achievements during 2014 and the first quarter (January through March) of 2015. If possible, please use this as an opportunity to restate your program goals for the 2014 and 2015 budget years and describe progress towards these goals.

2015 saw the end of the activities of the Tompkins County Civil War Sesquicentennial Commemoration Commission which promoted events and programs from 2011 to 1015, including the funding of Nursing Scholarships at TC3 (now funded at approximately \$130,000

held by the TC3 Foundation) in the names of the four women from the county who nursed during the Civil War and also of a monument, to be erected at TC3 to those nurses to be installed in the early fall of 2015. This monument, unique in the nation, will be an additional attraction for tourists within the county and marks the inception of the nursing profession in the United States.

In addition, the Municipal Historians met monthly and are cooperating with The History Center in creating information and tours of local cemeteries, and with the Tompkins County Bicentennial Commission in revising and recreating the Towns brochures.

In addition: I gave a number of local lectures, advised members of the County Legislature, answered questions from the public and media, presented the words of county residents during the period of the Civil War at a concert given by the Cayuga Vocal Ensemble, research and wrote 26 essays for the newspaper, four editorials for the journal *History News*, served on the TCPL Foundation and on the Outreach Committee, and chaired the Celebrations Commission.

VII. IMPACT OF FUNDING

What would be the specific impact of receiving less funding than you are requesting? For example, what are the things that you would like to be able to do that you would not be able to do? What would be removed or reduced from your plans if you had to make do with less than requested?

I am grateful that STPB supports the position of County Historian. Were funds reduced, I would continue to do what I can.

VIII. COLLABORATION

What steps have you taken and/or what new steps do you propose to take to collaborate, coordinate, partner, and share information and resources between your program(s) and other room-tax funded programs?

There will be collaborative efforts among the Municipal Historians who will aid the County Bicentennial Commission and The History Center and there are ongoing talks between the County Historian, The History Center and TCPL about collaborative projects and working together in the future.

IX. STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES (optional)

What strategic opportunities related to your program outside of this 2016 budget request would you like the STPB to be aware of?

There are some projects that will require funding for which I will seek grants, especially for publishing materials, which will be done using facilities within the county.