

Humanities Tennessee announces:

the Neighborhood Story Project Facilitator Training

Humanities Tennessee seeks organizations to conduct a NSP and offers free facilitator training,
October 21-22, 2022, Nashville

What is the Neighborhood Story Project (NSP)?

...providing a voice in shaping the place called home.

Places across Tennessee are seeing rapid changes from many factors, such as growth or decline in population or the economy. **What's happening where you live? What do your neighbors want to talk about?**

The Neighborhood Story Project (NSP) engages a team of 8-12 residents in a facilitated community research project. Over the course of 12 weekly, two-hour meetings, participants develop a collective line of inquiry related to their community, collect data to explore their research questions (such as interviews with the community members, contemporary and historic photographs, and archival materials), and ultimately disseminate their findings at a culminating community event. The research, goals and outcomes of each NSP are unique; skilled facilitators/co-facilitators are required. **Do you want to facilitate a Neighborhood Story Project in your community?**



About the Project & Training



The purpose of the NSP is to increase residents' knowledge of their neighborhoods, to strengthen their connections to place and each other, and to enable participants to make meaningful contributions to local opportunities and challenges. The flexible platform may be adapted to rural areas or urban neighborhoods--it is a resource for any group that seeks active, informed neighbors at the table to consider and/or make change in its community. For examples of recent projects, click [here](#).

The two-day training will cover all aspects of the project, including recruitment, leading weekly sessions, supporting the interests and talents of the group, facilitation methods, materials needed, planning culminating projects and budgeting. Dr. Amie Thurber, who designed and piloted the NSP, will lead the training. Participants will receive a detailed facilitation guide and flexible curriculum.

The NSP Partnership

Humanities Tennessee provides:

- Free, two-day facilitator training in Nashville, with materials
- Lodging, group meals, mileage reimbursement
- Potential funding up to \$3000 to participating organizations to conduct a Neighborhood Story Project*

In return, participating organizations will:

- Submit a letter of interest to attend the training by **September 1, 2022**.
- Send up to two persons to the Nashville training (co-facilitation is encouraged).
- Complete a Neighborhood Story Project by June 30, 2023.

** Note, this funding provides stipends to participants and covers meeting costs, but does not pay for facilitation*

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How to Apply for the Facilitator Training

Humanities Tennessee is accepting letters of interest from nonprofit organizations across the state. In your letter, please:

- Include a brief description of your organization, including staffing, programming, audience, mission, and role within the neighborhood. Why would a NSP be useful to your organization's goals?
- Tell us about the prospective neighborhood or geographic area for the NSP. What are the core features of the area and its residents? What opportunities and challenges might your neighbors need to talk about? Why might a NSP be useful to this neighborhood?
- What anchor community organization(s) exist in this area? What, if any, relationship do you have with them? How might you begin recruiting participants?
- Tell us about the individual(s) who will attend the training and facilitate a NSP. What facilitation experience do they have? What connection do they have to the prospective neighborhood or geographic area? What have they done to prepare to work in this community? Where would they most like to grow as a facilitator?



Letters of interest should be postmarked by **September 1, 2022**, and mailed or emailed to:

Humanities Tennessee
PO Box 60467
807 Main Street, Suite B
Nashville, TN 37206 melissa@humtn.org

For more information contact:

Melissa Davis, melissa@humtn.org, or Paul McCoy, paul@humtn.org, or call 615-770-0006.

