



2026 Museum Alliance Grant Award Application “Needs Now!”

INTRODUCTION

The Great American Treasures Museum Alliance Grant is designed to support our museum properties in their work to explore our nation's history through their preservation efforts. This grant program provides Great American Treasures destinations with funds to further preserve or advance awareness of the NSCDA's historical holdings, which include buildings, collections, and gardens.

Grants are awarded annually to our participating Great American Treasures members, and the range this year will be from \$5,000 to \$15,000. Members of the Museum Alliance Committee evaluate applications with the advice of non-affiliated museum professionals from around the country.

The 2026 grants are intended to be flexible, allowing our museum partners to tell us what their needs are now or what is their most urgent and important work that our grant can support. The NSCDA goal is to be able to contribute to what or wherever your museum most needs our help.

Winning applications will make a pressing appeal for support — including the impact of what will happen without our contribution, as well as what positive outcomes will occur with the grant award and methods of measuring its impact.

INSTRUCTIONS

On the application form, simply click on the boxes to fill in the requested information and save as you work.

The Project Narrative, written in a Word Document of approximately 500 words, should include: a clearly defined priority need requiring action within one year; clear objective(s); a logical plan with defined steps; a practical timeline for completion within one year; the anticipated impact and benefits to the site; relevance to the site; how the project advances the site's mission and long term sustainability; populations to be served, including any improvements to accessibility if applicable; and a comprehensive communications strategy.

For questions regarding the 3-page application, budget form, and/or support materials, contact Augie Czeschin, NSCDA Great American Treasures Coordinator, at 240-204-9605 or 202-337-2288 -2241

Email the completed 2026 application and all supporting materials as attachments - with clearly labeled subject lines - to augustczeschin@nscda.org on or before the deadline, Friday, July 17th.



2026 Museum Alliance Grant Award Application

*Click on the boxes to fill in the requested information, saving as you work. When completed, email this form plus the budget and all support materials as attachments - with the site name included on each subject line - to augustczeschin@nscda.org by **Friday, July 17, 2026**.*

1. Contact Information

Name of Great American Treasures Museum

State

Mailing Address

Executive Director

Email Address

Telephone Number

Website

Person Submitting the Request and Title - if not Executive Director

2. Site Profile

Number of Full-time Staff

Number of Part-time Staff

2025 Visitor Attendance

Number of Volunteers

Site's Operating Budget for Current Fiscal Year

Site Mission Statement (*limit to text box*)

3. “Needs Now!” Project Synopsis: (limit to text box)

4. Project Narrative (Word Document of approximately 500 words)

The Project Narrative must be submitted in a Word Document - one page, single space - and include: identifying a priority need requiring actions within one year and a compelling case to justify it; an action plan with defined steps and practical timeline; a well-researched basis for the cost; a comprehensive communications strategy.

5. Project Evaluation

Define methods to monitor progress and, when complete, evaluation tools to measure project success with its immediate and long-term benefits to the site. Be specific and, if appropriate, provide a timeline for data collection with numerical goals.

6. Budget Information

Grant Amount Requested (range \$5,000 - \$15,000)

Dates Covered by Project Budget

Download the budget spreadsheet and enter project expenses and income sources, including the grant amount request and any matching funds — specifying actual or anticipated.

Note: If your project costs exceed \$15,000, a budget addendum with written confirmation of intent by all anticipated funders must be forwarded to augustczeschin@nscda.org no later than Tuesday, September 1, 2026

7. Community and Dames Support of GAT Museum

Describe Community Engagement

Examples: friends group, school participation, volunteers, financial support

Describe Dames Involvement

Examples: funding by State Society or Town Committee, corporate or individual donations of items or financial gifts, local Dame volunteers

8. Supporting Materials

In addition to the site's IRS 990 or similar document, provide relevant documents to strengthen your application.

Examples: photographs to support and help illustrate the proposed project; estimates from vendors and contractors specifying scope and anticipated time; consultant reports; letters of project support

9. Application Submission

Once your application package is complete, the 2026 application and budget form plus all support materials are to be forwarded as **email attachments** to augustczeschin@nscda.org — with the GAT museum name included on the subject line of each email.

“Needs Now!” Grant Application Deadline: FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2026

Receipt of your 2026 Grant Application by the Great American Treasures Coordinator should be received within 3 business days. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please contact Augie Czeschin at augustczeschin@nscda.org