



Drake Middlemist Heritage Fund Purpose

Annual distributions from the Drake Middlemist Heritage Fund shall be made to the Tri-Cities Museum to support the goals of the Drake Middlemist Heritage Fund as outlined below: Provide a grant(s) to a person or persons to undertake a specific historic project in the area of local research, oral history or education promoting the historic background surrounding the people, places, and events associated with the Tri-Cities area. The award may include training, travel, and research expenses of the Drake Middlemist Scholar. The award may also include the costs of a speaker, exhibit, artifact purchase, or other expense that supports the work of the Drake Middlemist Scholar. The award is not meant to supplement ordinary operating expenses of the museum.

Applicant Eligibility

If awarded the *Drake Middlemist Heritage Fund Grant*, an applicant must wait two years before applying again to the program.

Funding Restrictions

The *Drake Middlemist Heritage Fund* and *Tri-Cities Historical Museum* do not consider grants to organizations or individuals that discriminate based on race, creed, gender, age, or sexual orientation.

Data Access and Sharing

If awarded funding, the researcher will share the final research in an article, presentation, or other appropriate method with the Tri-Cities Historical Museum within six months of receiving the grant. The researcher will provide a copy of the research and final report at no cost to the museum.

Research Grant Application Guidelines:

Application Deadline

March 1 or September 1 of each year.

Project Summary

Enter a summary of your proposed research project (250 words maximum).

Proposal (1-3 page maximum)

1. **Contribution to the field**

Describe the potential contributions this research will make to the field of history, education, museum studies (250 words maximum).

2. **Relevance to the Tri-Cities Historical Museum**

Discuss how this project relates to the Tri-Cities Historical Museum and the museum's mission to *Create Connections to Local History*.

3. **Narrative:** Prepare a narrative to include the following:

- Statement of how this research advances knowledge of the topic.
- Brief review of relevant research literature as related to the project
- Research questions, if applicable.
- Description of methodology for this project, which may include primary sources and justification for selecting primary sources to address research questions, any additional or supplemental research, and site visits.

4. **Community Impact**

Provide a brief plan to share this research, including proposed public speaking events at the museum to present the findings, public displays or exhibits, academic works for credit, and potential articles or books to publish the research. A copy of this research shall be available to museum staff in the Community Archive and Research Center (CARC) and may be available online on the museum's website.

5. **Budget and Timeline**

Awards for Research Grants are up to \$4,000 for a maximum of 9 months. There is no specific template for the budget. It may be a simple 2 column format or a more complex spreadsheet. Please specify the proposed timeline for the grant project. An extension of the grant period may be issued with the advisory committee's approval.

Applicant/Researcher Resume that includes:

- Research and academic history or areas of interest

- Relevant publications and presentations, if any
- Relevant professional affiliations and memberships, if any

Further Questions

Contact Erica Layton, Executive Director, Tri-Cities Historical Museum, elayton@tchmuseum.org, or 616-842-0700 ext. 130 if you have questions regarding the application or submission process.

NOTE: All awards are contingent upon the Tri-Cities Historical Museum receiving continued *Drake Middlemist Heritage Fund* funding through the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation.

Visit the [Tri-Cities Historical Museum Grants Program Website](https://www.tri-citiesmuseum.org/opportunities/grants) at <https://www.tri-citiesmuseum.org/opportunities/grants> for more information or to submit an application.