

To apply, please include the following:

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

School/District Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title \_\_\_\_\_

(please feel free to put your grant application on an attached paper)

**Approval Signatures:** By signing below, I confirm that the information provided in this grant application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Teacher Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Final Reporting to MONA: What will need to be included:**

1. A comprehensive invoice detailing all project expenses, encompassing costs beyond the initial \$1,000 grant. Please provide detailed information regarding the origins of any extra financial support.
2. A narrative documenting the project's journey. This narrative should include insights into the project's ties to Nebraska's history, and describing how the finished project was distributed within the community.

Please submit this completed form and any supporting documents by February 1, 2027. Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding. Thank you for your dedication to enhancing education and involving the community and our great state of Nebraska! The grant selection committee of MONA retains the authority to reach out to schools or teachers to seek clarification regarding the information provided in the grant applications.

**Please return this form to:**

Museum of Nebraska Art | 2401 Central Avenue | Kearney, NE 68847

Or email your application to [mona@unk.edu](mailto:mona@unk.edu)

The Museum of Nebraska Art  
presents the  
Dr. Robert Manley Award

# Listen to the Land

"There's history all around us  
that speaks to us when we  
listen to the land."

Dr. Robert Manley

## STUDENTS AS HISTORIANS

A classroom project open to students in 4-12<sup>th</sup> Grades

# Listen to the Land

In recognition of the late Dr. Robert Manley, an eminent Nebraska historian, the Museum of Nebraska Art (MONA) is offering up to three (3) grants totaling \$1,000 each to Nebraska educators to encourage students to find the history that is all around them. The phrase "Listen to the Land" comes from the title of one of Dr. Manley's popular programs. It encompasses many topics reflecting the lives of those Nebraskans who have lived on this land and have helped to shape it.

A unique Nebraska historian, Dr. Manley inspired thousands of Nebraskans with his lore of prairie tales and stories of settlers and communities in our state. He was an educator for over 50 years, a TV and radio personality and wrote extensively about Nebraska. Dr. Manley believed that "in order for people to have a future, they must first know they have a past." This classroom program allows students to become historians through the creation of essays, poetry, class-made books, digital stories, plays or recorded interviews.

The project should be appropriate for the grade level of students. The final project should show evidence of revision and proofreading, and/or practice, so that it is presented in some format to an audience beyond the classroom – an audience of your choosing.

### Some examples are:

- The story of your school (or some part of that history)
- The history of your community (or some part of that history)
- Family stories
- A photo essay of your community, or school or of student's families
- The history of certain buildings in your town
- Research a historic event in your area
- Visit pioneer cemeteries and research the stories from the tombstones
- Interview senior citizens

Cut and return

**Student Involvement:** How will students be involved in this project?

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**Community and Family Involvement:** How will the project engage the community and families in this project?

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**Objectives of the Program:** Please list the specific objectives of your program.

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**Timeline:** Please provide a detailed timeline of your project, including the start and end dates. All grants are due on or before August 27, 2027.

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**Financial Plan:** Financial Plan: How do you plan to use the grant money? Please provide a budget breakdown. Are there matching funds or resources from the school or community to support this project? If yes, please specify.

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**Student Work Display/Celebration:** Student Work Display/Celebration: How will students' work be displayed or celebrated as part of this project?

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**Audience Beyond the Classroom:** Who is the intended audience for this project?

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**Project Description:** Describe your project, its purpose, and the connection to Nebraska History.

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**Supporting Documents** (Optional): You may attach additional documents, such as letters of support.