



COUNTIES

KANSAS: Allen • Anderson • Atchison • Bourbon • Chautauqua • Cherokee • Clay • Coffey • Crawford • Douglas • Franklin • Geary • Jackson • Jefferson • Johnson • Labette • Leavenworth • Linn • Miami • Montgomery • Neosho • Osage • Pottawatomie • Riley • Shawnee • Wabaunsee • Wilson • Woodson • Wyandotte

MISSOURI: Barton • Bates • Buchanan • Cass • Clay • Jackson • Johnson • Lafayette • Platte • Ray • St. Clair • Vernon

GEOGRAPHY & PEOPLE

Location: 41 counties in eastern Kansas and western Missouri

Area: 31,021 square miles

Population: 2,883,526

MISSION

FFNHA is dedicated to building awareness of the struggles for freedom in western Missouri and eastern Kansas....FFNHA inspires respect for multiple perspectives and empowers residents to preserve and share these stories. We achieve our goals through interpretation, preservation, conservation and education for all residents and visitors.

2012 Partner Spotlight: Bates County Museum and Battle of Island Mound State Historic Site in Butler MO

The Battle of Island Mound State Historic Site was dedicated in October. The Bates County Museum and Missouri State Parks commemorated the 150th anniversary of the battle which marked the first time African-American troops engaged the enemy in combat during the Civil War. The Bates County Museum was also a featured stop for a UMKC hosted NHE funded teacher workshop.

2012 Spotlight: FFNHA Interpretive Grants

In 2012, Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area (FFNHA) began to offer small interpretive grants to partners who wished to undertake projects to better tell their freedom stories.

Our grant review committee approved twenty-one grant applications for a total of \$82,354.30. With this investment in our partners, grant recipients are able to access over \$90,000 in promised cash and in-kind services to complete interpretive projects.



Twenty-one partners in FFNHA received 2012 Interpretive Grants.

Native Neighbors from Franklin County's Past is one example of a successful FFNHA Interpretive Grant funded project. This event was produced by the Franklin County Historical Society and brought together representatives from various Native American tribes which once called the Ottawa, Kansas area their home. In Franklin County alone, the tribal groups relocated to the "Permanent Indian Frontier" in the 1830s-1840s included Potawatomie, Munsee, Chippewa, Shawnee, Peoria, Piankeshaw, Wea, and Sac and Fox peoples.

Occurring on October 13, 2012, the event commemorated the



Chief of the Wyandot Nation of Kansas Jan English speaks at Franklin County Historical Society's "Native Neighbors" event, sponsored by an FFNHA Interpretive Grant.

150th anniversary of the Civil War Indian Brigade. The event educated attendees about the "Permanent Indian Frontier," the immigrant Native tribes, why those tribes left Kansas and what became of them today.

Jan English, chief of the Wyandot Nation of Kansas and FFNHA Board Member, thanked Franklin County Historical Society for creating an exemplary event and noted that it was a model for how Native American events should happen.

Who We Are

FFNHA, consisting of 41 counties in western Missouri and eastern Kansas, is a grassroots effort to share the nationally significant stories about the struggle over freedom on the frontier. While this area's history often divided citizens, today residents are integrating differing points of view into a shared story.

FFNHA became a National

Heritage Area on October 12, 2006. FFNHA involves residents, and public and private organizations working together to build awareness of this area's freedom stories. Leveraging federal, state, local and private funding, we empower communities and individuals to serve as stewards of their stories. We strive to build new alliances to support our heritage.

FFNHA is a partnership unit of the National Park Service and is administered by Destination Management, Inc.



CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

SENATORS

Roy Blunt, MO
Claire McCaskill, MO
Jerry Moran, KS
Pat Roberts, KS

REPRESENTATIVES

Emanuel Cleaver, MO 5th District
Sam Graves, MO 6th District
Vicky Hartzler, MO 4th District
Tim Huelskamp, KS 1st District
Lynn Jenkins, KS 2nd District
Mike Pompeo, KS 4th District
Kevin Yoder, KS 3rd District

2012 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Honorary Co-Chairs: Gov. Sam Brownback, KS • Gov. Jay Nixon, MO

John Dillingham, Chair, Kansas City MO

Deanell Tacha, Vice-Chair, Lawrence KS

Bill Tempel, Secretary, Lexington MO

Charles Jones, Treasurer, Lawrence KS

Charles Clark, Executive Committee Member-At-Large, Prairie Village KS

Dr. Mary Davidson Cohen, Executive Committee Member-At-Large, Leawood KS

Kala Stroup, Executive Committee Member-At-Large, Lawrence KS

Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Robert Arter, Ft. Leavenworth KS • Connie Banwart, Fort Scott KS • Deborah Barker, Ottawa KS • Duane Benton, Kansas City MO • George Breidenthal, Kansas City KS • Joanne Collins, Kansas City MO • Jody Ladd Craig, Leawood KS • David Dunfield, Lawrence KS • Jan English, Prairie Village KS • Bob Ford, St. Joseph MO • Michael L. Gibson, Paola KS • Kent Glasscock, Manhattan KS • Crosby Kemper, III, Kansas City MO • Shelia Lampe, Iola KS • Jim Maag, Topeka KS • Luther Smith, Kansas City KS • Bill Wagon, Topeka KS • Kevin Wood, Harrisonville MO

2012 Partner Spotlight: Lecompton Historical Society and Constitution Hall State Historic Site in Lecompton KS

The story of Lecompton, Kansas's role in pre-Civil War history and Paul Bahnmaier's work to preserve and promote that story was featured in *The New York Times* on November 23, 2012. Bahnmaier noted in an interview with Kansas City's Fox 4 that Lecompton is mentioned five times in Doris Kearns Goodwin's *Team of Rivals* on a part of which the new movie *Lincoln* is based.

Major Accomplishments

The Freedom's Frontier staff, board and partners have had a very busy 2012. We:

- Created and facilitated, in partnership with Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site, a National Park Foundation Impact Grant funded 5-day program for 200 local Boys and Girls Clubs. Students explored the Civil War to Civil Rights theme traveling to different historic sites interacting with historic characters and hands-on experiences.
- Awarded Freedom's Frontier prizes to Kansas and Missouri History Day students whose projects best interpreted a Freedom's Frontier story.
- Conducted 6 public partnership meetings with an average attendance of 45 and a collective in-kind investment of approximately \$40,000 by those attendees.



Boys and Girls Club students reconstruct and analyze George Caleb Bingham's famous painting *Martial Law*.

- Participated with our management organization, DMI, to hire a new executive director, Fred Conboy.
- Hosted 6 tours/events at the Carnegie Building with 225 in attendance.
- Established an on-going series of Best Practices Conference Calls for participation by practitioners in National Heritage Areas throughout the country.
- Distributed among partner sites a Heritage Area Map, printed with sponsorship from the William T. Kemper foundation.
- Launched the Tacha Freedom Award, in recognition of Founding Chair Judge Deanell Tacha's contributions to FFNHA.
- Facilitated the completion of a American Battlefield Protection Program funded draft battlefield preservation plan. The final plan will be completed in 2013.
- Launched FFNHA Interpretive Grants, approving 21 applications for a total of \$82,354.30 with promised cash and in-kind match of over \$90,000.
- Started a Freedom's Frontier Book Club using Skype for partners to join

in reading and discussing fiction and nonfiction work related to the Freedom's Frontier themes.



Leah Towle, Freedom's Frontier Award Winner at Kansas History Day discusses her exhibit project at a partnership meeting.

- Facilitated a series of strategic planning sessions as technical assistance for partner sites.
- Established relationships with 10 new partner organizations.
- Presented 22 informational programs to 827 people.
- Used outreach display and distributed brochures at 18 conferences, festivals, and commemorations to reach over 12,000 people.



Reenactors study the FFNHA map at the 150th Commemoration of the Battle of Lone Jack.

2012 Partner Spotlight: Lone Jack Historical Society in Lone Jack MO

The Lone Jack Historical Society hosted a commemoration to mark the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Lone Jack. Events such as a reenactment, candlelight tour, and wreath laying ceremony drew thousands of attendees in August.

In June, Jackson County MO archaeologists led volunteers in excavating small sample areas at the newly-acquired Cave Hotel property and the battlefield.

In addition, the community, historical society, and Freedom's Frontier staff worked through a year-long process with consultants to create a preservation plan for the Lone Jack Battlefield.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chair: Alexis Woodall, Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm

Vice-Chair: Deborah Barker, Franklin County Historical Society and Old Depot Museum

Paul Bahnmaier, Lecompton Historical Society

Peggy Buhr, Bates County Museum

Cheryl Collins, Riley County Historical Society

Jody Ladd Craig, Mid America Regional Council

Jack Landers, Johnson County (MO) Historical Society

Kathleen Quigley, Black Jack Battlefield & Nature Park

Eileen Robertson, Humboldt Historic Preservation Alliance

Alana Smith, Westport Historical Society

2012 Partner Spotlight: Atkins-Johnson Farm and Museum in Gladstone, MO

The Atkins-Johnson Farm and Museum conducted a ground penetrating radar investigation of the Big Shoal Cemetery. Many improvements were done to prepare for their grand opening in 2013, including hiring the first full time staff member.

2012 Partner Spotlight: Humboldt, KS

Humboldt's Civil War Days volunteer staff put lessons they learned during FFNHA partnership meetings to use to research and script a more accurate reenactment of Private Driscoll's court martial and execution for the 750 visitors that attended the triennial Humboldt's Civil War Days in June.

A Case for Baseline Funding

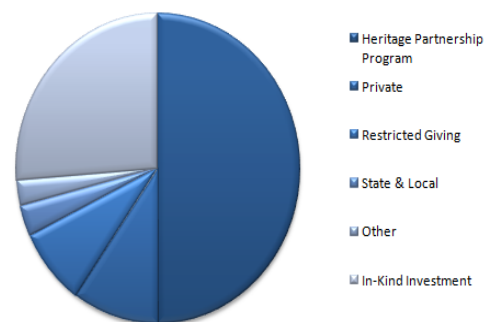
In times of flux and transition, nascent National Heritage Areas need to be able to rely on baseline funding from the Heritage Partnerships Program. 2012 was such a year for FFNHA as we transitioned between our founding executive director, Judy Billings, and our current executive director, Fred Conboy. During 2012, we also laid the groundwork for exciting funding opportunities and secured over \$200,000 in Restricted Giving Grants, thereby allowing us to begin to build an endowment fund.

2012 Funding Sources

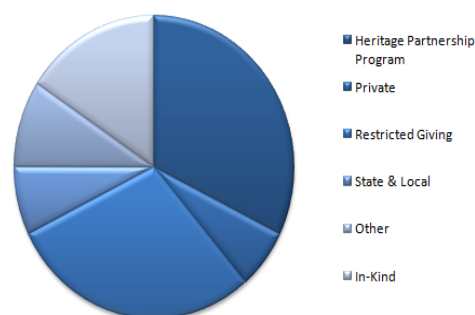
NPS Heritage Partnerships Program*:	\$ 101,482.20
Private Contributions:	\$ 19,965.75
Restricted Giving Grants:	\$ 16,440.00
State & Local Funding:	\$ 6,550.00
Other (program income, interest, etc.):	\$ 5,392.34

** Does not include a request placed prior to the end of FY2011 but reimbursed in FY2012.*

2012 Funding Sources



2013 Secured and Potential Funding Sources



Leveraging Funds

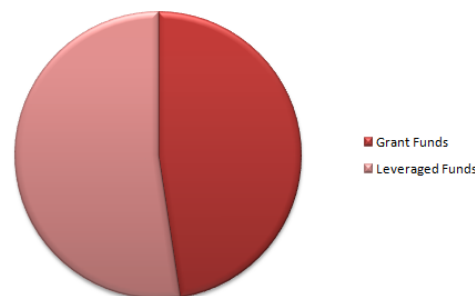
For many of our partners, a small investment goes a long way. Our new Interpretive Grants program has proven that all many of our partners need is a bit of capital to free up both cash and in-kind donations needed to complete innovative projects. While small grants require no matching funds and large grants only require a half-match, our partners will bring to the table more than double the amount of funds they received in cash and in-kind contributions.

Freedom's Frontier operates with the same mindset at our partners, working to stretch a small investment over 41 counties and putting that money to work to assist with preserving and interpreting our shared history.

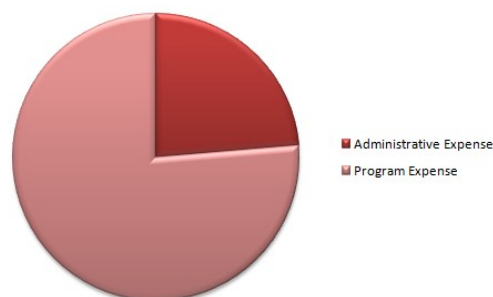
2011 Expenditures

Administrative Expenses:	\$ 42,790.46
Program Expenses:	\$ 138,030.02

2012 Interpretive Grant Leveraged Funds



2012 Expenditures



CONTACT

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GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. We will be tolerant and respectful of diverse stories from multiple perspectives.
2. We will respect property rights.
3. We will focus on authentic and engaging experiences.
4. We will honor the region's peoples, past and present.
5. We will appreciate unique cultural and historic assets within the nationally important landscape.
6. We will invest in community engagement, education and empowerment.
7. We will sustain and grow a sense of place.
8. We will value and protect the natural environment.
9. We will consider future generations in everything we do.

VISION FOR 2028

FFNHA is an internationally recognized region in western Missouri and eastern Kansas where a young nation's diverse definitions of freedom collided. Through sharing authentic and honestly interpreted stories, residents respect multiple views of freedom. Compelling learning experiences, interpretation and preservation offer visitors and residents of all ages an understanding of the region's importance. Historically aware citizens collaborate to build diverse economies for current and future generations.

2012 Partner Spotlight: Historic Ritchie House in Topeka KS

In 2012, the Historic Ritchie House offered weekly history classes for home-schoolers. In addition to an increase in school tours and attendance, a new cell phone tour "From Brown to Brown: Topeka's Civil Rights Story" includes a stop at the Historic Ritchie house.

2012 Donors

Freedom's Frontier appreciates the support of its donors. The following list reflects donations made in 2012.

Freedom's Frontier Circle \$50,000+
City of Lawrence KS

Santa Fe Trail Circle \$10,000 - \$19,999

Barton P. and Mary D. Cohen
Charitable Trust, Overland Park KS;
National Park Foundation

Pony Express Circle \$5,000 - \$9,999

Kansas Department of Wildlife,
Parks and Tourism, *Overland Park
Convention & Visitors Bureau*

California Road Circle \$1,000 - \$4,999

James and Connie Banwart, Fort

Scott, KS The Breidenthal
Foundation, Kansas City KS;
Charles Clark, Prairie Village KS;
John A. Dillingham, Kansas City
MO; Eileen Robertson, Humboldt
KS; Kala Stroup, Lawrence KS;
Bill Wagon, Topeka KS

Missouri River Steamboat Circle
\$500 - \$999

Fred Conboy, Lawrence KS

Friends of Freedom Under \$500

David Ambler, Lawrence KS; Paul
Bahnmaier, Leocompton KS;
Deborah Barker, Ottawa KS;
Barbara Carswell, Topeka KS;
Nancy Clary, Reno NV; Mary
Cohen, Leawood KS; Joanne
Collins, Kansas City MO; Jody
Craig, Leawood KS; William
Crowe, Lawrence KS; David

Dunfield, Lawrence KS; Bill
Fischer, Fort Scott KS; Bob Ford,
St. Joseph MO; Mike Gibson,
Paola KS; Kent Glasscock,
Manhattan KS; Charles Jones,
Lawrence KS; Cathy Kruzic,
Denver Co; Shelia Lampe, Iola
KS; Jim Maag, Topeka, KS;
Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and
Farm, Olathe KS; Julie McPike,
Oakview MO; John Myers,
Topeka KS; Emanuel Northern,
Kansas City KS; Kathy and Jeff
Quigley, Gardner KS; Marcia
Rozell, Manhattan KS; Roger
and Sandy Slusher, Lexington
MO; Luther Smith, Kansas City
KS; Sonia Smith, Gardner KS;
St. Joseph Convention & Visitors
Bureau; Bill & Davoren Tempel,
Lexington MO

Future Goals

In 2013, Freedom's
Frontier and its partners
will:

- Raise awareness of the heritage area and partners through expanded outreach and media relations.
- Create a comprehensive signage plan to incorporate gateway, wayfinding and interpretive signage.
- Disburse interpretive grants to fund partner projects that tell connect to FFFNHA themes.

- Commemorate cross-border sesquicentennial with events in Kansas and Missouri.
- Continue to develop partnerships within the heritage area.
- Travel throughout the heritage area on listening tours to gather information for strategic planning and the needs of partners.
- Finalize a preservation plan for the Lone Jack Civil War Battlefield.
- Establish an awards program to encourage creative and interactive

- programming at museums and historic sites , including the Billings MVP award to recognize FFFNHA "most valuable partners" in honor of founding director, Judy Billings.
- Conduct week-long Civil War to Civil Rights educational curriculum.
- Create an updated video and smart phone app about FFFNHA and its partners.
- Continue to support partners as they bring FFFNHA stories to the public.

New Executive Director

Fred Conboy assumed the role of Executive Director of Freedom's Frontier in June of 2012.

For over 30 years, Fred has supported efforts for the preservation and protection of regional heritage areas in Kansas, Nevada and California. A native of Lawrence, Kansas, Fred served the KU Endowment Association for many years as Director of The Chancellor Club before helping lead fundraising

campaigns with Arizona State University, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the University of California, Irvine.

To help achieve goals for heritage tourism, Fred also coordinates the activities of the Lawrence Convention & Visitors Bureau in partnership with regional cultural and historic organizations, including Watkins Museum/Douglas County Historical Society, Historic Leocompton,

Wakarusa Valley Museum, Santa Fe Historical Society, and the Eudora Historical Society.



Freedom's Frontier Executive Director, Fred Conboy at the Carnegie Building in Lawrence.