



**Thank you for your interest in being part of
Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area
Partnership Team!**

Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area (FFNHA) welcomes your interest as a potential partner in working toward a heritage area that is responsive to the needs of our region and preserving our shared heritage. Working together, we can create a strong heritage area that provides many benefits.

Freedom's Frontier, established in 2006, began as a grassroots effort through the work of people just like you who were concerned about sharing our communities' legacies. They understood that we have an important nationally significant story to share about the struggles over freedom on the frontier. This struggle that shaped our nation's history remains relevant even today.

Please take some time to look through this information packet and familiarize yourself with the heritage area program and how you can become involved in this dynamic and important effort. If you would like to partner with us, please submit the following application pages for review. Please let us know how Freedom's Frontier and our resources can assist you in achieving your site's goals. More information can be found at our website: FreedomFrontier.org

We appreciate your interest and involvement in Freedom's Frontier and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucinda J. Adams".

Lucinda Adams

Freedom's Frontier NHA Executive Director



The Struggles for Freedom on the Missouri/Kansas Border

Extraordinary events in the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area (FFNHA) forever changed America. In the nineteenth century, the nation turned its eyes to the Missouri / Kansas border, where peoples with diverse definitions of freedom collided, inciting and fueling the Civil War. The impact of these events is forever woven into the nation's fabric. At a minimum, all of our partners in this heritage area *must* have a primary focus of publicly promoting and sharing about one or more of these three themes with their community and/or visitors.

1. Shaping the Frontier:

For the half million pioneers who traveled on the Santa Fe, California, Mormon, and Oregon Trails, the Missouri/Kansas border was the jumping off point. In this place where river travel ended, traders, miners, and emigrants purchased provisions and prepared for long overland treks. As they traveled west, many began to see the "permanent" Native frontier beyond Missouri's western border as an obstacle to Manifest Destiny.

2. Missouri/Kansas Border War:

When Kansas was opened for settlement in 1854, a border war ensued, capturing the nation's attention. The Kansas-Nebraska Act nullified the uneasy balance established by the Missouri Compromise and left the territory's future slave status in the hands of settlers. The stakes were high for both sides. The violence of the Missouri/Kansas Border War ushered in the Civil War, consumed the region in bloody conflict through war's end, and devastated communities on both sides of the border.

3. Enduring Struggles for Freedom:

The nation's struggle for freedom did not begin or end with the Civil War. Though the war eliminated clashes over geography, efforts to break down society's barriers continue. Since the Civil War, this place has inspired national policies and ongoing efforts to secure equal freedoms for all Americans.

Freedom's Frontier provides new opportunities for visitors and residents to explore the evolving ideal and fundamental American value of FREEDOM.



FREEDOM'S FRONTIER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA 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



Partner Benefits

Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area

Collective Wisdom and Collaboration: Connect with historic sites, museums, and other tourism organizations in our 41-county region to learn from each another!

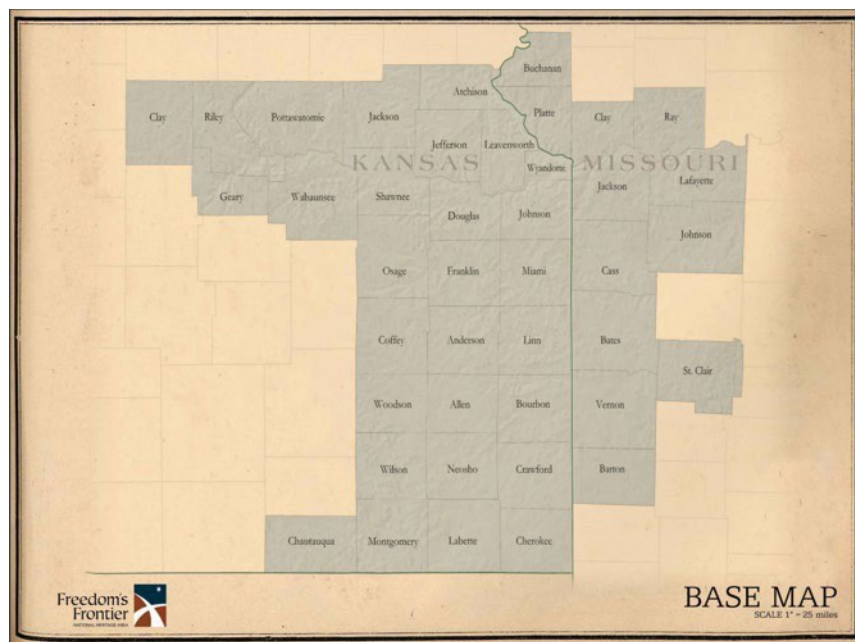
Professional Development: Free or low-cost workshops to help museums and partners sites better tell their piece of the Freedom's Frontier story

Marketing and Programs: Cooperative advertising opportunities and marketing through digital media and printed material of Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area

Technical and Programming Assistance: Consult with staff for suggestions on how to improve site exhibitions, educational or speaker programs, marketing, operations, etc.

Project Grants: Opportunities for up to (typically) \$3000 toward individual projects that interpret or help communicate the themes of Freedom's Frontier: Settling the Western Frontier, the Border War theatre of the Civil War, and the Enduring Struggle for Freedom. Partnership does not guarantee funding. Applying for funding requires (at minimum) having approved partnership and a free UEI code from www.sam.gov.

Other Opportunities: Partner with Freedom's Frontier and other historic sites and museums as opportunities arise to promote and interpret our region's important history.





PARTNER PLEDGE

As a Partner in the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area (FFNHA), the undersigned dedicates himself/herself to join other partners in supporting the region's vision, mission and guiding principles. To uphold the integrity and purpose of the organization, the undersigned pledges to work on behalf of the common good of the region and make decisions that validate the intended vision, mission and principles of FFNHA.

Vision

Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area is an internationally recognized region in western Missouri and eastern Kansas established by Congress in 2006. The heritage area shares its authentic and honestly interpreted stories with residents and visitors who add to the economic vitality of the region. Freedom's Frontier respects multiple views of freedom and promotes the region's contributions to the American story.

Mission

We tell the stories of the struggles for freedom in our region and their lasting impact on our nation.

Guiding Principles

1. We will be tolerant and respectful of diverse stories from multiple perspectives.
2. We will respect and not encroach on any private property rights.
3. We will focus on authentic and engaging experiences.
4. We honor the region's peoples, past and present.
5. We 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 value and protect the natural environment.
9. We will consider future generations in all actions.

Name of Site or Organization requesting to become a Partner:

Name of Person(s) with decision making authority for the potential Partner:

Signature: _____ **Date :** _____

If submitting digitally, typing your full name will be used as your signature

Printed Name if signature is different than Authority listed above: _____

To ensure current contact information, this pledge will require renewal in our Fiscal Year 2028.



Who has decision-making authority for of your organization?

Name and Title: _____

Email: _____

Work Home

Phone: _____

Work Home

Questions about Organization or Site:

If different, the best person to reach? _____

If different, contact's email: _____

Physical Address of Site: _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____

Website: _____

Phone: _____

UEI Number : _____

Partners must have a UEI to apply for grants or funds. Otherwise, partners are **not required** to have a UEI.

Is site/organization visitable by the public? Yes No Days/Hours:

Which of the FFNHA themes are applicable to you currently? (See prior page for explanations)

Shaping the Frontier and Western Settlement

Missouri/Kansas Border War

Enduring Struggles for Freedom

We do not specifically fit a theme at this time. We desire affiliation because:

Include a short (max 500 word) **text description** and attach (to an email) a **high-resolution image** for when we update our digital media. You may submit text here:

FFNHA New Partner Questionnaire for our Website

Type of Story

- Settling the Region
- Native Americans
- Military
- African Americans
- Border War
- Battle
- Burning
- Assassination
- Civil War
- Slavery, Abolition, and the Underground Railroad
- Landscape
- Jim Crow & Civil Rights Struggle
- Equal Rights Struggle
- Historic Transportation Routes
- Post-War Reconstructor & Remembrance

Location Features

- Staffed
- Public Restrooms
- Wheelchair Accessible
- Parking
- Gift Shop
- Water Fountain
- Bus/RV Parking
- ID Required
- Research Library
- Hiking Trails
- Camping
- AC/Heating Group
- Tours
- Group Meeting Room
- Social Media (list):

Type of Location

- Kid-friendly
- Living History
- Historic Home
- Museum
- Archive / Library
- Sign/ Monument
- Natural Area
- State or National Historic Designation
- Walking Tours
- Driving Tours

Circle/Highlight Your County Below

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

For questions or submissions, please contact:

Kate Sutter:

Director of Programming

ksutter@freedomfrontier.org 785.312.1396

PO Box 526 Lawrence KS 66044

For Website or Tech questions, please contact:

Johnny Szlauderbach:

Director of Communications and Projects

jszlauderbach@freedomfrontier.org

785.424.5594