



County of Marin Community Service Fund Program Application Form

Application Date March 30, 2021

Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Organization Information

Full Legal Name: Marin History Museum

Organization URL: www.marinhistory.org

Mission

Mission/purpose of your organization:

The Marin History Museum celebrates the traditions, innovation and creativity of the people of Marin County, and is the only history museum collecting and serving all of Marin. Through exhibitions and educational programs, MHM inspires honor for the past, an understanding of the present and an imagination of the future. The Museum was founded in 1935 with the purpose of preserving Marin County’s history after several pioneer families noticed that our history was not being safeguarded. The diverse population of multi-generational families in Marin are curious about their family roots and local history in general. 86 years later, MHM continues to be committed to the stewardship of the Collections that include over 25,000 artifacts and over 200,000 photographic images. In addition, the Research Library offers access to primary source materials by appointment. We are dedicated and responsive to our community through accessible and inclusive programs that foster community pride.

Description and quantifying impact of COVID-19 pandemic on your organization or the residents that it serves.

Due to Covid-19, we have been severely impacted financially, and have been unable to provide in-person research appointments, classroom visits, lectures or participate in community events. Our annual Fall Fundraiser was canceled in October 2020 which had a dire impact on our budget. In October 2019, we raised over \$100,000 at this event. The monthly lectures we present raise approximately \$700. In the past year, we shifted gears to stay connected with the Marin community in creative ways. We have presented our lectures and events online through Zoom including a trivia night, online book launch and historical movies. We publish monthly e-newsletters and a bi-annual bulletin with articles and photographs spotlighting people and places that have shaped our County. In lieu of our in-person annual fundraiser, we created a direct mail campaign in October and a Year-End Appeal. In addition, we are actively collecting materials related to the pandemic to document for future generations.

Grant Request Information

Program/Project Name: Louise Arner Boyd Permanent Exhibit

Summary description of your project:

We want celebrate Louise Boyd and all she accomplished with a professional interactive exhibit at the Boyd Gate House. Visitors would have the opportunity to learn about Louise Boyd’s colorful life as a socialite, philanthropist and explorer.

Amount Requested Dollar: \$8,000.00

Total Project Cost: \$96,000.00

Description of the proposed project/program, including the proposed project's goal(s), and the nature of the costs in specific terms, i.e. materials, labor costs, etc. Specifics of how the requested County funds will be used.

Our project is to develop a professional permanent Louise Boyd exhibit designed and installed into a room on the main level of the Boyd Gate House located in San Rafael. The Marin History Museum houses the complete Louise Boyd Collection which includes her personal effects, awards and medals, photographs, letters, journals and artifacts related to her arctic expeditions.

Many museums have acknowledged the “wow” factor in creating a multimedia professional exhibit. A wonderful example is the Jack London “House of Happy Walls Museum” in Glen Ellen (jacklondonpark.com).

Louise Boyd’s story is relevant to today’s audiences and presenting a multimedia exhibit will spark wonder and curiosity for all ages. A professional exhibit requires two phases—the design and implementation. The square

footage for the room measures 12' x 16' (192 sq. ft.) with a cost of approximately \$500 per square foot for a total cost of \$96,000. The design might include:

- *Large photo mural with internal lighting (steel frame with glass)
- *Custom cases for objects, with internal lighting and temperature control
- *Custom table furnishing with interactive shadow box drawers
- *Touchable globe with customized graphics
- *Audio components

The goal of this project is to offer a professional exhibit of an extraordinary woman whose life story stands the test of time. Ms. Boyd grew up in San Rafael championing local causes and leading arctic expeditions. This exhibit will be the highlight of the museum and encourage partnerships with other organizations.

The layout of the building will allow visitors to have socially distanced visits with the appropriate protocols in place. The adjoining park will provide safe outdoor opportunities for events.

We are asking for \$8,000 to begin our "Preserve our Local History...One Square Foot at a Time" Capital Campaign. This would fund the first 16 square feet of this exhibit and kick-off our community campaign.

List of all community interests that will be affected by the proposed project/program and the public benefit to be derived from it:

A community in general benefits by having access to their own history. As Winston Churchill said, "A nation that forgets its past, has no future."

Louise Boyd was an internationally known figure, and an exhibit would enhance the current cultural offerings and vitality of downtown San Rafael, benefiting residents, students, researchers, tourists, seniors and youth organizations. This professional exhibit would allow many treasures to be viewed and experienced—from her wood and leather backpack and snowshoes to the hand-written card inviting Ms. Boyd to tea at Buckingham Palace in 1925. We would re-start our school-aged program providing content that fulfills the 3rd and 4th grade curriculum. The exhibit would promote learning about Ms. Boyd's extraordinary life and contributions through the collection. Having a remarkable exhibit at the Boyd Gate House is an inviting way to inform the public about our history and ultimately keep a generation engaged in its own community.

The Boyd Gate House is located near the J.W. Marriott Hotel site along with art galleries, the Smith Rafael Film Institute and a variety of restaurants. Tourists are interested in learning about local history. After seeing the Louise Boyd exhibit, they might want to visit Maple Lawn (now the Elks Club on Mission Street). The close proximity of art galleries, the theater and restaurants provides a variety of collaborative opportunities for fundraising events, a summer movie series in Boyd Park and art shows featuring our collections or that of local artists.

After more than a year of Covid-19 related challenges, this year can be a time of renewal for our community beginning with a professional exhibit of one of Marin's most accomplished and unique citizens from her seven arctic explorations, earning the prestigious Cullum Geographic Medal, working for the U.S. government during WWII to her local philanthropy including Wildcare—Louise Arner Boyd's story is timeless and waiting to be told.

The total amount received for the past three fiscal years:

Year	Amount	Project
2019 - 2020		
2018 - 2019	\$3,335.00	Nostalgic Calendar and General Brochure
2017 - 2018	\$1,554.00	Hands-on History Trunk

No County funding was received for this project or others.

Project/program cannot be completed if amount received is less than requested amount of Community Service funds.

Applicants are encouraged to leverage funding from other non-County sources, and priority will be given to requests that represent no more than 50% of total project cost. To demonstrate all sources of project funding, including other County sources, please provide a project/program budget below. Please fill in as applicable, and round to the nearest dollar.

Project Funding Sources	Funding Agency	Funding Requested	Received	Notes
County CSF				
Federal Grant				
State Grant				
Individual Contributions				
Other Local Agencies				
In kind services				
Other				
Total Sources				
Project Expenses		Budgeted	Spent to Date	Notes
Personnel Costs				
Services and Supplies		\$96,000	\$0	<i>Design and Installation of exhibit</i>
Capital				
Other				
Total Expenses		\$96,000	\$0	