



## MUSEUM SERVICES PROGRAM

Texas is home to more than 500 local history museums. Whether housed in an historic structure or a state-of-the-art new building, each one is dedicated to telling the story of their community's unique history. Collectively, they preserve the real places and the real things that tell the whole story of Texas. And by helping us to explore where we fit in the world of today and yesterday, they enrich all of our lives through history.

### What We Do

Museums play a vital economic, educational and social role in our communities. It's a big role to fill, and most of them are small organizations doing their best to fulfill it with a small staff and limited resources. The Museum Services Program enables small history museums to better carry out their missions by helping them to increase their capacity for meeting professional standards. We do this by providing free consultations, training, grant funding and electronic communication.

### Benefits

■ **Consultations** Museum specialists are available for consultations on all aspects of museum operation, ranging from collections care to exhibit development to strategic planning and more. We provide remote consultations via phone, email and mail, as well as in our Austin office and in the field.

■ **Training** We travel the state offering affordable technical workshops aimed at improving the skills of museum staff, volunteers and trustees. Beginning in 2009, we're expanding our educational activities to include online training opportunities.

■ **Grants** Each year, we distribute up to \$10,000 in grant funds to small museums for preservation projects, enhancing their ability to provide a better standard of care for their collections.



*Museum staff practice preservation techniques at a collections care and management workshop.*

■ **Communication** The Museum Services Minute, our bimonthly email newsletter, delivers timely information about current trends, available resources and technical tips. We also send out email notices regularly about upcoming grant deadlines, training opportunities and other types of assistance.

### How to Reach Us

The Museum Services Program office is housed within the THC's History Programs Division at 105 W. 16th Street. To contact our staff for assistance or to request a grant application, please contact us at:

Phone: 512.463.5853

Fax: 512.475.3122

Email: [history@thc.state.tx.us](mailto:history@thc.state.tx.us)



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
*real places telling real stories*

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