



OREGON HERITAGE ALL-STAR COMMUNITY

The primary purpose of the Oregon Heritage All-Star Community program is to help communities make the most of their historic resources. By doing so, communities safeguard important elements of the past, advance both "quality of life" and economic objectives, and enhance their unique community character. Under this overarching purpose, the program has three primary goals:

1. **Educate** communities about the full spectrum of cultural heritage activities available to them, including the following:
 - a. preservation of historic buildings and sites;
 - b. artifact curation and interpretation;
 - c. retention of written records, documents, and photographs for research and archival purposes;
 - d. collection of oral histories, business and institutional histories, family histories, and genealogical records;
 - e. public education activities that promote heritage to a broad range of constituents.
2. **Encourage** communities to expand and strengthen their participation in as many of the cultural heritage activities as possible and to coordinate those activities.
3. **Recognize**, through a "certification" process, the communities that reach an exemplary level of participation.

DESIGNATION PROCESS

To be considered for Oregon Heritage All-Star Community designation, a community must meet at least 15 of the 23 criteria outlined below and submit the appropriate application. The Oregon Heritage Commission (OHC) will review applications and make the final determination.

Communities that are striving to be an Oregon Heritage All-Star Community should send in an application of interest in the designation. Communities that already meet at least 10 criteria may submit an Application of Interest and they will receive additional technical support from Oregon Heritage in achieving the All-Star designation.

DEADLINE

Applications may be submitted at any time during the year. Oregon Heritage staff will review the applications, make any necessary inquiries and provide a recommendation to the OHC. Complete applications will be reviewed and a determination made by the OHC at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

ELIGIBILITY & WHO MAY APPLY

The program is primarily designed for city governments, however "communities" eligible for participation in the program may also include unincorporated towns, federally recognized tribes, and perhaps other entities. If there is no city or tribal government, please contact Oregon Heritage to discuss alternative applicant organizations.

DESIGNATED COMMUNITIES RECEIVE

- a certificate for display in the local government office or another appropriately designated location
- two metal signs for display near city entrance signs or at other appropriate locations
- the designation noted on the Travel Oregon website
- a logo to use in publications and marketing materials
- Heritage All-Star Community Technical Services - technical support, workshops and tools.

MAINTAINING THE DESIGNATION

Continuation of Heritage All-Star Community status is subject to review by the OHC every four years or as determined necessary. The review will include a written assessment by Heritage Commission staff, based on an on-site inspection and interviews, and any supplemental materials provided by the community.

SUBMIT COMPLETE APPLICATION OF INTEREST

Fill out the application form completely.

Send to:

Kuri Gill

Oregon Heritage, OPRD

725 Summer St NE, Ste C

Salem, OR 97301

Kuri.Gill@oregon.gov





OREGON HERITAGE ALL-STAR COMMUNITY PROGRAM – APPLICATION OF INTEREST

This form is for communities interested in pursuing Heritage All-Star designation but do not yet meet the criteria. By submitting this form a community establishes a relationship with Oregon Heritage and thereby gains access to more focused assistance in meeting the designation criteria. Once a community meets at least 15 of the criteria, it may then submit an application for actual designation. Please fill out the form and select the criteria your community already meets. For information please contact Beth Dehn at Beth.Dehn@oregon.gov or 503-986-0696.

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Organization:

First Name:

Last Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Website:

II. CRITERIA

Please check off each criteria that your community meets. A community must currently meet at least 15 of the 23 criteria to be designated as a Heritage All-Star Community. If your community meets at least 10 criteria and submits an Application of Interest may receive additional assistance from Oregon Heritage to attain the Heritage All-Star Community designation.

- HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM:** The city has adopted a historic preservation ordinance and has a local landmarks commission that meets regularly. Achieving Certified Local Government (CLG) status through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) fulfills this requirement.
- HISTORIC SITES REGISTER:** The city has an active process for surveying and documenting historic properties and listing significant historic properties in either a local historic sites register or the National Register of Historic Places.
- NON-PROFIT PARTNER:** There is at least one non-profit 501(c)3 heritage organization located in the community, and it works closely with the city and others at promoting an important aspect of the community's history.

- D HISTORY MUSEUM: The community has a history museum that operates during regularly scheduled hours. In order for a museum to qualify under this category it must have been in operation for at least two years, have an on-site attendant, and be open at least 120 hours per year. The museum must have a collections policy that addresses NAGPRA and a completed [PReP](#). A "heritage tourism facility" may substitute for a museum under this category if it has substantial heritage-related offerings and meets the requirements described above.
- D CULTURAL HERITAGE COALITION: The community's heritage organizations/committees have met at least annually for five years to coordinate efforts and maximize resources.
- D GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS: The community has obtained and successfully completed at least five grants within the past decade for heritage-related projects.
- D SCHOOL PROGRAMS: A school, or community organization in partnership with a school, regularly sponsors the annual National History Day competition, includes local history studies in its curriculum, or has an ongoing effort that allows students to assist in conducting tours of local historical sites or participate in other local history events and activities. Must be on-going, not field trips or traveling trunks.
- D PUBLIC EDUCATION: Within the past decade, the community has produced or conducted a substantial public education offering, including interpretive signage, walking tour, publication, or other media presentation that promotes the community's history.
- D HERITAGE WEB SITE: The community maintains an up-to-date web site that provides meaningful content about the community's history, including a listing of the heritage activities and programs available in the community (such as the items on this list of Designation Criteria).
- O OREGON MAIN STREET PROGRAM: The community has an active Main Street program that has been accepted by Oregon Main Street (OMS) into either of the top two tiers of participation: Transforming Downtown or Performing Main Street.
- O LONG-TERM LOCAL BUSINESSES: The city has three or more locally owned, active businesses that have been in operation for 50 years or more, and it has a program for recognizing that achievement.
- O HERITAGE TOURISM PARTNERSHIP: The community has historic markers, public interpretive panels, walking/biking/driving heritage related tours, heritage/history brochures, heritage trees designated by the Oregon Travel Experience, programs with Travel Oregon *and* the community has promoted those features through public education and tourism promotion efforts.
- O PUBLIC RECORDS ARCHIVE: The community has a policy and [PReP](#) in place for handling and preserving archival, historic, government, and other public records that complies with professional standards. Must be accessible to the public.

- D PHOTO ARCHIVE: An organization in the community has a program to gather, identify, preserve, and make accessible to the public photographs related to the community's past.
- D ORAL HISTORIES: A community organization has an active oral history program that records, transcribes into written form, and makes accessible to the public interviews with long-time residents or individuals involved in events or activities of a historic nature.
- D HERITAGE EVENTS: The community has conducted an event or commemorative activity on an annual basis for at least 25 years to recognize an aspect of the community's cultural heritage. Oregon Heritage Tradition designation by the Oregon Heritage Commission would automatically meet this requirement.
- O HISTORIC CEMETERY DESIGNATION: The community has at least one historic cemetery that has been officially designated as such by the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries, and there are ongoing efforts to maintain and protect it. Completed [PReP](#).
- O CEMETERY AND GENEALOGICAL RECORDS: The community has implemented a program to verify and make available cemetery and genealogical records to the public in written or electronic form for use in historic and genealogy research. Completed [PReP](#).
- D AWARD RECOGNITION: A project, person, or organization in the community has received a state or national award for achievement in some aspect of heritage within the past decade. OHC's Heritage Excellence Award would qualify under this category.
- D DISASTER PREPAREDNESS: At least one disaster plan for a heritage resource (museum, historic cemetery, genealogical society, etc...) has been completed and implemented. A community-wide disaster plan qualifies if heritage resources are included.
- D UNTOLD STORIES: At least one story about the city's historically marginalized communities has been documented and interpreted. This may include histories of people of color, women, LGBTQ+, low-income individuals, prisoners, the disabled, senior citizens, or others. The interpretation must be permanently included in public history, museum displays, or accessible online to the public. These stories should be integrated within overall interpretation, but may be stand-alone depending on the context of the interpretation. Exhibits updated to include multiple perspectives may qualify.
- D DIVERSITY & INCLUSION PLAN: At least one heritage organization in the community has created and is implementing a plan for serving the entire community and is actively working to make heritage resources accessible and available to all. Plans may include diversity statements, goals embedded in a strategic plan, or a full DEI plan.
- O OTHER HERITAGE ACHIEVEMENTS: The community has implemented other programs or projects that do not fit previously listed criteria but that demonstrate a sustained and noteworthy commitment to the preservation and interpretation of the community's heritage.