One City, Many Cultures exhibition at the Mogan Cultural Center

Lowell National Historical Park

February 9, 2020
Space Available

~1700 Square feet Gallery Space
Additional design and refreshing of common spaces
Current Immigration Exhibit
Community-driven for its time
The Future Exhibit Will…

• Replace the existing and dated exhibition about immigrants, installed in 1988.
• Solicit community input in shaping the themes and direction of the exhibit.
• Tell the stories of diverse cultures and cultural changes that have found their place(s) in Lowell and give it its distinctive urban composition.
• Provide a safe and accessible visitor experience that is audience-centered and relevant to 21st-century visitors, including currently underserved audiences.
• Enable visitors to see themselves in and better understand others through the exhibit experience.
• Evaluate exhibit development and design at every stage.

“Lowell is a microcosm of the historical and contemporary shifting of cultural identities and tensions brought about by broader social changes such as industrialization, urbanization, and globalization.”
Key Audiences

Local Intergenerational Groups, Students and Teachers, and Heritage Tourists
Community Roundtable
A Community-Driven Process
Cultural Diversity is the Basis for a Vibrant Lowell and America

- Mobility and Transition
- Cultural Diversities and Commonalities
- Building Community
### Project Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date and Phase</th>
<th>Tasks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2018: Funding Obtained</td>
<td>PMIS Project from 2015 awarded through rec fee funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2018 – Fall 2019: Pre-Design</td>
<td>Project leads selected Community Roundtable Process Determined and Started Themes and Direction of Exhibit SOW for Planning and Design Contract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2019 – Spring 2021: Planning and Design</td>
<td>Planning and Design of Exhibit Ongoing programming WITH Community Reviewing Deliverables and Refining through</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2021 – Fall 2022/23: Fabrication</td>
<td>Building Exhibit Building Project for accessibility Original Content Creation Continued programming WITH Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2022/23</td>
<td>Exhibit opens!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Working with The Design Minds

Our Planning and Design Contractors Fall 2019 Through
Spring 2021
What stories should not be missed? Who can best tell those stories?
Scene 1

Exhibit Introduction
Scene 2: Cultural Expressions

How do we express culture?
Adding Stories

This beautifully crafted statue will serve as a reminder that, not only does the city still care about our people, but that it cares about history, the voice of our people, and the continuing education of the public of the people that inhabited this land for centuries before it was the City of Lowell.”

THOMAS EAGLE RISING LIBBY, 2018
Micmac Chief
Greater Lowell Indian Cultural Association

MY STORY Look around your community. Where do you see yourself reflected in the physical landscape? Public art and memorials can visually connect a group to a place. For the Greater Lowell Indian Cultural Association, the installation of this statue near the Pawtucket Falls would serve as a vital reminder of the area’s Indigenous history.
Scene 3: Lowell Through Time
Scene 4: Personal Stories

What challenges do we encounter when arriving in a new place?
Scene 5: Public Conversations

Where do we find community?
What challenges do communities face?
Scene 6: Storybooth
Sharing and Reflecting
Scene 7: A Lively Community
Please be involved!

• What stories do you have that should be told in this exhibition?
• Do you know of an object or image that ought to be shown in the exhibition?
• Musical instrument?
• Decorative tableware?
• Decorative arts or apparel?
• Please share the word about this project with your friends and neighbors!
Discussion

We want to tell the whole story of Lowell:

Objects, images, and stories using:

• Table settings, foods, feastware.
• Visual and decorative art.
• Mementos or keepsakes and their stories.
• What are we missing? Let us know!
Questions?

Emily Donovan – emily_donovan@nps.gov  Project Manager
Bridget Peregrino – bridget_peregrino@nps.gov  Project Manager
Kevin Coffee – kevin_coffee@nps.gov  Chief of Interpretation and Education
Laurel Racine – laurel_racine@nps.gov  Chief of Cultural Resources

(978) 970-5000
www.nps.gov/Lowell
@LowellNPS