

## Guidelines for Making Sense of the Civil War: Let's Talk about It!

Thank you for your interest in hosting a discussion series related to the Civil War. The three books for this program are:

*March* by Geraldine Brooks,

*Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam* by James McPherson

*America's War: Talking About the Civil War and Emancipation on Their 150th Anniversaries*, edited by Edward L. Ayers.

We are pleased to help facilitate this activity at your institution. In order for that happen, there is a process we need to go through.

1. Contact the OHC program officer, David Merkowitz ([dmerkowitz@ohiohumanities.org](mailto:dmerkowitz@ohiohumanities.org)) or 1-800-293-9774 to discuss the process and how your organization can apply to receive funding to carry out this program. If you have not applied to the OHC for a grant before, this is a very important step.
2. Fill out a grant application. See [ohiohumanities.org/?page\\_id=3651](http://ohiohumanities.org/?page_id=3651) for our grant application and guidelines. OHC guidelines apply to this project. For reference, the application for funding these projects will be treated as a minigrant with a few exceptions: \$1500 may be used for scholar honoraria, travel, and publicity. Deadline for application: on or before March 15, 2012 for programs scheduled in 2012 and at least six weeks before the program begins
3. The grant will be reviewed by the OHC staff and we will contact the institution if we are able to support the programming. 25 copies of each title will be provided by the OHC. These books must be returned to the OHC so we can support more programs. See [partnership.neh.gov/activities/civilwarhosts.htm](http://partnership.neh.gov/activities/civilwarhosts.htm) for further information about this program.
4. Carry out the program.
5. Fill out a final report and return it to the OHC.

### **Special Notes** for the **Making Sense of the Civil War: Let's Talk about It!** program.

1. The sponsoring institution must be a library. We strongly encourage partnerships between libraries and local history organizations for this project.  
For non-libraries, if you are interested in hosting this program, you must partner with a local library to receive support. There may be a requirement that the library be within the state transit system, though this requirement has not yet finalized.
2. Sponsoring institutions must employ at least one scholar to lead these discussions.  
For the purposes of the program, we ask institutions to use professional historians (M.A. or PhD. in History) or humanities scholars (M.A. or PhD.) with specific knowledge of the Civil War. We would look favorably upon the use of contingent faculty at your nearby

colleges and universities. If your institution needs assistance identifying scholars to participate in this program, please contact the OHC.

**3. Changes to our guidelines:**

Award amount: \$1500 to support scholar honoraria and travel, publicity, and other costs related to series.

Recommended fees for scholars: \$100-\$150 per session.

Travel allowance for scholars: \$.45 per mile; reasonable costs for meals and lodging if necessary.

We are able to provide some non-site specific promotional materials for this program.

4. Following the best practices for Let's Talk About It programs, the recommended size of each reading group is 20-25 participants. We recommend planning a five session series of discussions for this project.