



Description

The NCBS Freedom Project is a program designed to promote NCBS's principles regarding academic excellence, social responsibility, and cultural grounding. Primarily designed for K-12 students as well as to encourage adult learners to become engaged with sharing their ideas regarding their experiences and struggles for freedom within local and broader community settings where they live (or have lived), this project is created to foster a dialogue among the youth and elderly that provides insights into African American creativity and ingenuity. The ***NCBS's Freedom Project is a 50 states engagement program*** inviting NCBS members to work with African American and African descended communities, institutions, and/or individuals throughout the United States in establishing and creating knowledge concerning how Black people have engaged ideas of freedom.

The NCBS Freedom Project is a three-month program. Participating communities are expected to organize meetings and activities that will occur during a three month period, with the expectation that at least four meetings will take place, and that during these meetings, participants are not only learning about Black peoples' struggles for freedom and full citizenship, but also how African Americans engaged in activities that demanded more freedom for themselves as they utilized culture, the arts, education, politics, economics, and other encounters to secure greater freedoms. **For each activity planned, the organizer(s) must indicate what the learning objectives are and which NCBS outcome (critical thinking, literacy development, and/or historical and cultural understanding) is being manifested. The type or kind of printed, artistic, or media materials to be used should also be indicated.**

Awards:

If approved, a funded proposal will be awarded up to \$1,500 to implement the Freedom Project. We encourage members from each state to submit a proposal.

Deadline:

The deadline for submission is rolling. This means that NCBS Community Engagement Committee can receive a proposal at any time and will respond within two weeks to the proposal.

A Short Proposal:

Interested persons should provide a proposal discussing how they plan to engage in the ideas of the NCBS Freedom Project. The proposal should include:

- (1) A Title
- (2) Name of the Organizers or Sponsoring Organizations/Institutions.

The description should include also a discussion of a general curriculum (that is what kind of content will be emphasized), and the expected number of participants. All planned activities should focus on how Black Americans and African descended peoples have defined, employed, and utilized freedom ideas and practices in the interest of advancing Black life. In addition, the proposal should indicate how the organizers plan to achieve the freedom project's learning outcomes, which are:

- (1) participants will be able to stand up for their rights
- (2) participants will be able to create programs and activities designed to express ideas of freedom.

Proposals should be presented to the NCBS Civic Engagement Committee a minimum of 60 days before initiation of the proposed project.

A Budget

The budget should detail how funds will be utilized. It should indicate the amount to be spent on facility use, if a fee is required; it is important to indicate whether a small amount of funds is needed for food and refreshments, and if the organizers are planning to use funds to buy resources and materials to resource the project.

The Location

The proposal should indicate the dates and times of the programs and activities as well as the location where activities and meetings will take place. It is important to indicate (if known) who will be hosting the activities.

Ideally, we expect organizers to have secured a space in a community institution or building where they can initiate and carry out their freedom project programming.

Final Report

After the three-months programming has concluded, the community organizers or facilitators at funded institutions must submit a report detailing the experience within 30 days of the conclusion of the project. In doing so, organizers must provide participants with some kind of assessment tool to evaluate what they have learned and what could have been improved as well as to determine whether participants are interested in additional programmatic activities.