



RCHS History Exhibition Researcher and Writer

August 17, 2026

Project Description

RCHS desires the services of a qualified Researcher and Writer to complete the research and writing of an exhibition script and magazine article documenting the 50th anniversary of the Saint Paul Art Collective (SPAC) in 2027. The exhibition will premiere in the RCHS exhibition gallery on the first floor of Landmark Center in downtown St. Paul on July 15, 2027 and the *Ramsey County History* magazine article will be included in the 2027 Summer issue.

The Researcher/Writer will utilize SPAC archival materials held by RCHS and SPAC offices in St. Paul's Lowertown, plus other repository collections and SPAC members and stakeholders.

Expected exhibit content should be rooted in people-centered narratives, and include:

- Historical, annotated timeline of SPAC, including their two most significant outreach components: artist housing/studio spaces and community building in Lowertown, and the St. Paul Art Crawl program
- Current SPAC initiatives
- Identification and selection of engaging material culture and photographic content
- Collection of SPAC member and related stakeholder oral histories

The Researcher/Writer will also be responsible for a 4000-word scholarly article with graphics for an article in the *Ramsey County History* quarterly magazine.

The selected candidate will conduct 8 oral history interviews. Each interview must be recorded with clear audio/video and include a printed transcript upon submission, following standard oral history guidelines. The interviews and associated materials will become a part of the RCHS permanent collection.

Scope of Services

The Researcher/Writer will work in close collaboration with RCHS collections and editorial staff to develop a general thematic framework for the exhibition and article. It is understood that the final exhibition will be shaped by community input and guidance from the SPAC leadership and membership, as well as other stakeholders. RCHS staff, along with the Researcher/Writer, and a

graphic designer responsible for the final design, will collaborate to create an engaging and innovative exhibition. The Researcher/Writer is also responsible for writing a 4000-word, footnoted, scholarly article for the RCHS magazine.

Budget

The selected candidate will be paid a total of \$8,800.00 for the completion of the aforementioned deliverables in 3 installments based on successful benchmark deliveries. This sum will include all aspects of project completion, including, but not limited to: transportation, copies, interviews, transcriptions, etc. This project is funded by Cultural STAR.

Requirements

The qualified Researcher/Writer will:

1. Demonstrate 2 years of primary historical research experience;
2. Provide historical research/writing sample;
3. Demonstrate successful experience developing exhibit scripts;
4. Experience adhering to budgets and working with multiple private and public entities

Proposal Submission

Please provide your proposal materials along with your resume and list of professional references to Mollie Spillman, RCHS Director of Collections and Exhibitions, mollie@rchs.com by 5pm on Monday, August 31, 2026. The subject line of your application materials should be: SPAC Researcher Writer Application.