H. AND T. KING GRANT FOR ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE ANCIENT AMERICAS

Please note, the H. and T. King Grant program will not be accepting any proposals via email. Please create an account at https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/program/HandTKingGrant2025 to submit your proposal. You do not need to have your proposal complete to create an account.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Society for American Archaeology (SAA) invites proposals for the H. and T. King Grant for Archaeology of the Ancient Americas for research that promises transformative contributions to our understanding of precolumbian cultures in Latin America. Applicants must have a professional degree in archaeology or a closely related field; those based in Latin American countries must have at least a licenciado degree; applicants based outside Latin America (USA, Canada, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, and New Zealand) must have a PhD.

The SAA is open to proposals that involve field research, collection study, compilation or analysis of an existing dataset, and/or laboratory work. Grants are awarded to the most capable scholars, with the most promising projects. The SAA welcomes proposals from early career archaeologists or scholars—defined as those who received their most advanced degree within five years of their application—and from senior scholars.

Complete applications with all materials must arrive no later than **November 13, 2025, at 11:59 a.m. Eastern Time**. The SAA will announce award winners in March 2026. Funds will be available for research activities, after execution of a Grantee Agreement, between May 1, 2026, and April 30, 2027.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

The H. and T. King Grant for Archaeology of the Ancient Americas funds archaeological projects throughout Latin America (exclusive of the USA) that are focused on the indigenous cultures of Mesoamerica, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Grants are awarded annually for the following kinds of projects:

1. Archaeological field research that involves survey, testing, and/or site excavations as well as art historical research and material culture studies with clear relevance to archaeology

2. Analysis of excavation and survey data and artifact collections, including those housed in museums and universities

3. Laboratory work, technical analyses, including dating, and advanced technology-based projects

4. Research that would then be used as the foundation for developing a longer-term research program and for seeking major funding to carry out the research program's objectives

5. A discrete, additional part of a larger project, otherwise funded by other sources, which would bring the project to its full research potential

6. The completion of research and/or analyses for a long-term project to enable investigators to make research objectives publishable

The H. and T. King Grant for Archaeology of the Ancient Americas cannot fund proposals for field schools, heritage conservation, or site management.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants based in Latin American countries must have at least a licenciado degree in archaeology or a closely related field; applicants based outside Latin America (USA, Canada, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, and New Zealand) must have a PhD in archaeology or a closely related field. Awards will be made to early career scholars (less than five years from PhD or licenciado) and to more senior scholars. Regardless of location, applicants should not be enrolled as undergraduate or graduate students or seeking a higher degree for the period of time covered by the grant. Someone enrolled as a student cannot be a principal or co-investigator. Applications for thesis or dissertation research will not be considered; no tuition costs can be covered.

AMOUNT OF GRANT

Funding can be requested up to $25,000, although the majority of grants will be in the range of $15,000-20,000. Only direct costs will be covered, and no institutional overhead charges will be paid. Awards will be made to the applicant's institution, although awards to individuals are also possible. **Taxes are the responsibility of the individual awardee**, and individual awardees are solely responsible for the payment of any taxes.

DEADLINE

Complete proposals should be submitted through the SAA submission portal: https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/program/HandTKingGrant2025. Submission deadline is November 13, 2025, and notification of awards will be made in March 2026.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

All proposals and applicants are expected to adhere to the SAA Principles of Archaeological Ethics (http://www.saa.org/ethics) and attest that they have not been subject to any adverse findings from administrative bodies such as from a court of law, a Title IX finding from a U.S. university, or a certifying body like the Register of Professional Archaeologists.

Complete proposals should include the following components combined into a single PDF and all pages must be numbered:

1. ABSTRACT: A summary written in both Spanish and English, each no more than **1 page**. The abstract describes the project and explains its significance in a manner that is readily understandable to a non-specialist.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: A description of the proposed project, not to exceed 5 pages of Times New Roman 12-point font double-spaced for English proposals and not to exceed 6 pages of Times New Roman 12-point font double-spaced for Spanish proposals. Page counts are exclusive of cover sheet, maps, photographs, bibliography, and appendix with curriculum vitae. If the proposed project is part of a larger research program, briefly describe how this project relates to the larger project's objectives. The project description should begin with an introduction to the research goals. It should explain the (1) intellectual justification for the research, (2) research objectives and how they build on prior research, (3) relevant data and how they will be evaluated to reach conclusions (**this is particularly important**), (4) methods, and (5) work plan and schedule to meet the goals. The research problem should be compelling and understandable to an archaeologist or an art historian who works outside of the region. The project description also should note the qualifications of the investigators and collaborators and plans for publication and dissemination of results.

3. BUDGET: A budget of research expenses in US dollars with justification of each item must be included. For airfares, please indicate who will be supported by this line item. Salaries of principal investigators will not be paid. Salaries and fees for in-country personnel mandated by the host country's permit regulations are allowed. Contact the H. and T. King Grant Administrator at the SAA with any questions: htkgrant.saa@gmail.com. Fees for curation and permits are allowed, but no institutional overheads will be paid. No equipment purchase over $2000 will be supported. Proposals may include the cost of membership in the Society for American Archaeology if the applicant lives in Latin America. Proposals must list all other sources of support and amounts, both obtained and pending, for the proposed research.

4. PERMITS: Proposals must include a statement on obtaining permission from the host country to conduct the project. If permits have been granted, the proposal should state this. We realize that until a grant is awarded, the application for a permit is usually not possible, unless the awardee's research is part of an ongoing project. In either case, the proposal should state which permits are required and the steps that will be taken to secure necessary permissions, if this has not yet been completed. The SAA cannot advance funds until grantees submit proof that work is able to commence (e.g., travel to field work country is allowed, permits have been obtained, etc.).

5. SCHEDULE: A schedule for the proposed research should be included along with a justification that the research can be completed within the time frame. In the event of a disruption like COVID-19, the SAA will allow for extensions but a new schedule must be approved in writing.

6. FIGURES: Include a location map of the region and site(s) to be investigated and a site map, if available, as well as no more than 2 other relevant figures.

7. REFERENCES CITED: A bibliography of references cited should be included and should demonstrate awareness of the literature relevant to the proposed research.

8. PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS: Please describe all relevant research products you expect to produce (e.g., documentation, data, new tool, new method, website, media, publications, presentations, etc.).

9. STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT: Each collaborator on the application must complete a required Statement of Agreement Form, defining any conflicts of interest (download and sign: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BkPuvd_Fjhzf23XyRPyIESLA8CZDUn_E/view?usp=sharing). Applicants are required to state that they understand the terms of the grant. Signature indicates applicant's agreement to these terms and conditions, including the requirement that the proposal, research, and applicant and project members comply with the SAA Principles of Archaeological Ethics (http://www.saa.org/ethics) and that there are no adverse findings from administrative bodies.

10. CURRICULUM VITAE: Proposals must include the curriculum vitae of the principal investigator and of significant collaborators (including field directors) supervised by the principal investigator. The curriculum vitae of any specialists (metallurgists, biological anthropologists, etc.), if their participation will be supported by the project, should also be included. The proposal should provide information about other individuals who will be critical to the project, including local collaborators. Each curriculum vitae is limited to **4 pages** and should be listed in an Appendix.

Each curriculum vitae should include the following:

- Contact Information: name, current job title, mailing address, telephone number(s), e-mail address, website (if any)

- Educational and Professional Preparation: a list of the individual's education and training, including undergraduate institution, location, discipline, degree and year; graduate institution, location, discipline, degree and year; postdoctoral institution (if any), location, discipline, degree and year

- Appointments: in **reverse chronological order**, list the individual's current academic/professional appointment; previous appointment(s); first appointment

- Languages: identify languages spoken and level of fluency

- Selected Field and Laboratory Experience: in **reverse chronological order**

- No more than 10 selected research products (publications, products, and/or reports) in **reverse chronological order**

CONTACT: For further information and questions, please contact H. and T. King Grant Administrator: htkgrant.saa@gmail.com.

PROPOSAL REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE

The H. and T. King Grant Review Committee takes into consideration the applicant's professional and/or academic qualifications, including career stage and how the project will expand and transform understanding of precolumbian cultures in Latin America. The major criteria for selection are (1) promise of transformative contributions to our understanding of precolumbian cultures in Latin America and (2) clear and justified research objectives or questions. Competitive proposals will include a clear explanation of how the proposed data to be collected will be used to reach specific conclusions and interpretations. Further, proposal evaluation will be based on (3) the extent that the principal investigator is likely to succeed at completing the described research project with the solicited funds within the proposed time schedule, and (4) the feasibility of the applicant's plans for distribution and publication of their research results and report(s).

Acceptance of a grant by an applicant constitutes an agreement between the principal investigator and the SAA. Awardees must comply with grant requirements as stated in a signed Grantee Agreement. The stipulations include meeting all deadlines, barring unforeseen emergencies. At the conclusion of the grant period, Grantee agrees to return any unexpended or unaccounted for funds to the SAA. Grantee agrees to return all disbursed funds if grant funds have not been used for their intended purpose, or if the proposed project is unable to be undertaken for unforeseeable reasons.

H. and T. King Grants do NOT provide funds for tuition; institutional overhead charges, equipment that costs more than $2,000, field schools, heritage conservation, or site management. If a grant is made to an individual, the SAA does not deduct income tax from any grants, which may be taxable in the hands of the Grantee. Grantee is responsible for payment of any taxes.

Principal investigators who have received funds from the SAA are eligible to reapply for additional grants after five years, but first-time applicants may be given greater priority.

FINAL REPORT

Awardees must submit a final report of the results of the project to the SAA by a date to be specified in the Grantee Agreement, generally within 3 months of the project's completion or 15 months from the date of the award, whichever is earlier.

1. REPORT GUIDELINES: The report should summarize the results of the research, the research that was undertaken, and how it met the project's objectives. The report may be written in either Spanish or English. The report should include a public abstract, a summary of 250 words in both Spanish and English, describing the importance of the research to the general public. The report should present plans for publication and dissemination of results and list all anticipated outputs, including publications, presentations, websites, etc. Location and site maps and other relevant figures and tables should be included. If applicable, the report should discuss plans for expanding the research and seeking additional funding. Principal investigators are expected to inform the SAA of publications and presentations resulting from the research and are required to acknowledge support from the H. and T. King Grant for Archaeology of the Ancient Americas wherever applicable. All such outputs from the research are required to include the following language in the acknowledgments: **Supported [in part] by a grant from the H. and T. King Grant for Archaeology of the Ancient Americas administered by the Society for American Archaeology**. Unless the SAA has agreed to a delayed final report for demonstrated reasons, if a principal investigator fails to submit a final report in accordance with the above conditions, the principal investigator will not be eligible for any future support from the SAA.

2. LETTER OF APPRECIATION: The awardee will submit a 1-page letter to the donors (c/o the SAA) to acknowledge appreciation for the support of the research. The letter should be submitted with the final report to the SAA.

1. 3. DATA ACCESSIBILITY and COLLECTIONS: Awardees are expected to develop plans for the curation of any artifact collections, project records, and data. These should be discussed in the final report. How will the data and records from the project be managed after the project is completed? Will data/metadata be made available, when, and how, or why not? Permanent archives include institutional repositories and organizations such as Open Context (https://opencontext.org) and The Digital Archaeological Record (tDAR: https://www.tdar.org/). Awardees should be aware that scholarly journals often require such information as a condition of publishing.

4. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING: Awardees must report all expenditures for the grant by category of expense. Any expense over $500 should include a scanned receipt.

Any unused funds will be returned to the SAA. Similar to the submitted budget, the accounting should itemize the actual expenses in dollars and include currency conversions. Significant changes from the proposed budget must be authorized by the SAA. If prior approval was not obtained, the awardees may be required to reimburse the SAA for unauthorized expenses.