

## LOUISIANA SEA GRANT ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Louisiana Sea Grant is looking for teachers to participate in an oral history project in coastal parishes throughout the 2012-2013 school year!

We at Sea Grant are interested in documenting how environmental changes have affected the cultures of peoples living along the Louisiana coast. The goal is to study, through oral history, coastal communities whose culture, society, and livelihood are being threatened by subsidence and sea level rise, and in the process to teach students in these communities how to conduct interviews, transcribe, and ask thoughtful questions and actively listen to the answers. Most importantly we hope students will uncover knowledge of their own culture and heritage.

This is also a project of creativity. The ultimate product will be short clips of the audio with a visual (film, slideshow, etc.) of the most moving, informative, or inspiring parts of each interview to be displayed for easy access by everyone in each community. Students will be encouraged to reach past the outer limits of their creativity and use other mediums to showcase what they have learned from their interviews. Selected interviews will be posted on our website and all interviews will be archived at LSU's Oral History Center at Hill Memorial Library.

This one-year project will be implemented in three high schools with 2-3 collaborative teachers at each school. We will provide all interviewing equipment, a class computer, supplies and technical assistance. Candidates who are selected to participate will attend workshops to learn about coastal issues, interviewing, and preserving oral histories, and to work with other teachers involved in the project.

If interested please fill out the attached application, and then either scan it and send it back to me or fax the completed copy to (225) 578- 5938. If you are not personally interested but know someone who might be, please pass my information on to them! We are looking for teachers from all disciplines! The main requirement is enthusiasm for the project.

Thank you,

Darcy Wilkins  
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Louisiana Sea Grant  
Oral Histories Project  
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# Louisiana Sea Grant Oral History Project Application

(Only completed applications will be considered.)



The Sea Grant Oral History Project is a one year program to immerse high school students in oral history and raise awareness of their changing environment. This project focuses on the effects of sea level rise and land loss to coastal Louisiana communities, seen through the eyes of their elders, and in the process hope to show the importance of studying the past in creating a better future.

Application Deadline: May 31, 2012

TEACHER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Parish where you teach: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Grades you teach: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Subject(s) you teach: \_\_\_\_\_

Is your school Private or Public ? (Circle one)

How many students do you teach per school year? \_\_\_\_\_

## CONTACT INFORMATION

School phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home or Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The Louisiana Sea Grant Oral History Project requires you and your team partner to attend two 6-8 hour workshops. If necessary, overnight accommodations and meals will be provided. Do you agree to attend and complete this workshop? (Circle One)

Yes No

Will you or do you hope to have a teacher partner(s) at your school? Yes No

Please provide teacher partner name(s) and subject(s) they teach: \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to be involved in this project? (Continue on back if necessary)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Will this project be a part of your regular curriculum or a part of a school club?

\_\_\_\_\_

How many students do you expect to involve in the oral history project?

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Have you conducted oral histories in your classroom before? Yes No

If so, what was the focus? Who recorded the interviews? Did you donate the recordings to a repository?

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Have your students ever used digital audio recorders before?                      Yes                      No

Have you ever used digital audio recorders? What experience do you have working with audio editing software (e.g. Audacity, Soundforge, Garage Band) and/or movie editing software (e.g. iMovie or Windows Movie Maker)?

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Please explain how you would use oral histories in your teaching. (Use back if necessary)

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How would you rank your knowledge of the coastal issues of Louisiana?

Not Knowledgeable at All                      1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      Very Knowledgeable

What coastal issues are most critical in your parish/community? (Use back if necessary)

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Do you already incorporate coastal issues into your curriculum? If so, how? If not, how would you do this?

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What books have you used/would you recommend for high school students to read on Louisiana coastal issues?

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Please explain how you will use the knowledge you will receive at the Louisiana Sea Grant Oral History Project Workshop and from the project in general to educate students and others about Louisiana wetlands and oral history. What will you gain? (Continue on back if necessary)

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**Why Participate**

- Receive classroom resources.
- Network with other coastal teachers.
- Accrue professional contact hours.
- Immerse students in the importance of their environment and culture.

**Send completed application to:**

Darcy Wilkins  
Louisiana Sea Grant  
204 Sea Grant Building  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803  
Fax: (225) 578-5938  
Email: [darcyw@lsu.edu](mailto:darcyw@lsu.edu)