



Tennessee History for Kids



General Information

Contact Information

Nonprofit	Tennessee History for Kids
Address	PO Box 281 Franklin, TN 37065
Phone	(615) 447-1644
Web Site	Web Site
Email	bill@tnhistoryforkids.org

At A Glance

Year of Incorporation	2004
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Mission & Impact

Statements

Mission

The purpose of Tennessee history for Kids is to help teachers teach, students learn, and parents help with the subjects of Tennessee history, civics and geography. The organization's flagship is a free website (www.tnhistoryforkids.org) which is used in public and private classrooms-very few of which have Tennessee social studies textbooks for their students. The organization also sends out emails to teachers; conducts training for teachers and school librarians; speaks to student groups; and produces and distributes free written materials; and produces videos on Tennessee history.

Background

Because of changes in the Tennessee K through 12 curriculum, and because of the impact of the national No Child Left Behind program, the study of Tennessee history, civics and geography has suffered greatly. Tennessee history – which used to be a required class in seventh grade – is no longer a single, mandatory class. Instead, the study of Tennessee history, civics and geography is scattered throughout several grades, mainly grades 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11 and 12. Rather than teach Tennessee history separately, teachers are supposed to incorporate state and local history into their teaching of American history. This new system is not conducive to a textbook. In fact, there has not been a Tennessee history book in the public schools for years. However, it is important to note that Tennessee history, civics and geography are still supposed to be taught throughout K through 12 education. They are simply not taught in one focused class. So the problem isn't the curriculum. The problem is that teachers don't have the right tools and background to deal with the curriculum. Tennessee History for Kids was formed in November 2004 to help teachers deal with this void of teaching materials. Its flagship is the web site www.tnhistoryforkids.org, which has already become the number one source of Tennessee history, civics and geography information in the public schools. The organization also conducts training on how to use the web site and produces and distributes brochures, posters and other materials to promote its use. And it is now beginning to produce videos for use on the web site.

Impact

Our greatest accomplishment, by the far, is the impact we have made in the classroom. We have received many unsolicited emails thanking us for what we are doing, and run excerpts from those emails on our web page at: http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org/teacher_quotes Those emails have come from every corner of Tennessee. Our web site has been described by teachers as "invaluable," a "lifesaver," and "an educational jewel." Teachers who use our web site no longer complain about not having Tennessee history textbooks. They now wonder why all textbooks aren't as fun and interesting as our site. Other points:

- We have built kid-friendly virtual tours of historic attractions, some of which are overlooked treasures such as the Cumberland Homesteads and the Scopes Trial Museum. Through this process we have raised the profile of some of these historic attractions (most of them didn't have a web page before we came along). Some attractions are reporting increased attendance because of us.
- We have increased the knowledge many adults have about Tennessee history.
- We helped the Department of Tourism put together family friendly driving tours of historic Tennessee for the state's tourism web site, www.tnvacation.com.
- Our success is affecting other state historic organizations, some of which are becoming aware of the power of the web through watching us and which are (not coincidentally) now undertaking web initiatives themselves.
- We have raised awareness about the neglect of Tennessee history in the public schools, most importantly at the Tennessee General Assembly. Our current goals are to continue to add to the web site and continue to raise its profile. We feel good about the fact that we are being used in 5,000 classrooms but believe, with more work, we can be used in even more.

Needs

Our two most pressing needs are: 1) Financial – We are a new organization without an endowment. Our private-sector fundraising must improve for us to keep our web site free. 2) Higher profile – In spite of all we have accomplished, we still need to be better known, especially outside of K through 12 education. We have other needs but they pale in comparison to the first two.

Service Categories

Primary Organization Category

Arts,Culture & Humanities / Historical Organizations

Secondary Organization Category

Science & Technology / Alliances & Advocacy

Areas of Service**Areas Served**

TN

CEO Statement

Tennessee History for Kids (THFK) was started in 2004, when a group of social studies teachers asked me to do something to help them teach Tennessee history. Since that time, the needs of teachers have been at the heart of this organization. Keep in mind that the plight of social studies teachers can't merely be summarized by saying that they "didn't have Tennessee history books." The most important point was that, prior to our existence, THEY WEREN'T SURE WHAT TO TEACH. The actual social studies curriculum consists of vague directives that require teachers to do large amounts of background research. For example, in Tennessee, fifth grade teachers are supposed to teach students "Tennessee's impact on the Civil Rights Movement." That's all that the curriculum says. So how were teachers supposed to know what this directive meant? The real value of THFK is that we go through the vague social studies curriculum line by line, and, in the grade-specific texts found on the page, explain what our team of experts believes the curriculum means. For the Civil Rights Movement, for instance, we list several things teachers could mention, from the Highlander Folk School to Ida Wells to the sit-ins to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, and explain those things in detail. This saves teachers an enormous amount of work and helps give them the background that they need to teach what had been a terribly under-supported subject. Because of this, many teachers are now teaching something they didn't know how to teach prior to our existence. This is why teachers who have found our site are so thrilled about it and why they send us emails thanking us for this.

Programs

Programs

Tennessee History for Kids web site

Description	Our primary program is the research, writing and creation of the Tennessee History for Kids web site, which is done in collaboration with teachers; the Tennessee Department of Education; and experts in Tennessee history, civics and geography.
Category	Education Curriculum Development
Population Served	Children Only (5 - 14 years), Adults,

Tennessee History Videos

Description	We write, produce and show videos on our web page that bring alive subjects related to Tennessee history, civics and geography. These videos are available for free on our web site and are also under consideration for broadcast by television stations.
Budget	45000
Category	Education Elementary & Secondary Education
Population Served	Children Only (5 - 14 years), Youth/Adolescents only (14 - 19 years),

Promotion and training for web site

Description	We frequently speak at teacher, librarian and principal in-service training sessions. We produce and distribute promotional brochures, posters and pencils, and do everything possible to get media coverage about our efforts. In our first year, for instance, we distributed 45,000 brochures and were written about in 25 Tennessee newspapers.
Category	Education Educational Programs
Population Served	Children Only (5 - 14 years), Adults,

Virtual tours

Description	We produce kid-friendly virtual tours of field trip destinations that, as a side effect, raises the profile of those places. Most of these are supported by small non profits.
Category	Education Educational Programs
Population Served	Children Only (5 - 14 years), Adults,

THFK Booklets

Description	We produce printed versions of different grade specific texts. These are tailor made, low cost, beautifully designed text "booklets" that in most cases students get to KEEP at the end of the year.
Population Served	, ,

CEO Comments

Currently our emphasis is on the THFK booklets and the statewide "tent revival" inservices.

Governance

Board Chair

Board Chair	Mr. Jay Chamness
Company Affiliation	Tennessee General Assembly
Term	Jan 2005 to Dec 2017
Email	rep.rob.briley@legislature.state.tn.us

Board Members

Name	Affiliation	Status
Christina Brumleve		
David Callis		
Rep. Karen Camper		
Bill Carey	Tennessee History for Kids	Voting
Jay Chamness		
Will Cheek		
Ed Fishbough		
David Locke		
Mark Maddox		
Rep. Steve McDaniel		
Lt Gov Ron Ramsey		
Dennis Wagner		
Tracy Woodard		Voting

Board Demographics - Ethnicity

African American/Black	1
Asian American/Pacific Islander	0
Caucasian	7
Hispanic/Latino	0
Native American/American Indian	0
Other	0

Board Demographics - Gender

Male	4
Female	4
Unspecified	0

Governance

Board Term Lengths	3
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Board Term Limits	5
Board Meeting Attendance %	75%
Written Board Selection Criteria?	Yes
Written Conflict of Interest Policy?	Yes
Percentage Making Monetary Contributions	0%
Percentage Making In-Kind Contributions	0%
Constituency Includes Client Representation	No
Number of Full Board Meetings Annually	3

Standing Committees

Management

Executive Director/CEO

Executive Director	Mr. Bill Carey
Term Start	July 2005
Email	bill@tnhistoryforkids.org

Experience

Bill Carey is the author of several Nashville history books, the best known of which are Fortunes, Fiddles and Fried Chicken: A Nashville Business History and Leave No One Behind: Hurricane Katrina and the Rescue of Tulane Hospital. He is also a former journalist who reported for The Tennessean, the Nashville Scene, WPLN (Nashville public radio), (Knoxville) Metro Pulse and NashvillePost.com, which he co-founded in 1999. Carey founded Tennessee History for Kids in 2004, when told by a group of social studies teachers about the great need for materials to help teachers teach Tennessee history, civics and geography. A native of Huntsville, Alabama, and graduate of Vanderbilt University, Carey served as a naval flight officer in the U.S. Navy from 1987 until 1992.

Staff

Full Time Staff	1
Part Time Staff	1
Volunteers	0
Contractors	0
Retention Rate	0%

Plans & Policies

Does the organization have a documented Fundraising Plan?

No

Does the organization have an approved Strategic Plan?

Yes

In case of a change in leadership, is a Management Succession plan in place?

No

Does the organization have a Policies and Procedures Plan?

No

Does the organization have a Nondiscrimination Policy?

No

Does the organization have a Whistle Blower Policy?

Yes

Does the organization have a Document Destruction Policy?

No

Affiliations

Affiliation	Year
Tennessee Council for Social Studies	2005

Financials

Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year Start	July 01 2016
Fiscal Year End	June 30 2017
Projected Revenue	\$353,000.00
Projected Expenses	\$353,000.00
Endowment Value	\$0.00
Endowment Spending Policy	N/A
Endowment Spending Percentage (if selected)	0%

Detailed Financials

Revenue and Expenses

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Total Revenue	\$580,983	\$312,914	\$204,006
Total Expenses	\$504,668	\$263,842	\$175,637

Revenue Sources

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Foundation and Corporation Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0
Government Contributions	\$110,000	\$128,475	\$110,000
Federal	\$0	\$0	\$0
State	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local	\$0	\$0	\$0
Unspecified	\$110,000	\$128,475	\$110,000
Individual Contributions	\$43,488	\$27,012	\$28,240
Indirect Public Support	\$0	\$0	\$0
Earned Revenue	\$427,495	\$157,402	\$65,740
Investment Income, Net of Losses	\$0	\$25	\$26
Membership Dues	\$0	\$0	\$0
Special Events	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue In-Kind	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0

Expense Allocation

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Program Expense	\$393,027	\$188,867	\$47,364
Administration Expense	\$91,641	\$59,975	\$122,753
Fundraising Expense	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$0
Payments to Affiliates	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue/Total Expenses	1.15	1.19	1.16
Program Expense/Total Expenses	78%	72%	27%
Fundraising Expense/Contributed Revenue	13%	10%	0%

Assets and Liabilities

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Total Assets	\$276,790	\$116,734	\$67,662
Current Assets	\$276,790	\$17,034	\$14,772
Long-Term Liabilities	\$0	\$0	\$0
Current Liabilities	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Net Assets	\$276,790	\$116,734	\$67,662

Short Term Solvency

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Current Ratio: Current Assets/Current Liabilities	--	--	--

Long Term Solvency

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Long-Term Liabilities/Total Assets	0%	0%	0%

Top Funding Sources

Fiscal Year	2016	2015	2014
Top Funding Source & Dollar Amount	Program Revenue \$427,495	Program Revenue \$157,402	Government Grants \$110,000
Second Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	Government Grants \$110,000	Government Grants \$128,475	Program Revenue \$65,740
Third Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	Contributions, Gifts and Grants \$43,488	Contributions, Gifts and Grants \$27,012	Contributions, Gifts and Grants \$28,240

Capital Campaign

Is the organization currently conducting a Capital Campaign for an endowment or the purchase of a major asset? No

Capital Campaign Goal \$0.00

Capital Campaign Raised-to-Date Amount \$0.00 as of 0

Capital Campaign Anticipated in Next 5 Years? No

State Charitable Solicitations Permit

TN Charitable Solicitations Registration Yes - Expires Dec 2017

Registration No 0

Organization Comments

Tennessee History for Kids continues to be a regular and vital part of the curriculum for more than 6,000 public school teachers, their students, and other audiences including homeschoolers and college students. The organization continues to do this in spite of the fact that it has less than half the revenue it had just three years

ago. However, we obviously need to continue to build support and raise money if we are to continue to produce an active, updated web site, videos, brochures, booklets and posters.

GivingMatters.com Financial Comments

Financial figures are taken from the 990.

990 prepared by Sean S. Roach, CPA, PLLC.

Foundations & Corporations are included with Individual Contributions.

Comments provided by Kathryn Bennett 3/14/17.

