



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 18, 2011

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**HUMANITIES TENNESSEE BRINGS SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION EXHIBIT TO TENNESSEE**

Exhibit cities in Tennessee include Dyersburg, Memphis, Lexington, Elkton, Cowan and Jamestown

**[release city], Tenn.** – Beginning this fall, six Tennessee cities in will serve as hosts to *The Way We Worked*, an interactive Smithsonian exhibit dedicated to how Americans worked in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This tour is part of the cultural project known as Museum on Main Street (MoMS) that brings small town museums and residents of rural America exhibits from the Smithsonian.

“We are thrilled to partner again with Museum on Main Street to bring another great tour to Tennessee communities,” said Melissa Davis, Humanities Tennessee’s director of the Tennessee Community History Program. “I’m excited not only about the Smithsonian exhibit itself, but also to see what each community brings to the exhibit with their own local historical flavor.”

The traveling exhibit tour will begin in Dyersburg on September 10, hosted by the Dyer County Historical Society. The display will be located in the Professional Development Center located at 305 College Street from Saturday, Sept. 10 through Saturday, Oct. 22. The tour will then continue on to Memphis, Lexington, Elkton, Cowan and Jamestown on the following schedule:

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| <b>September 10 – Oct. 22, 2011</b>  | Dyer County Historical Society<br>Dyersburg, <a href="http://www.dyerhistory.com">www.dyerhistory.com</a>                                  |
| <b>October 29 – Dec. 3, 2011</b>     | Melrose Center for Cultural Enrichment & Orange Mound Civic Organization<br>Memphis, <a href="http://www.omc2471.org">www.omc2471.org</a>  |
| <b>Dec. 10, 2011 – Jan. 21, 2012</b> | Beech River Cultural Center & Museum<br>Lexington, 731-967-0306  |
| <b>January 28 – March 3, 2012</b>    | Elkton Historical Society<br>Elkton, at Ole Smith Store, <a href="http://www.thewayweworked.com">www.thewayweworked.com</a>                |
| <b>March 10 – April 21, 2012</b>     | Cowan Railroad Museum<br>Cowan, at Cowan Center for the Arts, <a href="http://www.cowanrailroadmuseum.org">www.cowanrailroadmuseum.org</a> |
| <b>April 28 – June 2, 2012</b>       | Sergeant York Patriotic Foundation<br>Pall Mall at Progressive Savings Bank, Jamestown, <a href="http://www.sgyork.org">www.sgyork.org</a> |

In addition to the main exhibit, each host site will be displaying a companion exhibit of community history about their community’s workforce history. Visitors will also have the chance to leave audio comments via cell phones at each stop on the tour.

Humanities Tennessee is also bringing the exhibit to social media. Learn more by visiting the “Tennessee – The Way We Worked” page on Facebook at <http://on.fb.me/TNTheWayWeWorked>.

*The Way We Worked* is a Museum on Main Street project organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, funded by the United States Congress.

The tour is presented by Humanities Tennessee, an organization created in 1973 that is dedicated to developing a sense of community through educational programs in the humanities across Tennessee. Partnering with Humanities Tennessee provides each host organization with an organizational assessment by an experienced museum assessor, training to develop interpretive exhibits about local history, funding for companion programs, a free Program Bureau based on exhibit themes, and scholarships to attend the annual Tennessee Association of Museums conference.

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