

University of Minnesota Digital Towns Program

OVERVIEW

University of Minnesota's Digital Towns Program is in its second phase of a pilot program to train participants to visualize and build 3-D models of importance to their community and are seeking to work with two organizations or communities. The goals of this project are to:

- Enable participants to identify, model, and map community's social, cultural, and environmental assets,
- Build social capital within the community across all age groups with special emphasis on young adults,
- Educate participants and community members in the value of community identity and online exposure,
- Foster historic and cultural preservation of places and institutions,
- Empower the community to seek opportunities for economic development including increased tourism, strengthened business retention, and enhanced business recruitment,

WHY APPLY?

Do you have a great looking community that you would like to share with the entire world? Do you like to virtually explore places in Google Earth? Ever wish you could make 3-D models of buildings that



McMinnville, TN Mainstreet in 3D

WHAT THE DIGITAL TOWNS PROGRAM WILL PROVIDE

- Facilitation with your community group about the important features and landmarks in your community.
- 10 to 12 hours of instruction via workshops on community development and 3-D modeling tools (Google Sketchup, Google Earth,). Workshop timings and location will be determined in collaboration with the group that is selected as the pilot.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- ATTEND THE WEBINAR ON JANUARY 5, 2012 FROM 12 TO 1PM.
- CONTACT NEIL LINSCHIED
lins0041@umn.edu or 507-476-1068
- CONTACT STEVE ROOS
roosx008@umn.edu or 612-624-9273

are important to you and your community? If so, through the **University of Minnesota's Digital Towns Program**, your community, local government, non-profit, or educational institution can learn to build and share 3-D versions of places that are important to you.

Please check out Little Falls, our inaugural pilot community, on Google Earth to see what they did through the Digital Towns Program. An additional example of a similar project can be found at [Http://z.umn.edu/3d](http://z.umn.edu/3d).

More than 350 million Internet users have turned to Google Earth to better understand and navigate their world. They use the tool to observe their community from above, but also to consider a real-estate investment, to plan a travel itinerary, or to look at a cityscape from a new perspective. 3-D models of a building are placed in Google Earth through a relatively easy to use tool called Google Sketchup. The following are just a few ways you can use these tools:

- Historic preservation planning
- Public improvement planning
- New construction design and planning
- Business recruitment
- Business inventory
- Event and Festival planning

WHO CAN APPLY?

We are looking to work with a non-profit, government, school, service club, or educational group such as a historical society, main street group, chamber of commerce or economic development authority. This training is geared toward volunteer groups and not intended as professional level training for governmental staff or administration.

WHAT YOU NEED TO APPLY

- Four to five dedicated volunteers to:
 - Attend 10 to 12 hours of training sessions
 - Develop digital models of important community landmarks
 - Provide computer lab space
- Five to ten member advisory committee to provide guidance and publicity for the project. Leaders from the chamber of commerce, economic development authority, historical society, law enforcement, school, local government, and other leading organizations are good to have in the advisory committee.
- Ability to host trainings by reserving a nearby computer lab.
- Prepare an implementation plan to continue mapping the community with some technical assistance and facilitation by the Digital Town Project coordinator.
- Complete an evaluation of the Digital Town project after receiving the final training.
- Provide timely feedback on the report prepared by the University of Minnesota team.
- Assist the Digital Town Digital Town program coordinator to track the impact of the project.

Application for Digital Towns Program

Application Deadline: January 20, 2012

If your community or organization is interested in participating in University of Minnesota Digital Town Program please fill out the following information and return to:

**University of Minnesota Extension
ATTN: Neil Linscheid
email: lins0041@umn.edu
Phone: 507-476-1068 Fax: 507-337-2802
1424 E. College Dr., Suite 100
Marshall, MN 56258**

or

**Center for Rural Design
ATTN: Steve Roos
email: roosx008@umn.edu
Phone: 612-624-9273 Fax: 612-624-1704
Room 277 Coffey Hall, 1420 Eckles Ave
St. Paul, MN 55108**

Your application will be primarily judged on the following criteria:

1. Your response to the essay question: **“Please describe the important man made physical features of your community and why you would like to model and share these with the rest of the world.”**

Example of a similar project: <http://www.preservationnation.org/main-street/main-street-news/pdfs/McMinnville.pdf>

2. Your ability to assemble a core group (four to five people) of dedicated participants to receive and implement the training. Please list names and other required information on the form on the following pages.

3. Your ability to assemble a diverse group to serve on the advisory committee. Please list names and other required information on the form on the following pages.



Main Contact Person's Name:	
Organization	Profession
Address:	
Telephone:	Email:

Participant 1 Name:	
Organization:	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:

Participant 2 Name:	
Organization:	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:

Participant 3 Name:	
Organization:	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:

Participant 4 Name:	
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Organization:	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:

Participant 5 Name:

Organization:	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:

Participant 6 Name:

Organization:	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:

Participant 7 Name:

Organization:	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:



Advisory Member 1 Name:

Organization

Profession:

Telephone:

Email:

Advisory Member 2 Name:

Organization

Profession:

Telephone:

Email:

Advisory Member 3 Name:

Organization

Profession:

Telephone:

Email:

Advisory Member 4 Name:

Organization

Profession:

Telephone:

Email:



Advisory Member 5 Name:	
Organization	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:

Advisory Member 6 Name:	
Organization	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:

Advisory Member 7 Name:	
Organization	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:

Advisory Member 8 Name:	
Organization	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:



Advisory Member 9 Name:	
Organization	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:

Advisory Member 10 Name:	
Organization	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:

Advisory Member 11 Name:	
Organization	Profession:
Telephone:	Email:

Advisory Member 12 Name:	
Organization	Profession:
Telephone:	Email: