

Minnesota Journeys

A collaboration of Twin Cities PBS -TPT, MPTA, & The Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums

For the past 200 years, **migration has shaped and reshaped Minnesota**. Many immigrants were drawn by the promise of land or greater freedom. Others came seeking refuge from famine or war. Journeys of hope for some have meant journeys of despair for others, as Native peoples were pushed off ancestral lands.



“Artifacts are the touchstones that bring memories and meanings to life. They make history real.”

Steven Lubar and Kathleen Kendrick, Smithsonian historians

Just 100 years ago, 70% of Minnesotans were either foreign-born or had at least one parent born outside of the United States. Today, while less than 10% of the state’s population is foreign-born, **most Minnesotans are only one or two generations away from a migration story.**

Twin Cities PBS & the five other stations of the Minnesota Public Television Association propose **Minnesota Journeys, a statewide public history project** that will use objects – or artifacts -- as a lens on Minnesota’s past and present.

Minnesota Journeys

HF516 | SF762

Capturing, Sharing & Understanding Our Immigration History

Every person who leaves their home carries something with them: seeds and recipes, holy books and photographs, letters and clothing and tools. These objects tell the stories of the past, of losses and dreams, and of hopes for the future -- **together, they tell the story of Minnesota.**

The story of Minnesota – like the nation overall – is a story of migrations.

Especially as we enter a Census year, this initiative will provide important and rich opportunities for Minnesotans of all ages to **explore, understand and preserve** the history that has shaped who we are today and **who we are becoming.**

DIGITAL STORY WALL

Easy-to-use, digital space where Minnesotans can share objects, and the stories behind them, that illuminate Minnesota migrations.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTARIES

Exploration of the people who have sought and found home in Minnesota, and how they have shaped our state.

ARTIST INSIGHTS

Commission and curate art from multiple MN artists that inspires deeper understanding and sparks reflection about who we are.

COLLECTIONS

Curated “collections” of objects and stories will illuminate and preserve Minnesota’s history and legacy for future generations.