



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

# Humanities Hawai'i

*Between 2008 and 2012, institutions and individuals in Hawai'i received \$5.7 million from the National Endowment for the Humanities and Hawai'i Council for the Humanities for projects that explore the human endeavor and preserve our cultural heritage. Below are some examples.*

- About 200,000 pages of historic Hawai'ian newspapers such as the *Hilo Tribune* and the *Honolulu Republican* from 1880 to 1922 are being digitized at the University of Hawai'i, Manoa, with support from a \$611,000 grant. This work is part of **Chronicling America**, an NEH collaboration with the Library of Congress.
- Twenty-five college-level faculty explored **Silk Road history** in a five-week summer institute supported by a \$200,000 grant and organized by the East-West Center Honolulu. The institute was hosted by the Asian Studies Department, a collaboration between the center and the University of Hawai'i.
- The **Friends of Iolani Palace** received a grant of about \$4,500 to acquire storage furniture and environmental monitoring equipment for the collections at Iolani Palace, Honolulu, a National Historic Landmark.
- In collaboration with the Redlands Institute, the Kohala Center at Kamuela used a start-up grant of about \$30,000 to plan a cross-disciplinary, cross-cultural "**Digital Collaboratory**" for a geospatially referenced database of the island of Hawai'i.
- **Kinship and lineage in Huizhou Prefecture during the Ming dynasty** was the subject of a \$40,000 fellowship awarded to Qitao Guo, a professor at the University of Hawai'i, Manoa. Guo reviewed genealogies in Huizhou, China, performing research that provides the basis of a book in preparation, *Community, Culture, and Commerce: The Rise of Elite Lineages in Ming-Dynasty Huizhou*.
- Assisted by a \$266,500 grant, the Kona Historical Society, in Captain Cook, developed interpretive materials such as a living history presentation, on-site exhibitions, a publication, and a website about the **Kalukalu Ranch Homestead** and the nineteenth-century **H. N. Greenwell General Store and Ranch**.
- **Hawai'i History Day**, now in its 22nd year, promotes civics education and state history, reaching over 7,500 students through lesson plans and teacher workshops.
- The nationally acclaimed family literacy program **Motheread/Fatheread** reaches more than 8,000 lower-income Hawaiians each year with the support of the Hawai'i Council for the Humanities.
- **We Go Jam**, a program devoted to native Hawaiian music and a book by the same name, is supported by the Hawai'i Council for the Humanities. It follows "We Go Eat," an earlier exhibit and book inspired by the Smithsonian traveling exhibit "Key Ingredients."
- Alfred Shaheen was the fashion entrepreneur who introduced Americans to Hawaiian shirts and dresses. **The Hawai'i Council for the Humanities** recently supported an exhibition on the history of his designs and island manufacturing.



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# Humanities Nationwide

*NEH supports programs and projects that contribute directly and dramatically to the cultural life and historical perspective of tens of millions of Americans. Here are a few examples.*

## **PRESERVING THE FIRST DRAFT OF HISTORY**

Nothing captures the character of a community or the spirit of an era better than its newspapers. *Chronicling America*, a partnership between NEH and the Library of Congress, is digitizing millions of pages taken from newspapers dating back to the early Republic, making it possible to search the pages online for any word or phrase—at no charge.

## **AMERICAN VOICES**

The papers of prominent Americans are a vital part of our cultural heritage, and NEH funds many projects to assemble and preserve them, including complete sets of collected papers for ten presidents from Washington to Lincoln to Eisenhower as well as public figures such as Thomas Edison, Martin Luther King Jr., George Marshall, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, and Mark Twain.

## **SUCCEEDING BY THE BOOK**

Over the past forty-five years, scholars supported by Endowment grants have produced more than 7,000 books—including numerous classics such as Dumas Malone's *Jefferson and His Time*, James McPherson's *Battle Cry of Freedom*, and Louis Menand's *The Metaphysical Club: A Story of Ideas in America*—that have garnered scores of awards, including eighteen Pulitzer Prizes.

## **PAST AND PRESENT IN PIXELS**

NEH investments in the digital humanities make it possible for a student to walk the corridors of the Temple of Karnak in ancient Egypt in virtual 3-D, or to visit the 1964–65 World's Fair held in New York. Spectral imaging has been used to create an online critical edition of explorer David Livingstone's previously unreadable field diary.

## **GENERATING PRIVATE SUPPORT**

Almost \$2 billion in humanities support has been generated by the Challenge Grants program, which requires recipients to raise \$3 or \$4 in outside funds for every federal dollar they receive.

## **HISTORY ON SCREEN AND IN TOWN**

NEH-supported films, grounded in scholarly research, bring history alive. For example, twenty million Americans watched Ken Burns's seven-part *The War* (2007), and ten million saw *The Abolitionists* (2013). NEH also funds hundreds of exhibitions—not only blockbusters such as "King Tut" that make the wonders and heritage of other cultures accessible to the American public, but also smaller projects such as *Lincoln, the Constitution, and the Civil War* that reach classrooms across the country.

## **KEEPING TEACHERS UP-TO-DATE**

Seminars, institutes, and workshops give teachers the opportunity to refresh and deepen their knowledge about the humanities through intense study. In the past three years, more than 2,100 college teachers and 7,500 schoolteachers have participated in NEH-supported programs, to the benefit of more than one million students.

## **REACHING ACROSS THE NATION**

Last year, state humanities councils, NEH's affiliates in the fifty states, the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories put on 16,800 reading and discussion programs, 6,500 literacy programs, 4,000 speakers bureau presentations, 5,400 conferences, 1,750 Chautauqua events, 24,000 media programs, and 7,300 technology, preservation, and local history events. The 56 councils also sponsored 2,300 exhibitions.