



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities & Wyoming

Between 2008 and 2012, institutions and individuals in Wyoming received \$3.4 million from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Wyoming Humanities Council for projects that explore the human endeavor and preserve our cultural heritage. Below are some examples.

- The Buffalo Bill Historical Center received a \$200,000 grant to develop a digital version of the **Papers of William F. Cody**, combining separate papers collections into one searchable and publicly available resource.
- Support from a \$161,000 grant enabled 80 Wyoming schoolteachers to attend a one-week seminar in which they visited historic landmarks and archives to study the struggle for **women's rights in the western states and territories**, including Wyoming, where women gained the right to vote half a century before passage of the Nineteenth Amendment.
- The **Laramie Plains Museum** has received \$60,000 in grants to help preserve its growing collection of textiles, art, and historic artifacts. The museum is housed in the historic Ivinson Mansion, which was built in the late nineteenth century for banker and erstwhile railroad-tie dealer Edward Ivinson
- The **Sheridan County Library** and the **Natrona County Public Library** have both received grants of \$2,500 to support presentation of "Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War," a traveling exhibition developed by the National Constitution Center.
- **Northwest College**, a community college in Powell with little over 2,000 students, has been awarded a \$131,000 challenge grant to support the creation of a campus center devoted to intercultural programming.
- The **Buffalo Bill Historical Center**, in Cody (named after Buffalo Bill, whose real name was William F. Cody), received a \$40,000 grant for a traveling exhibition, catalog, and programs on the cultures of the Plains Indians.
- The **University of Wyoming** in Laramie received a \$6,000 grant for a conservation assessment of 369 works of art on paper, including some by the nineteenth-century artist Hans Kleiber, known for his studies and landscapes of Wyoming.
- Each semester, the Wyoming Humanities Council partners with five other cultural agencies to sponsor **Saturday University** in Jackson Hole, where students take free, college-level courses in such topics as "Who Pays for Climate Change?," "Democracy: Lessons from Afghanistan and Iraq," and "Theories of Punishment: What Is Justice?"
- **Faces of Addiction: A Humanities Perspective** featured screenings in seven Wyoming cities of films about different types of addiction. These were accompanied by discussions led by humanities scholars and professionals familiar with addiction issues.
- Fifty-seven writers contributed prose and poetry about the borders that separate us, our homes, and our lands in *Wyoming Fence Lines*, an anthology edited by David Romtvedt and published in 2007 by the **Wyoming Humanities Council**, which also received a \$65,000 grant to support "Between Fences," a multi-component lecture, discussion, and documentary project.



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

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.