



## NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

September 3, 2020

**VIA FedEx**

Board of Directors  
Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities  
66 Bridge Street  
Northampton, MA 01060  
Attn: [REDACTED] Chair

OIG Report Number: OIG-20-08 (DR)

Dear Board Members:

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Office of Inspector General (OIG) has completed a desk review of the single audit report prepared by Whittlesey PC (the "IPA"), which includes Federal assistance programs administered by the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities (the "Council") during the organization's fiscal year (FY) ended October 31, 2019. The independent auditors previously furnished a copy of their audit report dated March 9, 2020, to the Council. The Federal Audit Clearinghouse accepted the single audit reporting package on March 28, 2020. The IPA issued unmodified opinions<sup>1</sup> regarding the financial statements and compliance with Federal requirements. Furthermore, the IPA issued no written findings in conjunction with the single audit.<sup>2</sup>

Our review was limited to an examination of the single audit reporting package, email exchanges with the Executive Director of the Council, a limited review of select IPA workpapers, and review of applicable NEH grant files and accounting records. We did not perform a comprehensive examination of the underlying audit documentation to evaluate the adequacy of the audit work performed; rather, we used the *Guide For Desk Reviews of Single Audit Reports (2016 Edition)*, as issued by the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), to determine whether the audit report meets the core reporting requirements stipulated by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit*

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<sup>1</sup> **Unmodified opinion.** The opinion expressed by the IPA upon concluding that the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. An unmodified opinion represents the highest level of assurance the IPA can provide that the Council's financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

<sup>2</sup> In a separate letter to Council management dated March 9, 2020, the IPA identified a matter that is an opportunity for strengthening internal controls and/or operating efficiency.



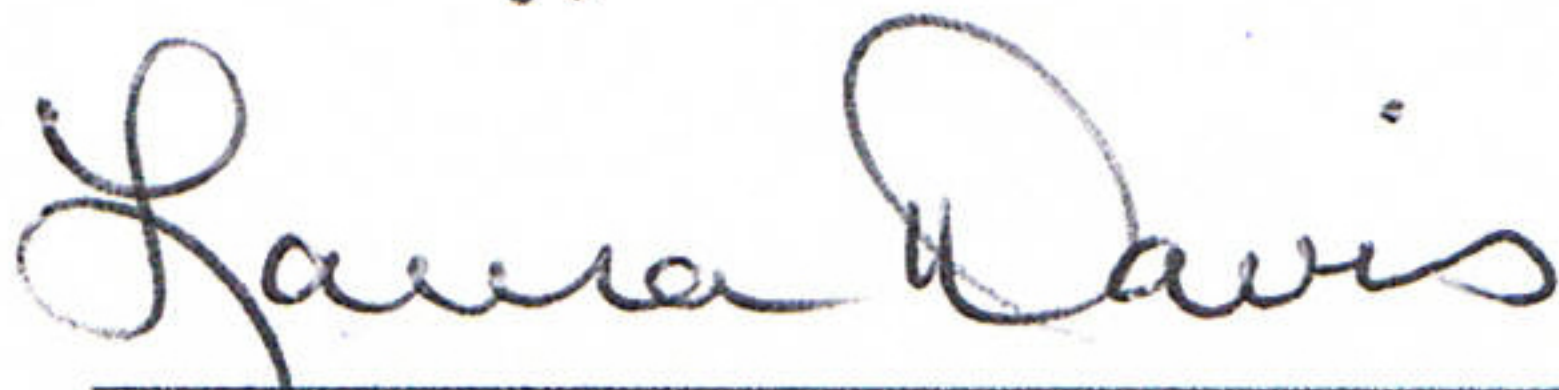
*Requirements for Federal Awards* (2 CFR Part 200). Based on our review, we can assign a rating to the IPA's reporting package of either **Pass**, **Pass with Deficiencies**, or **Fail**. Audit reports receiving a **Fail** rating require corrective action.

We assigned a rating of **Pass** to the FY 2019 reporting package. We determined that the audit report meets Federal reporting requirements, as evidenced by the lack of any noted exceptions. Accordingly, our office is accepting this single audit report in its current form and no corrective action deemed necessary.

Please be advised that we are sending a copy of this letter to Whittlesey PC to inform the firm of the results of our review.

If you have any questions concerning this letter or need accounting assistance, please contact Mr. Daniel M. Gelfand at (202) 606-8353 or via email at [dgelfand@neh.gov](mailto:dgelfand@neh.gov).

Sincerely,



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Laura Davis  
Inspector General

**Distribution List:**

Auditor:

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