



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities

**APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012**

**Submitted to Congress
February 2011**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. SUMMARY AND HIGHLIGHTS	
The Humanities in America.....	1
Serving the Nation for More Than Forty-Five Years.....	2
Special Initiative: <i>Bridging Cultures</i>	4
Other Program and Budget Highlights.....	5
II. BUDGET TABLE.....	9
III. Special Initiative: <i>Bridging Cultures</i>	11
IV. PROGRAMS	
Education Programs.....	17
Federal/State Partnership.....	25
Preservation and Access	29
Public Programs	39
Research Programs	45
Office of Digital Humanities	53
Office of Challenge Grants.....	59
Treasury Funds.....	65
V. FY 2012 PERFORMANCE PLAN	67
VI. ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET	93

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Fiscal Year 2012 Appropriation Request

SUMMARY AND HIGHLIGHTS

The Administration and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) request an appropriation totaling \$146,255,000 for the agency for fiscal year 2012:

- \$102,700,000 for the Endowment's grant programs in support of high quality projects in the humanities, including \$40,100,000 for the operations, projects, and programs of the 56 state and territorial humanities councils;
- \$4,000,000 to support NEH's new special initiative—*Bridging Cultures*—that will enhance Americans' understanding of the nation's rich cultural heritage, as well as the cultural complexity of the world in which we live;
- \$11,500,000 in matching funds, including funds for the NEH Challenge Grants program to help stimulate and match private donations in support of humanities institutions and organizations; and
- \$28,055,000 for salaries and expenses needed to operate the agency.

This request demonstrates NEH's commitment to help restrain federal spending at a time of great fiscal challenges for the nation. With this level of funding, we believe that NEH can make a credible investment in a range of humanities activities that will yield both immediate and long-term returns to the nation.

The Humanities in America

On the assumption that over the next several years the need to restore fiscal order will be a major concern of the federal government, where does the case for continued public support for the humanities fit in?

The mission of the NEH is to facilitate research in the humanities disciplines—ranging from history, philosophy, and literature to ethics, jurisprudence and comparative religion—and to bring humanities programs to every corner of the land. Over the years, NEH has helped support the publication of more than 7,000 books, 16 of which have won Pulitzer Prizes and 20 of which have received Bancroft prizes. Each year, NEH-supported humanities projects digitize hundreds of thousands of pages of historic U.S. newspapers; provide subject matter training for thousands of school teachers and college and university teachers; and reach millions of Americans with high quality educational documentaries for television and radio and exhibitions, reading, and discussion programs in museums and libraries across the nation. And, in the last year alone, NEH through its state humanities councils—the Endowment's affiliates in the fifty states and six U.S.

jurisdictions and territories—put on 17,700 reading and discussion programs, 5,700 literacy programs, 5,800 speakers bureau presentations, 5,800 conferences, 2,300 Chautauqua events, 7,120 media programs, and 7,600 technology, preservation, and local history events.

The universe of individuals and institutions engaged in the humanities in the United States, which NEH helps to support through its grant making and national leadership, is significant. The nation's 4,400 institutions of higher learning employ approximately 125,000 humanities faculty who teach millions of students. An additional 3.7 million school teachers—many, if not most, teaching humanities subjects—are hard at work educating the millions of school children who attend the more than 127,000 K-12 schools in this country. Just as importantly, the nation's 17,500 museums and historical societies, which each year greet 2.3 million visitors per day, and the 56 state humanities councils, which annually reach millions of citizens of all ages in every state and territory, form the cultural backbone of cities and towns across the country. Collectively, these institutions, and the people they employ, buttress our democracy, strengthen communities, and form a critical part of the American economy.

NEH is singularly positioned to advance basic research in the humanities essential for sustaining a thriving infrastructure of knowledge and ideas that has been at the core of U.S. leadership and a model for the rest of the world. No other institution, public or private, can match or substitute for the breadth and depth of humanities projects supported by the NEH and its allied state humanities councils.

While public expenditures for NEH programs can be measured precisely, the indirect costs to society of not paying attention to the disciplines are real. A citizenry that does not understand its unique heritage, as well as the heritage of other cultures, will not benefit from the lessons of history, the stimulus of literature, the values that philosophy can illumine and clarify. In a world where America's role will continually be tested, the nation cannot afford to ignore the humanities. NEH takes seriously the words of the preamble to our authorizing legislation: "Democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens."

NEH's FY 2012 budget and program plan will enable the agency to provide grants and awards to projects across all fields and disciplines of the humanities. The Endowment's highly respected grant programs advance the humanities on a peer-reviewed basis, and the innovative programming led by state humanities councils accommodates diverse, decentralized approaches throughout the nation. NEH grants encourage discovery and innovation in the humanities and expand the nation's knowledge base, which helps to spur economic growth and development.

NEH: Serving the Nation for More Than Forty-Five Years

In the 1965 legislation that created the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Congress of the United States declared that "encouragement and support of national progress . . . in the humanities . . . , while primarily a matter for private and local initiative, is also an appropriate matter of concern to the Federal Government." Over the

decades, NEH has demonstrated conclusively that it is a constructive presence in the nation's educational and cultural life by complementing and assisting private and state and local efforts on behalf of the humanities. The importance of the NEH mission, and the agency's success in fulfilling it, has been acknowledged by educators and scholars; business and philanthropic leaders; local, state, and national leaders from both political parties; and, most importantly, by the American people.

NEH annually fulfills the serious national purpose Congress has set for it and builds on its record of service to the American people. The Endowment's grant programs are time-tested and cost-effective instruments for identifying and supporting excellent humanities projects through the agency's rigorous, multi-stage review process. Like the processes used by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation, NEH's evaluation system involves external, independent scholars and experts in various fields—nearly 1,000 of whom participated in the review of grant applications in FY 2010. The NEH imprimatur, in turn, provides a seal of approval that often serves as a catalyst for private sector funding.

Over more than forty-five years, the Endowment has built an extraordinary record of achievement through its grant programs and national leadership. Noteworthy humanities projects that federal funding for NEH has made possible include:

COLLECTED EDITIONS OF THE PAPERS OF U.S. PRESIDENTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS IMPORTANT TO OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE, including the papers of George Washington, James Madison, and Dwight Eisenhower and the writings and papers of Mark Twain, Thomas Edison, Jane Addams, George C. Marshall, and Martin Luther King, Jr.;

SUMMER SEMINARS, INSTITUTES, WORKSHOPS, AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOL AND COLLEGE TEACHERS on important topics, texts, and questions in the humanities. These programs annually reach thousands of K-12 school teachers and faculty at institutions of higher education, who in turn reach an estimated half-million American schoolchildren each year;

READING AND DISCUSSION PROGRAMS, BOOK FESTIVALS, LECTURES, FILMS, AND OTHER PUBLIC EDUCATION PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY STATE HUMANITIES COUNCILS that annually reach millions of Americans in school auditoriums; local museums and libraries; community centers, court houses, and state capitols; church and grange halls; and on college campuses;

ACCLAIMED TELEVISION DOCUMENTARIES THAT MAKE THE HUMANITIES ACCESSIBLE AND EXCITING TO MILLIONS OF AMERICANS, such as Ken Burns's recent prize-winning series on World War II, *The War*; biographies of presidents and American writers; and a host of other presentations on society, politics, and culture;

PRESERVATION OF AND ACCESS TO BOOKS, NEWSPAPERS, AND OTHER IMPORTANT RESOURCES AND REFERENCE MATERIALS, including projects to preserve, digitize, and post on the Internet millions of pages of historic U.S. newspapers;

INNOVATION AND LEADERSHIP IN THE HUMANITIES, such as NEH's Office of Digital Humanities, which is spurring the use of digital technology in humanities research, education, and public programming. NEH also has forged creative partnerships, such as an ongoing collaboration with National Science Foundation to record, document, and archive endangered languages worldwide that are on the verge of extinction, including hundreds of American Indian languages;

EXHIBITIONS AT MUSEUMS, LIBRARIES, AND HISTORIC ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE NATION that bring millions of Americans rich historical and cultural experiences that would not otherwise be available locally; and

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP IN THE HUMANITIES THAT HAS LED TO THE PUBLICATION OF THOUSANDS OF BOOKS, many of which have been honored with Pulitzer Prizes and other awards for intellectual distinction.

Public funds appropriated to the Endowment also have had a remarkable track record in helping to attract private support for the humanities across the country. The Endowment directly encourages private giving to the humanities through its authority to match private gifts with federal funds. Since the agency's inception, more than \$1.685 billion in nonfederal dollars have been generated by the NEH Challenge Grant program, which typically requires three dollars in gifts for every NEH dollar awarded to a humanities institution. Another \$420 million has been raised in one-to-one matches for specific humanities projects supported by our other grant programs. In addition, NEH awards also stimulate financial participation and commitment by the institutions and organizations receiving the grants: In fiscal year 2010 alone, this "cost-sharing" by recipients of Endowment grants amounted to more than \$108 million.

The FY 2012 Budget Request

In the pages that follow NEH provides detailed justifications for its new and ongoing programmatic activities and initiatives. Highlighted below are the salient features of these programs.

Special Initiative: *Bridging Cultures*

During a time of rapid global change and persistent uncertainty about the future, the vitality of our twenty-first century democracy depends on a commitment to understanding the historical and cultural forces that have shaped and continue to shape people's lives in our own diverse communities and around the world. NEH's new initiative, *Bridging Cultures*, is designed to renew and reinforce the bridges between the different cultures and viewpoints that are part of the fabric of American life. These

bridges of mutual respect have deep roots in the American tradition of civility, dating back to the Founders' concerns about the destructive powers of "factions" in our democracy. *Bridging Cultures* is also designed to strengthen bridges across international lines that will enhance Americans' understanding of the contemporary global context for economic, political and cultural interactions among peoples.

The aims of *Bridging Cultures* relate directly to the mission articulated in NEH's enabling legislation, which mandates that the agency encourage "understanding of the nation's rich cultural heritage," foster "a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups," and "relate the humanities to the current conditions of national life." By making connections across space and time, the initiative will help Americans gain a deeper understanding of their own varied heritage, as well as the history and cultures of other nations. Shared human experiences of history, culture, and creativity form lasting bridges between people and societies, and the humanities play a unique role in enhancing understanding and respect for diverse cultures and subcultures within America's borders and around the globe.

The initiative will make use of the agency's extensive experience in working with cultural organizations, institutions of higher education, as well as the state humanities councils, to reach diverse segments of the public in every state and U.S. territory. NEH recently awarded grants for eight pilot projects at cultural and educational institutions around the country that will bring together scholars and members of the public in discussions of two pressing national concerns—the role of civility in democracy and the need for a deeper understanding of the Muslim world. Beginning in the spring of 2011, these grantees will host regional forums designed to share with members of the public the best of recent humanities research on these topics. Participants will also collaborate with educators and members of state humanities councils to produce materials such as books, videos, exhibitions, and other public programming to disseminate its content to local, regional, and national audiences. With funds requested for FY 2012, the Endowment would be able to support several national programs based on these efforts.

Bridging Cultures will gather momentum as key elements of the agency's multi-year initiative are put into place. For example, the Endowment has recently established a new grant category within its America's Media Makers program—Bridging Cultures through Films: International Topics—that will support documentary films that examine critical issues in ethics, religion, or politics through an international lens. Another special opportunity within our Challenge Grants program is aimed at strengthening cross-cultural understanding through the humanities at America's two-year colleges. The funds requested for *Bridging Cultures* for FY 2012 would enable the Endowment to support other education, research, and public programs on the initiative's themes and objectives.

Other FY 2012 Program and Budget Highlights

The Endowment's FY 2012 budget request reflects a recalibration of the agency's programming mix. NEH's *We the People* initiative, for example, will be discontinued as an agency theme, although several of its most successful programs will be maintained.

Since FY 2004, *We the People* has received annual appropriations totaling \$96.872 million (through FY 2010). The Endowment used these funds to create a number of new programs and special grant categories and to supplement grants on American history and culture that were supported in the agency's other programs. Two of the most effective and productive of these grant opportunities—the National Digital Newspapers Program and Landmarks of American History and Culture workshops for school teachers and community college faculty—have now been fully integrated into the regular operations of the Endowment's program divisions and will continue to be funded in FY 2012. And a third—Picturing America—enjoys the ongoing support of the Verizon Foundation through its funding of the NEH's EDSITEment website portal. As a further indication of this project's broad impact, we are pleased to note that Picturing America materials have now been translated into four languages for use by U.S. embassies abroad.

We hasten to underscore that even with the discontinuance of *We the People*, NEH will, as always, continue to support numerous projects throughout the agency on American history and culture. Such support will also be available as part of the new *Bridging Cultures* initiative, which has as one of its main objectives helping Americans learn more about our rich and varied heritage.

A brief overview of the Endowment's remaining programmatic objectives for FY 2012 follows. (These plans are discussed in more detail in the individual division, office, and program sections of this budget submission.) While we plan to maintain the overall structure of our grant program divisions and offices in the coming year, at the request level these programs would make fewer awards and/or awards at smaller amounts than were awarded in FY 2010 at the agency's appropriated level. We think this is the best use of NEH's resources and would enable us to continue to support a broad and diverse group of high quality humanities projects throughout the nation.

- Support for the programs and activities of the state humanities councils. NEH's work in FY 2012 will be complemented and extended by the programs and projects of the NEH-affiliated humanities councils in the states and U.S. territories. With their strong networks of cultural and educational institutions, the councils are extremely well positioned to complement and extend NEH programming and reach citizens in diverse and remote settings. Every state has a different programmatic mix. The state councils support reading and discussion programs; state and local book festivals; educational institutes for elementary and secondary school teachers; scholarship on state and local history; Chautauqua-style historical performances; radio and film projects on humanities themes; and programs in places as diverse as veterans hospitals, museums, libraries, and even in state prisons.
- Facilitate basic research and original scholarship in the humanities. America's leadership in providing research and scholarship in the humanities is being challenged around the world. In this context, the Endowment's FY 2012 budget request will remain a key factor in providing support for advanced research and scholarship in the humanities in the United States. Funding will allow NEH to

make hundreds of awards to individual scholars, as well as grants to institutions and teams of scholars engaged in collaborative projects, to explore subjects that enrich our knowledge of the people, ideas, and events that make up the record of civilization. By supporting humanities research and scholarship, the Endowment also contributes to faculty enrichment, improved teaching, and quality public programming.

- Preserve and increase access to cultural and intellectual resources essential for the American people. In FY 2012, the agency's preservation and access grant programs will continue to focus on projects that preserve and reformat the intellectual content of historically significant books and periodicals; preserve and provide access to important archival materials and library special collections; create humanities research tools and reference works such as dictionaries, bibliographies, and encyclopedias; record, document, and archive information relating to the estimated 3,000 of the world's 6,000-7,000 current spoken languages that are on the verge of extinction; offer preservation education and training opportunities; and provide grants to smaller institutions in support of their special preservation and training needs.
- Strengthen humanities teaching in the nation's schools and colleges. In FY 2012, NEH will continue to help educators expand and revitalize their knowledge and understanding of the subjects they study and teach. The Endowment supports teacher and faculty development projects that are based on rigorous humanities scholarship and directed by distinguished scholars and master teachers. We note that while many of the federal government's education programs are student-centric, NEH's programs are faculty-centric. The ultimate beneficiaries, however, are the hundreds of thousands of American students who annually are taught by teachers who have attended NEH-sponsored programs.
- Provide opportunities for Americans to engage in lifelong learning in the humanities. In FY 2012, the Endowment will provide support for public humanities projects that enable millions of Americans to explore significant works, ideas, and events in the humanities. The Endowment will support a wide range of public humanities programs that reach large and diverse audiences. These programs make use of a variety of formats including television and radio documentaries, museum exhibitions, interpretation at historic sites, and websites and other digital media. In FY 2012, NEH also will continue to support programs for general audiences in recognition of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War.
- Encourage innovative use of digital information technology. In the humanities as in the sciences, digital technology has changed the way scholars perform their work. Through its Office of Digital Humanities, NEH fosters the development of a wide variety of innovative digital humanities projects. In FY 2012, we will continue to build on and extend the successes of this effort. In particular, the request level would enable the Endowment to establish a new grant category of major implementation awards to the most promising experimental projects that have received support through the innovative Digital Start-Up Grants program,

which for the last four years has provided small seed grants to scholars to develop plans, prototypes, or demonstration models for cutting-edge digital humanities projects.

- Strengthen the institutional base of the humanities. The NEH Challenge Grants program in FY 2012 will continue to assist educational and cultural institutions in developing new sources of long-term support for their humanities programs. Challenge grants, are recognized for their success in encouraging private giving to the humanities. FY 2012 will be the second year of NEH's new special initiative to encourage two-year colleges to strengthen their humanities activities, programs, and resources. Encouragement for these institutions that have been reluctant to apply for challenge grants will include a lower matching ratio of 2-to-1 (instead of the standard 3-to-1) and an extended grant period to allow increased time to meet the NEH fundraising challenge.
- Leverage third-party contributions to humanities projects. Encouraging private-sector support for cultural activities is an important goal of the agency. For FY 2012, NEH requests funding for its Treasury funds account, which will be used to match nonfederal contributions to individual projects in the humanities. NEH Treasury matching grants, which match nonfederal donations on a one-to-one basis, have proven to be an effective mechanism for leveraging the contributions of businesses, foundations, and individuals on behalf of the humanities.
- Collect, analyze, and disseminate statistical information about the condition of the humanities. The Endowment has recently entered into a multi-year partnership with the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAAS)—an honorary society that recognizes achievement in the natural sciences, social sciences, the humanities, and the arts—to sustain and extend AAAS's developmental work on the *Humanities Indicators* project. This project, which is responsive to NEH's legislative mandate to develop a "system of national information and data collection . . . on the humanities," is making a wide range of humanities data available to researchers, educators, and the general public. These data will equip policymakers and institutional administrators with statistical tools to help inform decision-making about primary and secondary education, higher education, the humanities workforce, levels and sources of humanities funding, public understanding of the humanities, and other areas of concern to the humanities community. This partnership will be continued in FY 2012.
- Provide administrative funds to operate the agency effectively and efficiently. The NEH budget request includes funds needed to support the cost of operating the agency at the FY 2012 request level while maintaining a high level of customer service. Funds requested would support personnel compensation and benefits; building rent and security; the agency's grant application review system; NEH's participation in the government-wide Grants.gov program; and other necessary expenses. In FY 2012, NEH also will continue to coordinate with its sister agency, the National Endowment for the Arts, in an effort to identify and reduce any duplicative support functions.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Summary of FY 2012 Appropriation Request
(in thousands of dollars)

	FY 2010 Appropriation	FY 2011 C.R. ^{1/}	FY 2012 Request	Difference between FY 2012 and FY 2010
<i>Bridging Cultures</i>	--	^{2/}	\$4,000	+\$4,000
Education Programs	\$15,616	\$15,616	13,550	-2,066
Federal/State Partnership	40,370	40,370	40,100	-270
Preservation and Access	17,116	17,116	15,600	-1,516
Public Programs	15,616	15,616	13,800	-1,816
Research Programs	16,866	16,866	14,900	-1,966
Digital Humanities	4,866	4,866	4,250	-616
We the People	14,500	14,500	--	-14,500
<u>Program Development</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>-250</u>
Subtotal - Definite Funds	125,700	125,700	106,700	-19,000
Challenge Grants	9,500	9,500	8,750	-750
<u>Treasury Funds</u>	<u>4,800</u>	<u>4,800</u>	<u>2,750</u>	<u>-2,050</u>
Subtotal - Indefinite Funds	14,300	14,300	11,500	-2,800
<u>Administration</u>	<u>27,500</u>	<u>27,500</u>	<u>28,055</u>	<u>+555</u>
Total	\$167,500	\$167,500	\$146,255	-\$21,245

^{1/} NEH is funded under a government-wide budget continuing resolution through March 4, 2011.

^{2/} NEH's FY 2011 appropriation request to Congress included a funding request for *Bridging Cultures* .

BRIDGING CULTURES
Special Initiative

FY 2012 Request: \$4,000,000

“All of us share this world for but a brief moment in time. The question is whether we spend that time focused on what pushes us apart, or whether we commit ourselves to an effort—a sustained effort—to find common ground, to focus on the future we seek for our children, and to respect the dignity of all human beings.”

President Barack Obama, Cairo University, June 4, 2009

The importance of bridging cultures, both within America and across borders, has never been greater than it is today. As a consequence of globalism and the revolution in information technology, the world’s peoples are in more direct contact than ever before. However, mere proximity—actual or virtual—does not guarantee mutual understanding. Concerns about the consequences of cultural divides are pervasive. For Americans, inadequate cultural understanding has serious and ultimately dangerous ramifications: incivility and disharmony at home, misunderstandings detrimental to our national security abroad, a reduced ability to compete effectively in the global economy, and an uninformed and limited view of the world in which we live.

The National Endowment for the Humanities, in response to these pressing concerns, has begun to develop a special initiative called *Bridging Cultures*. The initiative seeks to inspire reflection, generate analysis, and stimulate informed conversation about the connections and commonalities in the human experience across diverse cultures and subcultures, within America’s borders and around the globe. The initial focus of *Bridging Cultures* has been two-fold: 1) an exploration of the role of civility in bridging differences and sustaining democracy in America and 2) an effort to bridge gaps in Americans’ understanding of international perspectives, beginning with the Muslim world. As the initiative develops in future years, we expect to take up related themes and encourage the study of other parts of the world, with a focus on the potential for the humanities to deepen understanding of one another’s intellectual and cultural traditions.

NEH requested funding for *Bridging Cultures* in its FY 2011 Congressional budget request. At the FY 2012 request level, the initiative’s key components would include:

- Scholarly forums open to the public that synthesize cutting-edge humanities scholarship on *Bridging Cultures* themes and workshops that will develop plans for public programs;
- National dissemination of model *Bridging Cultures* programs that engage public audiences in consideration of the themes of the initiative;
- Documentary films that explore other countries and cultures; and

- Partnerships and international collaborations that facilitate research and scholarly exchange among U.S. scholars and their counterparts elsewhere in the world.

Bridging Cultures Forums and Workshops

In 2010, NEH conducted a special *Bridging Cultures* pilot grant competition that was designed to bring the best of recent humanities research and scholarship to the general public. The competition resulted in eight pilot projects, in which prominent scholars and public intellectuals will come together in public forums to share their latest scholarship and ideas. Half of these forums will focus on the role of civility in our democracy, and half will focus on the history and culture of Muslim societies. The specific topics covered will range from “cyber civility” to Islamic intellectual history to the cultural legacy of Timbuktu in the United States.

These pilot projects were identified through a grant competition that was extremely well received. On very short notice, we received more than 90 proposals from a wide variety of institutions in 32 states, some of which had never before approached NEH for funding. The intense interest generated in the field by this pilot effort suggests that many humanities scholars and institutions are seeking this kind of opportunity to reach the public with new knowledge, including knowledge about parts of the world that are less familiar but have become subjects of keen interest to many Americans.

Beginning in the spring of 2011, the pilot project grantees will host regional public forums at venues across the country, with each forum also being broadcast to the wider public by means of radio, television, or the Internet. An important goal of these forums is to translate important scholarly research into accessible public programs both during and after each conference. To that end, grantees will convene workshops to plan for wide dissemination of the scholars’ work. The workshops will create specific plans for using exhibits, library discussion groups, or other public programs to bring new ideas to communities across the nation. In developing their projects, institutions have been encouraged to work with their state humanities council or councils in their region in order to expand the reach of their programs and respond effectively to the needs and interests of local communities. Applicants also were required to include in their proposal a plan to evaluate the results of the forum, including an audience survey, and to describe the tangible results expected from the proceedings. NEH expects that these evaluations will provide the kind of concrete feedback that we will need to move beyond the pilot stage and to target the most successful programming models for future funding.

The Endowment’s FY 2012 budget request for *Bridging Cultures* includes funds that will be used to support a second grant competition aimed at funding new public programs that will expand regional and national opportunities for humanities-based discussions of the two initial themes: civility and democracy and humanities and the Muslim world. In the past year, the challenges associated with these two themes have made these projects especially compelling, with the potential to offer communities new avenues for reasoned, well-informed discussions of issues our country faces. In this

second competition, we will invite the pilot project grantees, as well as other humanities scholars and institutions, to apply for support of for programs that will inform and engage public audiences using creative approaches based in the humanities. These might include travelling exhibitions, library discussion groups or other kinds of lifelong learning opportunities. Given the tremendous interest that *Bridging Cultures* attracted in the initial competition, we expect to see continued enthusiasm in the field, where we are finding that many academics and many communities are eager to engage in a substantive exchange of serious ideas.

Bridging Cultures and Humanities Education

The Endowment's budget request for *Bridging Cultures* includes support for projects that help teachers and students expand their knowledge and understanding of our own complex culture, as well as that of other nations. Recent national surveys of teachers (MetLife Surveys of the American Teacher 2008, 2009) have found that while a high percentage (71 percent) believe it is important that students be prepared for competition and collaboration in a global economy, nearly two-thirds of survey respondents (64 percent) rated their students as fair or poor on their knowledge of other nations and cultures, and of international issues. At the same time, classrooms today reflect the growing diversity of the United States; in 2008, according to Department of Education statistics, 21 percent of school-age children speak a language other than English at home.

Rather than construct a new program, NEH plans to encourage appropriate *Bridging Cultures* projects within existing NEH education programs and to provide extra support to these projects. Given the particular importance of foreign language proficiency for American security and competitiveness, we are also actively encouraging the inclusion of foreign language education in NEH projects.

Similarly, NEH is using the rubric of *Bridging Cultures* to stimulate new globally-focused humanities programs in America's community colleges, which provide education and training for 46 percent of all U.S. undergraduates. NEH's Office of Challenge Grants has established a special program for community colleges, in which applicants can seek long-term funding to strengthen humanities teaching, with special encouragement for projects developing model courses in world history and cultures.

Bridging Cultures through Film

NEH has a long history of funding compelling documentary films that draw public television audiences into extended examinations of a wide range of topics in the humanities. The Endowment's recently established a grant category within its America's Media Makers program, Bridging Cultures through Film, which will support documentary films that explore cultures outside of the United States. This special grant category encourages applicants to develop international collaborations with scholars and media professionals rooted in the cultures examined through the films. Our goal is to stimulate the development of the kinds of excellent documentaries that NEH is known for—innovative nonfiction storytelling, deeply grounded in humanities scholarship, that present

multiple points of view. The products of these grants will include not only the films themselves but also a variety of educational materials, including web-based resources, which will broaden the impact of these documentaries online and in classrooms.

International Collaborations and Partnerships

As a part of *Bridging Cultures*, NEH is developing new partnerships to further objectives shared with other institutions, with both domestic and international reach. For example, The Carnegie Corporation of New York, a major private foundation, has agreed to contribute \$1.2 million to support a new, multi-year *Bridging Cultures* Bookshelf project. Modeled on previous successful NEH bookshelf projects, this program will use Carnegie's funds to provide a set of books on a *Bridging Cultures* theme to 1,000 libraries nationwide. The books, which will be carefully vetted by experts, will be chosen to give Americans new opportunities to read about and discuss less familiar cultures, beginning with the diverse histories and cultures associated with Muslim populations in the United States and around the world. The distribution of these selected educational resources is tentatively expected to begin in late 2011. To enhance the value of the books distributed with Carnegie's private support, NEH is requesting funds in the FY 2012 budget to provide small grants to libraries for the creation of companion lecture and discussion programs in communities that receive the bookshelf. We will be conducting a formal evaluation of this *Bridging Cultures* effort and its impact, and we will use the evaluation to help us develop future programs, which are likely to offer books on other foreign cultures that are unfamiliar to many Americans.

The FY 2012 budget request for *Bridging Cultures* would also enable NEH to maintain a portfolio of international collaborations that facilitate humanities research and beneficial exchange of ideas with scholars around the world. For example, we are supporting an ongoing series of academic conferences, co-sponsored by the People's Republic of China, that bring together Chinese and American scholars to discuss common interests in the humanities. We are also actively participating in a State Department-led effort to increase cultural exchange with Russia. We also plan to support a conference featuring the collaboration of American scholars with scholars from Mexico's largest university, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM). This reciprocates a previous conference sponsored by UNAM and furthers important academic exchanges with our neighbor to the south. As part of United States participation in the Inter-American Year of Culture, sponsored by the Organization of American States beginning in March 2011, NEH also plans to highlight the history of efforts throughout the agency to support humanities activities that are focused on the Americas.

As the Endowment cultivates relationships in these international contexts, a primary goal is the creation of new joint funding programs that build bridges between humanities communities in the United States and those abroad and that expand the resources available to U.S. scholars seeking to develop mutually beneficial collaborations with their counterparts in other countries. Several such joint funding efforts involving the United Kingdom and Germany have been developed through the leadership of the NEH Office of Digital Humanities. We expect to begin discussions in the coming year with a

group of funders from the Asia Pacific Region to explore the possibility of a jointly funded effort modeled on the Endowment's successful Digging into Data program, through which NEH, NSF, Canada, and the United Kingdom have invested in collaborative digital humanities research.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

FY 2012 Request: \$13,550,000

Programs/Grant Categories:

- Summer Seminars and Institutes for School Teachers
- Summer Seminars and Institutes for College and University Teachers
- Landmarks of American History and Culture
- Picturing America School Collaboration Projects
- Humanities Initiatives for Faculty at Historically Black, High Hispanic Enrollment, and Tribal Colleges and Universities
- Enduring Questions Course Grants

Through its Division of Education Programs, NEH supports teacher and faculty professional development, model curricula, and classroom resources that are based on rigorous humanities scholarship. These programs address one of the Endowment's key strategic objectives: to strengthen teaching of the humanities at all grade levels, from elementary through graduate training, in the nation's schools, two- and four-year colleges, and universities. Endowment-funded projects help educators become more knowledgeable in their subject areas. NEH's humanities education programs focus on deep subject-matter training for teachers, mainly through projects involving collaboration with noted scholars. The ultimate beneficiaries of such projects are the hundreds of thousands of American students—in rural, suburban, and inner-city classrooms, as well as in colleges and universities—who annually are taught by reinvigorated and intellectually engaged humanities teachers.

Although the federal government provides support to education in many forms, NEH's programs uniquely address the importance of substantive knowledge of humanities subject matter and the necessity that humanities faculty be well versed in the subjects they teach. Over the years, the Endowment has helped foster far-reaching improvements in American education, such as the creation of web-based humanities teaching and learning tools and the revival of interest in core curricula and foreign languages. NEH supports content-based improvements in the teaching of English and other languages, history, literature, philosophy, religion, and other humanities subjects. NEH projects ultimately help students engage deeply with the core disciplines that are crucial for an educated citizenry as envisioned by the nation's founders and no less essential in the twenty-first century.

The Endowment has forged collaborative relationships with the private sector to leverage new resources for humanities education. The EDSITEment website, for example, is a nationally recognized gateway for teachers seeking rich humanities resources on the Internet. Through a partnership with the Verizon Foundation's *Thinkfinity* website,

EDSITEment (<http://edsitement.neh.gov>) now contains over 275 sites selected by peer review panels for their excellent humanities content, interactive design, and usefulness in the classroom. EDSITEment also includes more than 500 extensive learning units comprising detailed lesson-planning material spanning the humanities curriculum for grades K-12. The EDSITEment website receives approximately 400,000 user sessions per month. In an international competition, the American Library Association selected EDSITEment as one of the top twenty-five websites world-wide for teaching and learning academic content for the year 2010.

In conjunction with the Endowment's Picturing America project, EDSITEment offers a variety of materials that feature works of art from the project's collection and additional resources in lessons that can be integrated into a teacher's standing curriculum. Most of these resources are also accompanied by interactive materials through which students can learn to "read" a work of art for its content as well as its style. For example, the "Picture Lincoln" lesson plan, which is based on Alexander Gardner's iconic photograph of the president, is a rich source of visual and historical knowledge; "*Midnight Ride of Paul Revere—Fact, Fiction, and Artistic License*," takes the student through Grant Wood's magical painting and asks pertinent questions about myth and history; and "Norman Rockwell, *Freedom of Speech—Know It When You See It*," directs attention to the First Amendment to the Constitution.

During the next three years, in conjunction with the Endowment's *Bridging Cultures* initiative, EDSITEment will develop lessons and student interactives—to be available via the computer screen, the television screen, and handheld devices—that focus on world languages, literatures, and cultures. Teaching and learning materials and tools in Spanish and Chinese—among the fastest-growing languages taught in American schools—will anchor this exploration of global cultures. In addition, more educational materials, drawn directly from projects supported by the NEH, will be incorporated into EDSITEment, thus reinforcing its trademark tag, "the best in the humanities on the web."

In FY 2010, the Endowment's Education Programs received 567 applications, of which 132 were supported. In FY 2011, 625 applications and 135 awards are anticipated, including applications and grants under the Teaching Development Fellowships grant category, which will be discontinued in FY 2012. At the FY 2012 request level, approximately 560 applications and 110 awards are anticipated.

Seminars and Institutes

NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes have long been one of the nation's premier forms of professional development in the humanities for college and university teachers and elementary and secondary school teachers. NEH offers college and school teachers opportunities to pursue serious, substantive intellectual inquiry in fields such as history, foreign languages, literature, philosophy, and political science. Working with distinguished scholars, participants deepen their knowledge of the subjects they teach and explore effective ways of bringing this understanding to their students. Increasingly, both

seminars and institutes have been relying on digitized materials, in addition to traditional printed books and articles.

Summer Seminars enable sixteen participants to study for two to five weeks under the guidance of a senior scholar. The principal goal is to engage teachers in the scholarly enterprise, thus equipping them for deeper understanding of their subject areas and more effective teaching. In Summer Institutes, participants engage in an intensive program of study with teams of humanities scholars who present a broad range of perspectives on a given topic. Well-suited to larger groups (as many as thirty-five in school-teacher projects or twenty-five in college-teacher projects), institutes also last from two to five weeks and are a particularly appropriate mechanism for creating foreign language immersion opportunities. In past years, these programs could last for up to six weeks. The reduction in time by one week—a cost saving measure to be sure—would still enable deep enrichment and fertile scholarly results for teacher/faculty participants, and it would make attendance possible for a larger constituency of teachers.

NEH has recently revised the eligibility criteria for the Summer Seminars and Institutes program to create opportunities for humanities graduate students. Beginning in the summer of 2010, graduate students have been considered eligible to participate in these summer enrichment programs, which extended and deepened their knowledge and understanding of the humanities. In higher education programs, two spaces in Summer Seminars and three spaces in Summer Institutes were reserved for graduate students, and in school teacher programs, the same numbers were made available for graduate students who intend to pursue K-12 teaching careers. This policy change, a response to suggestions from the humanities community, has been well received by project directors and graduate students, alike, and will be continued in FY 2011 and FY 2012.

NEH annually supports summer seminars and institutes on a wide range of topics in the humanities. During the summer of 2010, for example, the Center for Civic Education conducted a three-week institute for twenty-five school teachers on the United States Constitution, providing these educators with an opportunity to deepen their “capacity to think theoretically about the nature of democracy and constitutionalism.” The Mystic Seaport Museum hosted twenty college and university faculty members in a six-week institute exploring American maritime people—seafarers and denizens of littoral communities. Covering the entire time span of American history, the project focused on such topics as early maritime exploration, piracy and the slave trade, neutral trade and smuggling during the Napoleonic Wars, the extension of U. S. power into the Pacific during the nineteenth century, the maritime history of the Great Lakes, and immigration and labor unions. Princeton University held a four-week seminar for sixteen participants on the relationship between philosophy, science, politics, and religion in the work of three major thinkers—Descartes, Galileo, and Hobbes.

In the summer of 2011, pre-collegiate literature teachers may choose to attend seminars or institutes, for example, on the works of Mark Twain; Cervantes’s *Don Quixote*; literary and cinematic adaptations of Charles Dickens’s enduring novels, *Great*

Expectations and A Christmas Carol; Dante's Divine Comedy; Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, Taming of the Shrew, and Henry V; and the dramas of Sartre, Genet, Ionesco, and Beckett. High school history teachers will be able to choose from seminars or institutes on such topics as economic development, slavery, and antislavery in New England during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; production, trade, and commodities consumption, 1450-1914, and the ultimate emergence of a world economy; and the history and culture of the Pueblo Indians. Collegiate-level faculty will be able to study, among other topics, the ethnohistory of the Indians of the American South; the religion of Daoism and its impact on Chinese civilization and society; the experience of governance under the Constitution in the first two generations after independence; the painting, sculpture, and architecture of early-modern Rome; African-American struggles for equality and rights from Reconstruction to the 1960s; and the history of the reception, adaptation, and translation of Shakespeare's works.

In FY 2010, the Endowment inaugurated a competition for supplemental support of up to \$10,000 for 2010 Seminar and Institute project directors to extend the reach, duration, and impact of their summer programs through digital means. Twelve projects received support. For example, one project extension, awarded to the institute on "MesoAmerica Cultures and their Histories: Spotlight on Oaxaca," will result in a three-dimensional, online Virtual Oaxaca learning environment that will reflect the rich experience of participants and provide them with a space for showcasing curricular units developed during the institute. Other project websites will be expanded to include podcasts and videos of project lectures and discussions. All of the enhanced websites will be maintained for at least five years. In FY 2011, building on the success of this pilot effort, the Endowment plans to conduct a similar competition among directors leading projects during the summer of 2011, and anticipates that at least twenty supplements of up to \$10,000 each will be awarded.

For the summer of 2012, Seminars and Institutes will be encouraged in three areas: *Bridging Cultures*; advanced foreign language education; and community college faculty development.

Landmarks of American History and Culture

The Landmarks of American History and Culture program supports summer workshops for K-12 educators that train teachers to employ historical and cultural sites as the basis for communicating central themes and issues of American history, increasing the knowledge and appreciation of these sites, and encouraging staff at the sites to develop greater capacity and scale for professional development programs. Landmarks workshops are held at or near presidential residences, colonial-era settlements, major battlefields, and presidential libraries, as well as at sites associated with notable writers, architects, and artists who have made major contributions to the nation's culture. Projects accommodate a minimum of forty teachers at one-week sessions, which are offered twice during the summer. They are academically rigorous, involve leading scholars, and help participants develop new teaching resources.

NEH also supports workshops that provide opportunities for community college teachers to deepen their knowledge of the nation's history and culture. Projects accommodate a minimum of twenty-five faculty at one-week sessions, which are repeated twice during the summer. Enrolling approximately half of America's undergraduate students, community colleges are a cornerstone of undergraduate teaching and learning. These institutions also are where a significant proportion of the nation's college students receive their first, and often only, contact with college courses in the humanities. In an effort to serve even more teachers from these important educational institutions, in recent years the Endowment has increased the number of community college workshops offered during the summer from six to ten.

In the summer of 2011, school teachers will be able to choose from such workshops as "Emily Dickenson: Person, Poetry, and Place"; "A Revolution in Government: Philadelphia and the Creation of the American Republic"; "Duke Ellington and the Development of American Popular Culture"; "The Richest Hills: Mining in the Far West, 1865-1920"; "Abraham Lincoln and the Forging of Modern America"; "The American Revolution on the Northern Frontier: Fort Ticonderoga and the Road to Saratoga"; and "Sailing to Freedom: New Bedford's Place in the Underground Railroad." Community college faculty will be able to choose from several topics, including "Thomas Jefferson and His Landmarks"; "Black Mountain College: An Artistic and Educational Legacy"; "Landmarks of American Democracy: From Freedom Summer to the Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike"; and "Pullman: Labor, Race, and the Urban Landscape in a Company Town."

The Endowment has forged a partnership with the United States Department of State to include a number of teachers and other humanities practitioners from other nations in selected NEH-supported Landmarks of American History and Culture workshops. In 2010, eighteen visitors from Chile, Ukraine, Russia, Egypt, Lebanon, Thailand, Turkey, Bangladesh, Brazil, Sri Lanka, China, Nepal, Nigeria, and Kenya participated in six school teacher Landmarks projects, where they explored significant events and themes in American history. This innovative partnership helped these educators improve their understanding of the history and culture of the United States and our democratic principles, and, in reciprocal fashion, the participating teachers from the United States gained new cultural insights and perspectives from these visiting educators. NEH anticipates that this partnership with the Department of State will continue in the summers of 2011 and 2012.

Picturing America School Collaboration Projects

The Endowment established a special grant category in 2008 keyed to the agency's Picturing America initiative. Through this program, scholars in American art history, American history, and American studies are encouraged to develop summer seminars, institutes, and workshops for school teachers that relate to the initiative. Projects may include professional development opportunities that focus on the art works and artists featured in Picturing America and studies of the periods of American art depicted and the humanities themes represented. Other projects may focus on one or more of the artists and

their works and their physical context, including the homes and studios of the artists and the settings depicted in their works.

Picturing America School Collaboration Projects provide opportunities to strengthen understanding of the connections between Picturing America and significant events, themes, and topics in the American experience. Projects also encourage collaboration between K-12 educators and humanities experts who together can integrate American artworks in core subjects and provide access to rich scholarly resources and primary materials to support teaching. In its inaugural competition, three projects were funded to support seven conferences that reached a national audience. The conferences provided opportunities for educators who have already received the Picturing America images to learn about models for teaching American art, history, and culture and to explore the value of visual literacy for subjects in the core curriculum. As a result of the second competition in FY 2010, eleven local and regional projects will support conferences in 2011 for at least twenty-four teachers each. For FY 2011, the Endowment will continue to make awards to local and regional museums, libraries, and universities capable of organizing these conferences. The special grant category for these regional, in-person professional development opportunities will be discontinued after the FY 2011 competition. In FY 2012, the Endowment will build on the digital resources for Picturing America developed through the agency's EDSITEment project to ensure that teachers throughout the country will be able to incorporate the works in the portfolio into their teaching of American history and culture.

Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black, High Hispanic Enrollment, and Tribal Colleges and Universities

In 2003, in response to special Presidential Executive Orders to all federal agencies, NEH established a program, Humanities Initiatives, to extend the reach of its grant opportunities to three types of institutions: historically black colleges and universities, institutions with high Hispanic enrollments, and tribal colleges and universities. Humanities Initiatives awards may be used to enhance the humanities content of existing programs, develop new programs, or lay the foundation for more extensive endeavors in the future. Each project is organized around a core topic or set of themes.

Humanities Initiatives grants also may create opportunities for faculty members to study together while improving their capacity to teach the humanities, support collaborative work among faculty members to devise ways for strengthening humanities programs, and fund visiting scholars to help improve or redefine an institution's humanities programs. Also supported are projects to help faculty develop new humanities programs or take advantage of underused humanities resources, train staff and faculty members in the use of humanities materials and technologies, or build ties among faculty at several institutions.

For example, Norfolk State University received support to create "Waterways to Freedom: The Underground Railroad in Virginia," a 30-minute dramatization with a narrative script, musical score, sound and visual effects, and interactive computer

programming. Drawing on the rich resources of the Virginia State Library, the Virginia Historical Society, Duke University, and the Library of Congress, and building on years of research by the project director, the digital simulation will employ gaming technologies that enable students to experience—emotionally and intellectually—historical events.

City University of New York-Hostos Community College is using its grant to develop an introductory course for freshmen and a capstone course for graduating seniors, on the theme “conflict and dialogue.” Guest speakers will offer faculty development seminars and public lectures on such topics as the nineteenth-century debates surrounding slavery; Plato’s *Gorgias* and the dialogic; Darwin’s *The Origin of Species* and recent developments in evolutionary biology; and the literature of war, most notably Virgil’s *Aeneid*. These presentations will inform the collaborative efforts of the participating faculty to develop a unified curriculum.

Fort Peck Community College in Montana is developing a three-part curriculum project to enhance the institution’s humanities program in Assiniboine and Sioux languages, tribal histories, and literature. In addition to holding language revitalization summits, the project team will develop historical resources on the Fort Peck Tribes for use in college courses, as well as work with “tribal historians and keepers of literature” to design Assiniboine and Sioux history and literature learning units, to be made available to the faculty and the general public via DVD.

Enduring Questions Course Grants

The Endowment established the Enduring Questions Course Grants program in FY 2009 to provide opportunities for faculty at higher educational institutions to design a new course for undergraduate teaching and learning that promotes engagement with fundamental issues in the humanities. The purpose of this program is to encourage faculty and students at the undergraduate level to grapple with important humanities issues and to join together in deep, sustained programs of study in order to encounter influential thinkers over the centuries and into the present day.

Enduring Questions are questions that have more than one plausible answer. They have long held interest for young people, and they allow for a special, intense dialogue across generations. Some of these questions are: What is the good life? What is justice? What is freedom? What is happiness? What is friendship? What is dignity? Is there a human nature, and, if so, what is it? Is there such a thing as right and wrong, good and evil? What is good government?

Two recent examples demonstrate the promise of the program for generating creative and rigorous responses to the Enduring Questions challenge. At Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina, Professor Benjamin Story is developing a first-year seminar for undergraduates on the question of self-knowledge, approaching the inquiry from moral, political, theological, and philosophical perspectives. Self-knowledge plays a decisive role, for example, in courtship and marriage in Jane Austen’s *Sense and Sensibility*; in Shakespeare’s *Richard II*, a failure of self-knowledge leads to political

catastrophe. With Rousseau's *Reveries of the Solitary Walker*, the problem of self-knowledge will be examined through a philosophical lens. Concluding with the book of Job and Plato's *Phaedrus*, the course will situate the problem of self-knowledge in light of man's place in a theological universe.

Jonathan Marks, of Ursinus College in Pennsylvania, received an award to develop a junior- and senior-level undergraduate course on the enduring question, What is love? The study will explore such inquiries as: Is love an expansive feeling that one self-sufficient person feels for another, or is it a need that drives an incomplete person to seek someone to make him whole? Is love reasonable, so that we can inquire into who we should love, or is it fundamentally mysterious and spontaneous, offering itself only to people who know reason's limits? Is loving another human being the ultimate end, or is it a part of a bigger pursuit, of communion with God, or of happiness, or of immortality? Using, for example, the youthful love in *Romeo and Juliet* in comparison with the mature love in *Antony and Cleopatra*, the envisioned course will be divided into segments on modern love, Platonic love, Augustinian love, "Shakespeare in love," Rousseau and romantic love, and Freudian and Darwinian perspectives on love. Students would also read contemporary works by Allan Bloom, Leon Kass, and others.

Teaching Development Fellowships

In 2008, NEH established a new grant category, Teaching Development Fellowships, to provide grants to college and university teachers to conduct research aimed specifically at deepening their core knowledge of the humanities in order to enrich their undergraduate teaching. Offered by the Education Programs division in conjunction with the NEH Research Programs division, this program had three broad goals: 1) to improve the depth and quality of humanities education in the United States; 2) to strengthen the link between research and teaching in the humanities; and 3) to foster excellence in undergraduate instruction. Directed primarily towards course improvement rather than scholarly publication, the research undertaken as a part of a project could involve engagement with fundamental texts or sources, exploring related subjects or academic disciplines, or cultivating neglected areas of learning.

In FY 2012, the Endowment will be discontinuing this small, experimental grant category in order to focus the agency's resources on its more established, time-tested teacher enrichment programs.

FEDERAL/STATE PARTNERSHIP

FY 2012 Request: \$40,100,000

The NEH Federal/State Partnership is a model of American federalism in action. This collaborative effort dedicated to the study and enjoyment of the humanities links a national federal agency with fifty-six state and jurisdictional humanities councils. The councils were established to fulfill the requirement in NEH's enabling legislation—the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended—that the Endowment support humanities programs “in each of the several states.”

The Federal/State Partnership helps the Endowment realize its two primary strategic goals: (1) to advance knowledge and understanding of the humanities, and (2) to increase public awareness of, access to, and support for the humanities in the United States. The Partnership makes humanities education and lifelong learning readily available at the local level, tailored to local interests and needs and drawing upon local resources, traditions, and heritage.

State humanities councils are nonprofit 501(c) (3) organizations governed by volunteer boards of directors. They operate in each of the fifty states as well as in the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. Each council receives funds annually from NEH according to a statutory formula. In accordance with the federal mandate, every NEH dollar a council receives is matched by local contributions of cash, goods, or services. The Endowment protects the federal investment by ensuring that state councils are strong organizations capable of delivering high quality humanities programming. It does so by collaborating with them on a regularly updated, self-assessment and evaluation process and by maintaining a high level of accountability.

State humanities councils have two major ways to support the humanities in their jurisdictions: They grant a portion of their funds on a competitive basis to locally initiated programs, and they develop and carry out their own programs. In their grant-making role, they act as foundations from which eligible organizations and individuals seek funding; in their program-generating role, they are nonprofit service providers drawing on their own resources and looking to the public to support the benefits they offer. Schools, libraries, historical societies, museums, literacy programs, filmmakers, teachers, researchers, writers, and storytellers are among the organizations and people with which the state humanities councils work. Councils also successfully collaborate with non-traditional partners as well, bringing the humanities to bear on a wide range of community activities, especially in the areas of public policy and social service. In all of their activities, state councils strengthen the bonds of community by bringing citizens together in neutral surroundings to discuss issues of importance in the humanities.

The councils support thousands of humanities projects and programs every year that reach millions of Americans in rural areas, urban neighborhoods, and suburban

communities. With funds provided through the NEH Federal/State Partnership, the councils provide support for: reading and discussion programs for children, families, and the newly literate that take place in libraries and other civic places; state and local book festivals, as well as the participation of a number of councils in the annual National Book Festival sponsored by the Library of Congress's Center for the Book; educational institutes and seminars for elementary and secondary schoolteachers; scholarship on state and local history and culture, such as comprehensive online state encyclopedias; exhibitions at museums, libraries, and historical sites; and radio, television, and film projects on humanities themes. They carry out an increasing amount of programming and communications electronically using social networking, podcasting, and RSS feeds in addition to websites and electronic newsletters. A number of councils post videos on the YouTube website.

With their strong networks of cultural and educational institutions, state humanities councils are especially well-positioned to ensure that NEH's *Bridging Cultures* initiative has a broad reach. For example, the Hawai'i Council for the Humanities (HCH) is collaborating with a variety of public humanities groups to facilitate and conduct programs around the general theme of Ha'i Mo'olelo ("to tell our stories") in order to highlight and focus on the ways the citizens of Hawai'i bridge cultures. This initiative explores the ways the humanities highlight traditions of civil discourse and cultural, social, and historical empathy so as to enhance mutual understanding and respect by comparing and contrasting these traditions. HCH's partners in this effort include the Hawai'i Book and Music Festival, Hawai'i Public Radio, Hawai'i International Film Festival, and council-guided humanities conferences, literary festivals, and events. Outreach will include public programs, teacher professional development and curriculum materials, and extensive media activity.

The partnership between the Endowment and the state humanities councils has also helped to ensure that NEH's Picturing America project has a broad reach. The Michigan Humanities Council, for example, created a museum partnership grant program that allowed students to visit leading museums across the state to see American art firsthand in tours tailored to complement Picturing America. It also implemented Picturing America teacher seminars. The South Carolina council used funds provided through the Endowment to host two free public programs on "Picturing America: How Art Helps Us Understand America."

State humanities councils across the country also make it possible for citizens to come together to address such issues as the economy, health care, demographics, energy, and education, through discussions informed by history and literature. Such in-depth explorations of critical and potentially divisive issues serve purposes beyond creating more thoughtful and better-informed citizens. They also increase citizen engagement in public life and bring citizens together to work toward common goals in shaping the future of their community and nation. State humanities councils are actively engaged in NEH Chairman Jim Leach's Civility Tour as he travels throughout the country, either as organizers of events or as facilitators and partners with sponsoring organizations.

The councils in California, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Montana have launched initiatives specifically designed to address issues of citizens working together in community. Drawing on funds received through NEH's *We the People* program, the Maryland Humanities Council and Humanities Montana are sponsoring civil discourse gatherings and working with local nonprofit organizations to provide trained facilitators to bring together diverse audiences to discuss complex civic issues of importance to their communities. The Massachusetts council, Mass Humanities, is focusing all its programming and grantmaking for the next several years on the overarching theme of "Crisis, Community, and Civic Culture." This programming will include an annual symposium and film and discussion events, sponsored in conjunction with local history organizations and public libraries in six locations. The Illinois Humanities Council will hold a series of forums and discussions, "The (Un)Common Good," focused on the state of public discourse in the U.S. The goal of this series is "to re-imagine new ways to discuss issues across ideologies, to model civil debate and dialogue between people who come down on different sides of an issue, and to share information that strives to be unbiased, fact-based, and even-handed." Under the rubric "Democracy: Understanding and Engagement," the California Council for the Humanities is supporting documentary films and complementary programming, civic engagement programs in libraries, and reading and discussion programs in veterans hospitals.

The Maine Humanities Council developed "Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Healthcare" in 1997. Since then, this reading and discussion program for health care professionals has been picked up by state humanities councils in twenty-five other states as well as in Argentina. Thirteen state councils work with the Department of Veterans Affairs and have Literature & Medicine programs in veterans' hospitals, including the councils in Arizona, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, South Dakota, and Vermont. The Maine Humanities Council has published an anthology for use in veterans' hospitals, *Echoes of War: A Literature & Medicine Anthology*. In November 2010, the Maine Humanities Council hosted a national conference in Washington, D.C. entitled "After Shock: Humanities Perspectives on Trauma" that explored ways in which the humanities can support the personal and professional development of health care professionals who work with war veterans and others who have experienced trauma.

The Virginia Foundation for the Humanities uses electronic media to initiate discussions through their "Backstory with the American History Guys" radio call-in show, which features three prominent historians providing perspective on "events happening around us every day." This program is now broadcast by 93 public radio stations in 36 states and the District of Columbia. The Pennsylvania Humanities Council (PHC), in partnership with Pennsylvania Cable Network, is televising its popular "Commonwealth Speakers" program. Over 25 years, the program has reached more than 100,000 Pennsylvanians. With this cable production, PHC will reach more than 3.3 million households with discussions of "arts, history, literature, and the important ideas that shape our world." The Vermont Humanities Council is commemorating the sesquicentennial of the Civil War with an electronic "Civil War Book of Days" which goes out once a week as a review of the events that took place that week 150 years ago.

Because the written word is the currency of ideas, most state humanities councils promote reading and literacy. Many councils support such family literacy programs as Motherhead, a nationally acclaimed non-profit organization that combines the teaching of literacy skills with child development and family empowerment. Prime Time Family Reading Time, developed by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, provides reading, discussion, and storytelling programs for young children and their parents. Thirty-nine councils currently support literacy programming and all sponsor discussion programs, most of which are based on the common reading of texts.

Councils support programs designed specifically to target audiences of older Americans. The New Jersey Council for the Humanities, for example, has awarded funding to the Princeton Senior Resource Center, and the councils in New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Ohio have supported the recording of oral histories of World War II veterans. The Nebraska Humanities Council has an ongoing grantmaking initiative “Growing Older in Nebraska.” One of the projects supported by this initiative brings together elders as storytellers and young adults ages 16 to 22 as recording partners to create elder legacies through the “Embracing Elderhood” program in several Nebraska communities. The Alaska Statehood Exhibit at the Alaska Native Heritage Center in Anchorage, which is funded by the Alaska Humanities Forum, features touchscreen videos of Alaska native elders talking about their experience of statehood in 1959 and the effects of the Statehood Act on Native life.

Councils take an active role in providing K-12 teachers with professional development opportunities and humanities curriculum support. The Minnesota Humanities Center, for example, offers teacher institutes that range from short half-day programs to week-long institutes led by regional and national humanities scholars. The Alabama Humanities Foundation offers both week-long and one-day teacher seminars. It is also linked with the statewide interactive resource database and the distance learning network, making professional development opportunities widely available throughout the state. The 2011 Idaho Humanities Council summer seminar for teachers will focus on the Cold War, with specific emphasis on the 1950s, in order to study its origins and the impact of its legacy on domestic and foreign policy. The Connecticut Humanities Council offers a web-based resource center that allows users to search by grade level or topic to find lesson plans, field trips and professional development opportunities for teachers and students offered by Connecticut's museums, historical societies, and cultural organizations. The Rhode Island Council for the Humanities offers civic education mini-grants that will help teachers focus on teaching Rhode Island history and on aligning their classroom activities with their state's educational standards.

Over the last seven years, the Endowment has sponsored an annual special grant competition for the state humanities councils related to the agency's *We the People* initiative. Each year, NEH provided a significant portion of funds appropriated for *We the People* to the state councils to help them develop local and statewide projects and programs on American history and culture. As many of these projects are now part of the councils' ongoing programs, NEH's special competition for the state humanities councils will be discontinued in FY 2012.

PRESERVATION AND ACCESS

FY 2012 Request: \$15,600,000

Programs/Grant Categories:

- Humanities Collections and Reference Resources
- Documenting Endangered Languages
- National Digital Newspaper Program
- Preservation and Access Education and Training
- Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions
- Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections
- Preservation and Access Research and Development

The Endowment's Division of Preservation and Access provides leadership and support in the national effort to preserve and create access to cultural heritage resources that constitute the foundation for research, education, and public programming in the humanities. A substantial portion of the nation's cultural heritage and intellectual legacy is held in libraries, archives, and museums. These repositories, large and small, are responsible for preserving and making available collections of books, serials, manuscripts, sound recordings, still and moving images, material culture, works of art, and rapidly expanding digital collections. The challenge is great: to preserve diverse formats of materials that are threatened by factors inherent to their physical structures or by the environments in which they are housed; to train library and museum professionals in the latest, best practices; and to deliver these collections, and the cultural resources created from them, to the widest possible audience for scholarship and intellectual enjoyment.

Good stewardship of cultural resources requires equal attention to preservation and access. All of the division's programs focus on ensuring the long-term and wide availability of primary resources in the humanities. In this sense, research, education, and appreciation of the humanities depend on the foundational work of preserving cultural heritage materials and making them available to scholars, teachers, students, and the general public.

The Endowment's Preservation and Access division received 747 applications and made 245 grants in FY 2010. In FY 2011, an estimated 781 applications and 240 grants are anticipated. At the FY 2012 request level, we anticipate receiving more than 800 applications and making 227 awards.

Discovery and Innovation

Although much of the work of preservation and access takes place behind the scenes, it often occupies the front lines of discovery and innovation in the humanities. A recent NEH award to Brigham Young University, for example, is supporting the use of multi-spectral imaging, which can extract information the human eye cannot capture, in order to decipher ancient texts on damaged and illegible papyri. Of the 400 texts selected for imaging, the project team has already tentatively identified works by the classical Greece writers Xenophon and Alcidas, but the contents of most of the texts are unknown and will only be revealed at the completion of this imaging project.

NEH's preservation programs also support original research that leads to new digital tools, technologies, national standards, best practices, and other vital methodologies for collections and cultural resources. For instance, a joint award to Indiana University and Harvard University to develop a new set of best practices for the digital reformatting of old recorded sound formats was successfully completed, and those best practices have now been adopted by the field, benefiting everyone trying to save the audio legacy of the twentieth century.

The Endowment's newest preservation and access grant program, Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections, pushes the boundaries of preventive conservation by targeting new methodologies for support. With its emphasis on sustainable strategies, this program will help cultural heritage institutions reduce their dependence on expensive mechanized systems and aligns the agency's work with the most innovative scientific findings in the preservation field and with efforts to find sensible, low-energy solutions to problems.

NEH as First Funder

NEH has a long history of having been the earliest supporter of seminal preservation and access projects. From 1987 to 1999, for example, the Endowment funded the development of the Text Encoding Initiative guidelines, which codify the representation of the structural components of humanities texts (such as act, scene, and line divisions in plays) for online research, teaching, and preservation. Over the years, the Text Encoding Initiative guidelines have been employed internationally to create hundreds of scholarly editions and electronic resources—from single-work editions to digital libraries that contain thousands of texts. Another recent example of NEH's ability to identify important projects worthy of seed money is an award to George Mason University to test methods of text mining and analysis and to develop tools to help historians take full advantage of the vast amount of digitized materials now available to them. This project, which is currently underway, has now been selected by Google as one of twelve projects from around the world for further development and additional funding.

Broad Reach

A considerable number of projects involve partnerships, ranging from the work of two institutions to large-scale collaborations. Such partnerships help to expand the impact of the NEH's grant awards. For example, a project at Oregon State University to create the Northwest Digital Archives is providing integrated online access to major and mid-sized archives in the Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Large networks of collaborators are necessary for the dictionary, encyclopedia, and electronic database projects supported by NEH. For instance, Répertoire Internationale de la Presse Musicale (RIPM), a bibliographic resource on periodical literature documenting the history of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century music and musicology in Europe, the United States, and Latin America, benefits from bibliographic contributions to its cooperative database from librarians worldwide.

Broad reach into the preservation field has been made possible through NEH's awards to regional preservation field service organizations, which provide consultation, training, and emergency assistance to thousands of small and mid-sized collecting institutions. A recent survey of work accomplished during two and a half years of NEH support revealed that, among many project activities carried out in that span of time, preservation field service organizations had responded to a total of 30,000 telephone or e-mail requests for assistance and had conducted 480 training workshops (an average of four per week) for the staff of museums, libraries, historical societies, and archives nationwide. Through Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions, an important outreach program, the Endowment has made over 1,500 awards over the past eleven years to small and mid-sized institutions across the nation whose collections tell the story of American history and culture town by town and county by county.

National Leadership

The Endowment is a national leader in supporting projects that preserve and provide access to cultural heritage resources. For example, Documenting Endangered Languages, a cooperative grant program between the National Science Foundation and NEH, is a leading source of support in the world for the documentation of languages threatened with extinction. The hundreds of human languages currently at risk of loss constitute a particularly fragile cultural resource, and documenting this precious cultural record remains a top priority. Another program, Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections, is the nation's first grant program to support sustainable strategies in conservation, the culmination of twenty years of NEH leadership in preventive conservation, which is proven to be the most effective and cost-efficient method for protecting collections from harm and decay. The National Digital Newspaper Program has created a nationally significant resource, *Chronicling America*, which is a free, online, searchable database of historic United States newspapers and will be maintained by the Library of Congress as part of their permanent collection. The technical specifications for the work of the state partners have led to a new, nationally recognized de facto standard for the digitization of historic newspapers.

Programs/Grant Categories

Humanities Collections and Reference Resources

The Endowment provides grants to projects that preserve and create intellectual access to collections that, because of their intellectual content or value as cultural artifacts, are considered highly important to the humanities. Grants support the digitization of collections to enhance their accessibility, as well as the integration of humanities materials that are geographically dispersed. Humanities Collections and Reference Resources awards also support preservation reformatting and deacidification of humanities collections; arranging and describing archival and manuscript collections; and cataloging collections of printed works, photographs, recorded sound, moving images, and other materials important for humanities research and education. For example, the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, Massachusetts, is digitizing election returns from the early Republic period (1788-1825) of American history, for dissemination via a website, "A New Nation Votes."

A number of projects focus on preserving the rich audiovisual record of the twentieth century. With funds from NEH, WNYC Radio in New York will reformat hundreds of hours of audio recordings going back to the 1930s and featuring figures as diverse as Fiorello La Guardia, George C. Marshall, Haile Selassie, Jack Kerouac, and Yogi Berra. Also, the Arhoolie Foundation in California is digitizing a unique collection of Mexican and Mexican-American recordings that helped to define the musical culture of the southern borderlands. Other recent projects supported in this program include the effort at the University of Cincinnati to digitize the papers of Albert Sabin, developer of the oral polio vaccine. Calvin College received a grant to produce a comprehensive index of hymnals published in North America, covering all eras, denominations, ethnic groups, and genres. Included are hymns in 11 Native American languages and more than 120 languages spoken by immigrant groups in our country. These documents will support research in musicology and religious studies, as well as in literary history, sociology, and African-American history.

The Endowment has long supported the creation of a wide array of humanities research tools and reference works. Some of these resources, such as ancient language historical dictionaries and descriptive catalogs of manuscripts and rare books, serve primarily the needs of scholars. Others have been widely acclaimed for their contributions to education and lifelong learning in the humanities. Among the reference works that serve both specialist and generalist audiences are the *Dictionary of American Regional English*, which describes the rich array of regional and folk varieties of American speech, and the *History of Cartography*, a comprehensive account of the evolution of maps and map-making through history and around the world.

Humanities research tools and reference works increasingly appear in electronic form. Indeed, for many years NEH has been on the forefront in encouraging digital projects. Endowment funds have supported the development of online encyclopedias and dictionaries, as well as databases of bibliographical information, digital archives of textual

and visual materials, and historical atlases. The *Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*, for example, features a website that shows changes in the shape, location, name, and organization of each U.S. county and state from 1634 through 2000. There genealogists, geographers, historians, political scientists, attorneys, demographers, and others can find accurate county data to assist in their research. Another recent grant to the University of Michigan will result in a digital encyclopedia on the great influenza epidemic of 1918 in the United States.

Documenting Endangered Languages

The Endowment supports the creation of tools—such as bilingual dictionaries, grammars, and text collections—that document languages threatened with extinction. Of the 6,000 to 7,000 currently spoken languages, at least 3,000 are endangered, including hundreds of American Indian languages. These lesser known languages constitute an irreplaceable treasure for scholars who need to consider evidence from past and presently spoken languages in order to understand the nature of language. Moreover, a language embodies unique local knowledge of the cultures and natural systems of the region in which it is spoken. In an effort to address this issue, in 2005 NEH and the National Science Foundation established a joint special initiative, “Documenting Endangered Languages.” Grants support fieldwork and other activities relevant to recording, documenting, and archiving endangered languages, including the preparation of lexicons, grammars, text samples, and databases. In each documentation project, academic linguists work closely with native speakers in the language community, and all products of these awards are made available to that community to increase their knowledge of their own heritage and to help them with any efforts they might undertake to pass on information about their language to younger generations. Recent awards support the digitization of dictionaries, grammars, field notes, and other materials that document more than 100 indigenous languages of Mexico and Central America. The Endowment is also supporting the creation of a dictionary and lexical database for Potawatomi, an endangered Algonquian language spoken in the Midwestern United States.

National Digital Newspaper Program

Newspapers chronicle the daily life of our citizens in towns and cities, and it is the stories of those towns and cities that together make up the history of our nation. They also document the civic, legal, historical, and cultural events in every region during the past 300 years. For nearly thirty years, the Endowment has helped to preserve the content of historically important American newspapers. NEH support enabled organizations and institutions in 50 states, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico to locate, catalog, and microfilm their historic newspaper holdings and to create a centralized bibliographic record of all newspaper titles published in America since 1690.

With the advent of digital technology, there is now a means of providing full text searching of newspaper content. In pursuit of this objective, NEH and the Library of Congress signed a memorandum of understanding in 2004, renewed in 2009, establishing a

partnership to create the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP). Under the terms of this partnership, over a period of approximately twenty years the Endowment will provide grants to an institution or organization in each state and territory to digitize titles published between 1836 and 1922 and to prepare fully searchable files that the Library of Congress will permanently maintain on the World Wide Web.

The NDNP is a complex undertaking that will be implemented in successive phases. To date, the NEH has provided support under this grant category for twenty-five state projects, which have created a collection of digitized newspapers published between 1860 and 1922. In Vermont, the newspaper project will represent the largest digitization effort ever conducted in the state. Some projects have found it profitable to collaborate with partners in other states. In general, the experience gained through these newspaper projects can help develop the technical infrastructure and skills necessary for other kinds of digitization work. Thus far, more than three million pages of historic American newspapers have been digitized through NDNP, with many millions more pages to follow. The selected pages, along with title essays and a directory of papers published in the United States from 1690 to the present, are publicly accessible online through *Chronicling America*, recently recognized by *Family Tree Magazine* as one of the “Best U.S. Government Sites.” Materials related to the American Civil War will soon become available on *Chronicling America*, in time for the sesquicentennial of the war. Also, applicants may now digitize U.S. newspapers published in English, French, Italian, or Spanish, thus providing access to the nation’s vibrant ethnic and immigrant press. More languages will be added in future years.

Preservation and Access Education and Training

Complementing the Endowment's support for preserving and establishing access to a variety of cultural resources are its grants for projects to increase the ability of the nation's libraries, archival repositories, and museums to care for their collections. NEH has always considered support for education and training to be an important component of its national preservation effort. It is important that stewards of humanities collections familiarize themselves with new developments in the dynamic fields of digital technology and in conservation science. Grants are also made for regional preservation field services to help ensure that smaller cultural institutions across the country receive the kind of advice and knowledge they need to preserve their collections. For example, with support from NEH, the Midwest Art Conservation Center in Minneapolis provides workshops, seminars, technical consultations, and disaster assistance to museums, libraries, archives, and historical organizations in the Upper Midwest. Similarly, LYRASIS, the nation’s largest regional membership organization for libraries and information professionals, offers services for the staffs of libraries, archives, and historical organizations in the southeastern and mid-Atlantic states.

NEH also supports academic programs that train the next generation of conservators responsible for the protection of the nation's humanities collections. Among these are the graduate programs in art conservation sponsored by New York University and in the conservation of material culture collections at the University of Delaware and the Winterthur Museum. Finally, a recent award to Heritage Preservation will support the Alliance for Response, a national program to foster collaboration between stewards of humanities collections and emergency management agencies. Forums to be held in Chicago, Minneapolis, and Miami will bring together first responders (firefighters, law enforcement officials, and local emergency managers) with representatives of cultural heritage institutions to improve coordination in the event of disasters.

For more than two decades, the NEH has helped museums, libraries, archives, and historical organizations improve their ability to plan and respond to disasters. Inadequate planning for emergencies remains a serious problem for the nation's cultural institutions. At present, four out of five cultural repositories in the United States lack disaster or emergency plans and the trained staff to carry them out. The Endowment helps to integrate emergency management into all aspects of a collecting institution's operations by supporting preservation education programs and the work of the regional preservation field services that provide the training needed to plan effectively for disaster preparedness and response. In addition, the Endowment provided much-needed emergency grants directly to educational and cultural institutions that were affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 and by historic floods in the Midwest in 2008. NEH currently supports the Western States and Territories Preservation Assistance Service (WESTPAS), which provides emergency response training in 14 Western states and Pacific territories. The importance of WESTPAS's NEH-supported services was underscored in press articles covering the tsunami that devastated American Samoa in 2009. Professional staff and volunteers of cultural and governmental institutions in American Samoa were able to apply the correct techniques in salvaging their priceless artifacts and archives because WESTPAS had provided them with training in disaster response a few months before the tsunami hit.

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions

Smaller cultural repositories constitute the large majority of collecting institutions in the United States. These organizations often lack the resources to address the preservation needs of their collections. The Endowment's program of Preservation Assistance Grants provides small and mid-sized libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations with grants of up to \$6,000. Funds support on-site consultation by a preservation professional, enable staff to attend preservation training workshops, and help purchase preservation supplies and equipment. In the eleven years since the program began, 1,526 grants have been made to institutions in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Nearly one-half (44%) of these Preservation Assistance Grants represent a first award from the Endowment, good

evidence that this grant program effectively reaches institutions not previously served by NEH.

Recent awards include a grant to the Philadelphia Camps Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to purchase supplies to preserve records and personal papers of the Grand Army of the Republic, a fraternal organization composed of veterans of the Civil War, and its successor, the Sons of Union Veterans. Agua Caliente Cultural Museum in Palm Springs received a grant that will provide expert training in emergency preparedness and enable the purchase of salvage supplies for cultural institutions located in a part of California especially prone to earthquakes, floods, and mountain wildfires. The Idaho State Historical Society in Boise received an award to assess its collection of oral history and moving image materials that document topics ranging from homesteading, logging, and folk customs to veterans histories and civil rights. Another grant enabled the Minneapolis Society of Fine Arts to purchase supplies it needs to preserve its administrative records and manuscript collections, which include documentation of American printmaking and American Indian art. And finally, the Chickasaw Nation in Ada, Oklahoma, used its grant to conduct a preservation assessment and to purchase supplies to store its collection of oral histories, maps, photographs, and genealogies tracing the history of the tribe from the early 1800s to the present.

Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections

Libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations across the country hold collections of books and manuscripts, photographs, sound recordings and moving images, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, historical objects, and art that facilitate research, strengthen teaching, and provide opportunities for lifelong learning in the humanities. The challenge of preserving such large and diverse holdings for current and future generations is enormous.

Ongoing conservation research in the United States and abroad demonstrates the value of preventive conservation measures, which typically include managing relative humidity and temperature levels in collection spaces, anticipating changes in conditions that may result from natural disasters, providing protective storage enclosures and systems for collections, and safeguarding collections from theft and fire. NEH support for preventive conservation helps ensure the long-term preservation of significant collections.

Cultural repositories are increasingly interested in being "green" and preserving both the environment and their humanities collections. The Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections program also promotes preservation projects that reduce energy consumption. To encourage such projects, NEH offers planning grants to develop sustainable preservation strategies, which are based on an understanding of the materials in collections, the performance of the building systems, the nature of the climate, the economic costs, and the impact on the environment.

Planning grants of up to \$40,000 allow institutions to gather interdisciplinary teams of professionals to explore new, cost-effective strategies for the protection of their humanities collections. One such award will enable a planning team consisting of a curator, conservator, engineer, and architect at the Abbe Museum in Bar Harbor, Maine, to develop sustainable approaches to maintaining appropriate environmental conditions for its collections, which feature archaeological and ethnographic materials associated with the Wabanaki tribes. The Museum of History and Art in Ontario, California, preserves books, periodicals, photographs, audiovisual records, and farming and mining implements that document the history of a part of Southern California known especially for its citrus production. It will similarly explore more energy-efficient ways of preserving its local history collection, which is housed in a historic building.

Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections also offers larger implementation awards that may focus on all aspects of preventive conservation, including the improvement of environmental conditions and storage of collections, and the installation of security and fire protection systems. An implementation grant will enable the Genesee Country Village and Museum to create a secure and energy-efficient storage facility for its collections of fine art, artifacts, and other items that illuminate the history and culture of western New York. Collections presently dispersed and housed in unsuitable conditions will be consolidated and stored efficiently in a central location. The museum will introduce an innovative heating, ventilating, and air conditioning system with exceptionally low energy requirements to maintain a preservation environment and minimize utility costs. Another grant to the Newark Museum in New Jersey is helping the museum purchase and install a modern fire alarm system to help ensure the safety of its extensive collections of American, Asian, and decorative art, and other materials displayed or stored in its North Wing. The museum has significant holdings of African American art and American folk art; its Tibetan art collection is the largest in the West. The new system will be connected to a central monitoring station and will be able to pinpoint the location of an alert, thus speeding a response.

Preservation and Access Research and Development

Research and Development awards address major challenges in preserving or providing access to humanities collections and resources. Projects assist in finding better ways to preserve materials of critical importance to the nation's cultural heritage—from fragile artifacts and manuscripts to analog recordings and digital assets subject to technological obsolescence—as well as to develop advanced modes of discovering and using such materials. Research and Development grants may help, for example, to devise innovative ways to protect and slow the deterioration of humanities collections through the use of sustainable preservation strategies; develop technical standards, best practices, and tools for preserving humanities materials that are "born digital"; and ensure that collections

of recorded sound and moving images that represent a major part of the record of the twentieth century will remain accessible to future generations.

The Rochester Institute of Technology recently received a Research and Development grant to measure the impact of short-term fluctuations in temperature and relative humidity on humanities collections and to create a management plan for maximizing preservation effectiveness while minimizing energy use. A resulting “field guide” will assist institutions in implementing their own dynamic management plans. Another recently funded project seeks to answer the research question of how to make better use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), originally developed for scientific purposes, in the analysis of humanities materials. In exploring this question, Indiana University, Indianapolis, will produce a prototype for visualizing geospatial data using the North American Religion Atlas as a test bed. Other grants in this category include awards to the University of California, Berkeley, to incorporate alphabets and ideographs from a number of ancient and minority languages into a single, international character set known as Unicode, thus making it possible to represent these rare scripts digitally and to make a wide range of otherwise hidden textual resources available online. Both scholars and members of minority language communities have benefited from these efforts.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

FY 2012 Request: \$13,800,000

Programs/Grant Categories:

- America's Historical and Cultural Organizations
- America's Media Makers
- Bridging Cultures through Film: International Topics
- Small Grants to Libraries
- NEH on the Road

NEH's Division of Public Programs supports activities that engage millions of Americans in the study and interpretation of significant humanities works, ideas, and events. By providing opportunities for people to engage in lifelong learning in history, literature, comparative religion, philosophy, and other fields of the humanities, these programs address the Endowment's two strategic goals: to advance knowledge and understanding of the humanities in the United States and to broaden public awareness of, access to, and support for the humanities.

The Endowment supports a wide variety of public humanities programs, including interpretive exhibitions, reading and discussion programs, the interpretation of historic sites, television and radio documentaries, and history and literature programs for families and young people. Such projects encourage dialogue, discussion, and civic engagement among citizens, and they foster learning among people of all ages. The agency also supports collaborative, multiformat projects, large-scale traveling exhibitions of national visibility, and the use of new technologies for the delivery of content to the American public.

The America's Historical and Cultural Organizations program supports interpretive exhibitions about important subjects in our nation's history, as well as the history and cultures of other nations. The America's Media Makers program supports film, radio, and digital programs that engage viewers and listeners on subjects in the humanities. Two programs make smaller awards that extend the reach of larger previously NEH-funded projects. The Small Grants to Libraries category enables individual libraries to take part in exemplary programs circulated by national organizations and major institutions. Such programs include, for example, exhibitions or film discussion programs on important topics in the humanities. Similarly, the NEH on the Road program is designed to extend the life and geographic reach of selected Endowment-funded exhibitions by reconfiguring them to fit into small and mid-sized museums. Over 900 libraries, museums, historical organizations, and other institutions in all states, territories, and the District of Columbia have received awards for these programs in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

In recent years, the Endowment has supported numerous projects related to the Civil War Sesquicentennial and will support many more as the anniversary is commemorated between 2011 and 2015. For example, an award to the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission is supporting planning for a traveling exhibition and other smaller exhibitions on Civil War events in Virginia and their place in the larger national experience. *Robert E. Lee*, a documentary that was produced by PBS's *American Experience* series and broadcast nationally in early 2011, explores the life and reputation of the Confederacy's pre-eminent general, whose military successes made him the scourge of the Union and the hero of the Confederacy. Still in production and scheduled to be broadcast in 2012 as part of the *American Experience* series, *The Republic of Suffering* examines the implications of the war's staggering and unprecedented death toll. Based on the book by renowned scholar and President of Harvard University, Drew Gilpin Faust, it shows how Civil War death changed not only the individual lives of those who killed and died and survived and grieved, but also the life of the nation and its understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. These projects are designed for presentation on multiple media platforms, including PBS broadcast, audiovisual and home video distribution, and online streaming on pbs.org. PBS estimates that more than 15 million people will view the documentaries and that thousands more will stream them online or download related curricular programs in our nation's schools. Through the year 2015, NEH will award grants for additional programs commemorating the Civil War Era.

Americans are more and more interested in global topics and in learning about other cultures. Through the new *Bridging Cultures* initiative, the agency intends to nourish this growing public curiosity about other cultures by encouraging media makers to develop projects that focus on international topics in the humanities. The new grant opportunity, Bridging Cultures through Film: International Topics, provides support for documentary films that examine a critical issue in ethics, religion, or politics through an international lens; the life of a world leader, writer, or historical figure; or the history and culture of a specific region of the world. For example, the Endowment recently awarded a grant for the production of a 90-minute film documenting the story of Albanian Muslims who sheltered, hid, and protected Jews from occupying German troops during World War II. This film will add depth and complexity to Americans' understanding of Muslims and the Holocaust.

In FY 2010, the Endowment received 605 applications and made 67 Public Programs awards for major projects, including 24 radio and television projects; 33 exhibitions and reading, viewing, discussion, and web-based programs; and 10 for programs interpreting America's historic places. In addition, 28 NEH on the Road grants were made to museums, and 25 Small Grants to Libraries were awarded.

In FY 2011, 684 applications and 65 major awards are anticipated, including 23 radio and television projects, with an additional 12 Bridging Cultures through Film projects; and 30 exhibitions and reading, viewing, discussion, and web-based programs. In addition, 60 NEH on the Road grants to museums are anticipated, as well as approximately 80 Small Grants to Libraries.

At the FY 2012 request level, the Endowment expects to receive approximately 740 applications and to make 56 major awards, including 20 radio and television projects, with an additional eight Bridging Cultures through Film projects; and 28 exhibitions or reading, viewing, discussion, and web-based programs. In addition, 45 NEH on the Road grants would be made to museums, and approximately 90 Small Grants to Libraries would be awarded.

America's Historical and Cultural Organizations

The Endowment is a major source of support for substantive humanities projects and programs in the nation's historical and cultural institutions and organizations, such as museums, libraries and archives, historic sites, and community centers. These projects, all grounded in sound humanities scholarship, include exhibitions of artistic, cultural, and historical artifacts; the interpretation of American historic sites; reading and film discussion programs in the nation's libraries; traveling exhibitions; lecture series; and other lifelong learning activities. Also supported are programs that encourage creative public dialogue and engagement using the intellectual perspectives of the humanities and programs that bring new voices into the conversation by enlisting the participation of underserved communities. NEH also encourages collaborations among community libraries and museums, school systems and home schooling groups, parent-teacher organizations, television and radio stations, and literacy coalitions.

At any time, hundreds of NEH-sponsored exhibitions are on view at large and small museums and historical sites throughout the country, enabling Americans to learn more about their nation and the world through the humanities. For example, *Children of Hangzhou: Connecting with China* is an interactive, multi-lingual, traveling exhibition exploring contemporary Chinese culture. It attracted 175,000 visitors while on view in Boston and is currently at the Brooklyn Museum, where it is expected to attract another 200,000. In all, more than 1.5 million visitors will have viewed the exhibition when the tour ends in 2011. Another recent exhibition, *All the World to See: Visual Culture and the Struggle for Civil Rights*, is a richly designed show that explores the ways images were used to influence attitudes toward racial equality and African-American culture during the civil rights era. The exhibition reached an estimated 50,000 people during its opening at New York City's International Center for Photography. It will travel to the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture; to the Center for Art, Design, and Visual Culture in Baltimore, Maryland; and to three additional venues through 2013. A curated tour of the exhibition is scheduled to air on public televisions in New York, and a narrated tour is planned to air on National Public Radio's *All Things Considered* afternoon news program.

NEH provides support for educational interpretation of America's historic sites and for projects in our nation's libraries. For example, the Thomas Cole Site in Greene County, New York, received NEH support to interpret the studio the nineteenth-century American artist's studio using docent tours, a website, multimedia stations, publications,

film, and other programs. The project explores how this founder of the Hudson River School of painting worked and examines his contributions to American art. The American Library Association received support to create library programs that are designed to expand the impact of the NEH-funded documentary film, *Louisa May Alcott: The Woman behind Little Women*, which aired on PBS's *American Masters* series and reached 1.5 million viewers. Alcott-related reading, viewing, and discussion programs, in which participants examine themes of nineteenth-century American history and literature, are scheduled over the next two years. The newly created programs will extend the impact of the film and reach many more Americans in 30 libraries in communities across the nation. NEH-supported projects such as these appeal to broad audiences in a wide variety of community environments and ensure that Americans from all walks of life can benefit from humanities-rich programming.

America's Media Makers

NEH supports media projects—principally film documentaries and radio series—that explore significant figures and events in the history and culture of America and other nations. Programs present fresh approaches to interpreting the humanities and provide stimulating and substantive educational opportunities for Americans of all ages. The Endowment also encourages and supports creative approaches that expand the content and reach of television and radio programs in the humanities—especially approaches using new digital technologies. To ensure that humanities themes and questions are well conceived, the agency requires that projects draw their content from humanities scholarship and use a team of scholars who are knowledgeable in the subject matter and represent diverse perspectives and approaches. As previously noted, the agency also has established a new grant category, Bridging Cultures through Film, which will encourage and support documentary films on other cultures.

Endowment-supported media projects continue to garner national recognition and awards for excellence. For example, *Into the Deep: America, Whaling and the World* was nominated for several Emmy Awards. Broadcast on PBS's *American Experience* series, the two-hour documentary explores the history of the American whaling industry from its seventeenth-century origins through the golden age of deep ocean whaling, and on to its demise in the decades following the American Civil War. Similarly, *Jerome Robbins: Something to Dance About*, a documentary about the American dancer and choreographer, was nominated for two Primetime Emmy Awards and a prestigious Peabody Award.

The Endowment recently provided funding for a number of projects that are aimed at youth. These include WNET New York's *Mission America* program, three online immersive animated games for children ages nine to thirteen on historical moments that have shaped American ideals and institutions. Also supported was *Frederick Douglass: Pathway from Slavery to Freedom*, the pilot episode in the new "Young American Heroes" television series for children ages eleven to fourteen. Produced by Connecticut Public Broadcasting, "Young American Heroes" highlights extraordinary Americans in pivotal moments of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century American history. Thus far, the program has aired in fourteen markets in seven states.

NEH also supports radio programs that examine the lives of important individuals, significant events, and ideas in the humanities. Awards are made to radio stations and organizations, as well as to independent radio producers affiliated with non-profit institutions. Recent projects include the Peabody Award-winning *Hidden Kitchens*, which received funds for the development of 12 seven-minute radio segments, two hour-long radio specials, 12 podcasts, and a website that explore life and culture through food across the world. Also, WNYC Radio in New York received NEH support for *The Jazz Loft Project Radio Series*, a series of two one-hour radio programs, 10 shorter modules and digital components on the history and culture of jazz in New York during the 1950s and 1960s. America Abroad Media received support to produce three hour-long humanities programs for a public radio series, *The Arab World's Demographic Dilemma: Young, Unemployed, and Searching for a Voice*, which analyzes the challenges facing Arab youth today.

Other NEH-supported projects deal with humanities topics in new ways. A recent grant to WNET in New York for *Prefaces to Shakespeare* will support a television series and website that examines and contextualizes the stories of all of Shakespeare's plays. Another award was made to WETA in Washington for a three-part, six-hour documentary series by filmmaker Ken Burns that tells the story of Prohibition and the rise, rule, and fall of the Eighteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. *Ancient Greeks/Modern Lives: Poetry-Drama-Dialogue*, a project of the Aquila Theatre Company in New York City, presents combined theater and library programs at 100 libraries and performing arts centers in 20 states. At each site, programs feature staged readings from Homer's *Odyssey* and works of Classical Greek drama, such as *Ajax* and *The Trojan Women*, as well as scholarly lectures, town hall discussions, and reading and discussion programs, all of which examine the connections between the classics and contemporary American life. Master classes in Greek drama and celebrity readings are scheduled in New York, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C. In a recent *New York Times* article, the project director of *Ancient Greeks/Modern Lives* described the objectives of this innovative project: "And in the end, after the last performance in April 2013, I'd like thousands of people to feel like they've learned something about the Greeks, and to be empowered to go learn more, and I'd like to really invigorate libraries and arts centers to let them see that they can have serious high-end programs even if they are tiny."

Small Grants to Libraries and NEH on the Road

The Endowment is committed to extending the reach of high quality educational exhibitions to audiences throughout the country. To achieve this objective, the agency supports two special programs, Small Grants to Libraries and NEH on the Road. Together, these two programs have delivered content-rich exhibitions and accompanying educational programs to 900 communities nationwide.

The Small Grants to Libraries program provides support for libraries and other cultural institutions to receive traveling panel exhibitions or pre-packaged reading and film discussion programs. The program helps smaller, less-experienced organizations bring

high quality humanities programming to their communities. For example, the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia received support to develop a panel exhibition on Abraham Lincoln and the Newberry Library in Chicago received funding for an exhibition on Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country. These small 1,000-square-foot exhibitions each travel to libraries in rural areas, small towns, and other communities across the nation. The selected sites also receive an array of educational and promotional materials keyed to the themes of the exhibitions, as well as training that includes presentations by scholars and curators, exhibit designers, and librarians with experience in public programming. An online support network for libraries features program ideas, speaker lists, bibliographies, film lists, exhibit set-up instructions, and other aids for the selected sites. NEH provides grants of \$2,500 to the selected sites to defray the cost of travel to the training sessions and the cost of local programming. Through another Small Grants to Libraries project, the American Library Association is sponsoring a series of reading and film discussion programs about the 1930's Federal Writers' Project at 30 public libraries. The programs and companion website were launched simultaneously with the broadcast of the NEH-supported documentary film, *Soul of a People: Voices from the Federal Writers' Project*.

The Endowment's NEH on the Road program sends scaled-down versions of major exhibitions to cultural organizations across America. NEH currently has eight exhibitions available for circulation. The Endowment provides support to supplement the host site for these exhibitions by awarding a grant of \$1,000 for local public programming and scholarly activities. To date, NEH on the Road exhibitions have traveled to over 140 sites. One of the exhibitions currently in circulation is *The Bison: American Icon*, which centers on the history of the bison as it has figured in Plains Indian life and the development of the bison as an iconic image of America.

RESEARCH PROGRAMS

FY 2012 Request: \$14,900,000

Programs/Grant Categories:

- Programs Supporting Individual Research
 - Fellowships
 - Summer Stipends
 - Documenting Endangered Languages
 - Awards for Faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Institutions with High Hispanic Enrollment, and Tribal Colleges and Universities

- Programs Supporting Collaborative Research
 - Scholarly Editions and Translations
 - Collaborative Research
 - Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions

Advancing knowledge and understanding in the humanities is a major strategic goal of NEH and the principal mission of the agency's Division of Research Programs. The Endowment upholds the highest standards of scholarly excellence and intellectual significance. As a result, NEH awards for advanced research in the humanities have become among the most coveted by American scholars. Grants support research by individual scholars (Fellowships, Summer Stipends, Documenting Endangered Languages, and Awards for Faculty); long-term, complex projects carried out by teams of scholars (Scholarly Editions and Translations and Collaborative Research); and focused, individual projects that draw upon the collections and expertise of leading humanities institutions and overseas research centers (Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions).

Supported projects cover all areas of the humanities from history, philosophy, and literature to classics, religion, and archaeology. Many of these projects involve the most significant political, philosophical, and literary ideas in the American intellectual tradition. For example, NEH is a major source of funding for authoritative editions of the papers of important historical figures, including Martin Luther King, Jr., George C. Marshall, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Albert Einstein; and such notable statesmen as Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and Abraham Lincoln; as well as editions of the writings of quintessential American authors such as Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, Mark Twain, and Robert Frost. American scholars also receive funding to edit the work of thinkers, writers, and artists from other countries, including, for example, the essays of Alexander von Humboldt, the letters of poets Elizabeth Barrett and Robert Browning, the papers of essayist and historian Thomas Carlyle, and the definitive works of Giuseppe Verdi. These authoritative editions provide scholars with the raw materials of scholarly inquiry and are used in classrooms worldwide.

The results of humanities research are typically communicated through books and articles, and each year NEH-supported scholars produce hundreds of such publications, many with leading trade and academic publishers. Notable publications that have enjoyed wide readership recently include Vincent Cannato's *American Passage: The History of Ellis Island* (HarperCollins), Melvin Urofsky's *Louis D. Brandeis: A Life* (Pantheon), and Marcus Rediker's *The Slave Ship: A Human History* (Penguin). This year's highly acclaimed *Autobiography of Mark Twain, Volume One* (University of California Press), edited by Harriet E. Smith, brought the best of NEH-supported scholarship on Twain to many thousands of readers.

Grantees are increasingly making their research available in electronic formats, such as interactive sites on the World Wide Web. The Endowment encourages applicants to harness the vast potential of advanced digital technology in the conduct and dissemination of research. For example, Bernard Frischer of the University of Virginia received an NEH grant to produce a digital reconstruction of the monumental statue of the Roman Emperor Caligula, held in the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond, so that this unique ancient work can be studied and discussed simultaneously by scholars and students around the world. A grant to Mark Schultz at Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois, is supporting work on the history of African-American farm owners since the Civil War. Schultz is training a team of graduate students to use digital technology to gather and catalog historical documents, municipal records, and oral histories to create an online archive. And, independent scholar Richard Cook from California heads a team of scholars who are preparing the first online edition and translation of the *Shuo Wen Jie Zi*, a 2,000 year-old Chinese dictionary that provides a base for the study of East Asian languages. Because much of the language has been lost or fallen from use, the project had to first develop the necessary critical fonts, data, and technology for representing the ancient Chinese characters online before it could begin creating the downloadable archive.

Programs Supporting Individual Research

Fellowships and Summer Stipends

Since the first years of the Endowment, NEH Fellowships and Summer Stipends have proven to be an extremely effective and efficient means of supporting excellent humanities research, resulting in the publication of approximately 7,200 books. Grantees also publish articles, make presentations based on their research for both specialized and general audiences, and use their research to enrich their teaching. Grants are awarded to a wide range of scholars in diverse settings, from colleges and universities to research institutes, and to independent scholars without teaching appointments. For example, Virginia Anderson, professor of history at the University of Colorado, Boulder, received a fellowship to investigate how and why some colonists during the American Revolution chose to support the British monarchy rather than the fledgling democracy. Marie Kim, professor of history at St. Cloud State University and a member of the Minnesota bar, received a fellowship to study the importance of custom in Korean civil law and legal culture. Severin Fowles, assistant professor of anthropology at Barnard College in New

York, received a summer stipend to document and analyze pre-historic Pueblo Indian rock formations along the Rio Grande River. And, William Kerrigan, professor of history at Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio, received a summer stipend to complete his study of nineteenth-century naturalist John Chapman, the man who inspired the Johnny Appleseed legend.

The intellectual impact of NEH Fellowships and Summer Stipends is not confined to the academy. Many NEH-supported projects reach out to a broad readership, including, most recently, Joseph Horowitz's *Classical Music in America* (W.W. Norton), Laura Claridge's *Emily Post: Daughter of the Gilded Age* (Random House), Megan Mullen's *Television in the Multichannel Age: A Brief History of Cable Television* (Blackwell), Joel Kupperman's *Six Myths about the Good Life: Thinking about What Has Value* (Hackett Publishing), and Margaret Washington's prize-winning *Sojourner Truth's America* (University of Illinois).

Every year former recipients of NEH research fellowships and stipends publish significant books and journal articles on important subjects in the humanities. Many of these publications win academic, scholarly, and literary prizes. In the past, funded projects have been honored with Pulitzer Prizes for history and biography, National Book Awards, the Bancroft Prize (generally recognized as the most prestigious award in the field of American history), and other awards for intellectual distinction. Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin, for example, received a Pulitzer Prize for biography for *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer* (Knopf, 2006). In 2010, prestigious scholarly organizations—among them the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, and the Modern Language Association—conferred ten prizes for excellence on books that were written by scholars who held NEH fellowships or summer stipends. For example, the Organization of American Historians awarded its Billington Prize for best book on the history of the American frontier to Matthew Kingle at Bowdoin College in Maine for *Emerald City: An Environmental History of Seattle* (Yale University Press).

The Endowment is widely respected for its rigorous review process, a strength that has led to strategic partnerships that further extend the agency's ability to support advanced research in the humanities. For example, NEH currently administers the evaluation of applications to the Library of Congress's John W. Kluge Fellowships Program. This program provides stipends to junior scholars from the United States and abroad to conduct research in the Library's rich humanities collections. NEH also carries out the evaluation of applications and serves as fiscal agent for fellowships awarded by the Japan-United States Friendship Commission. These awards encourage American scholars to pursue advanced research on Japan and U.S.-Japan relations. The Endowment's collaborations with the Library of Congress and the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission also provide for several jointly funded fellowship awards.

Documenting Endangered Languages

The Endowment continues its multi-year funding partnership with the National Science Foundation in support of Documenting Endangered Languages, a program to provide awards to scholars engaged in recording and archiving key languages before they become extinct. This collaboration is made urgent by the imminent demise of an estimated half of the 6,000 to 7,000 currently used languages worldwide. Documenting Endangered Languages fellowships support fieldwork and other activities relevant to recording, documenting, and archiving endangered languages, including the preparation of lexicons, grammars, texts, and databases. For example, with a grant from NEH, independent scholar John Keegan is conducting fieldwork leading to documentation of seventeen languages of the Sara-Bagirmi language family spoken primarily in southern Chad and rapidly disappearing from everyday usage. Mizuki Miyashita from the University of Montana will document the Blackfoot language, an endangered language spoken by a small group in Montana and Alberta, Canada. Rosemary Beam-de-Azcona from the University of California, Davis, will use a grant from NEH to produce the first grammar and to publish field notes from her study of Coatec Zapotec, an Otomanguean language spoken by a few hundred speakers in seven villages in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Awards for Faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Institutions with High Hispanic Enrollment, and Tribal Colleges and Universities

In FY 2009, the Endowment undertook a full review of its Faculty Research Awards program, which provided support for individual scholars at three types of institutions targeted by Presidential Executive Orders—historically black colleges and universities, institutions with high Hispanic enrollments, and tribal colleges and universities. Our intention was to develop more flexible grant opportunities in order to better serve the needs of scholars at these institutions. As a result of this review, NEH created three distinct Awards for Faculty programs, providing expanded opportunities for faculty members at these types of institutions. Unlike the agency's former Faculty Research Awards program, the new programs will allow for a wider variety of research efforts that lead not only to publication, but also to classroom enrichment, or public programs. At the first deadline for the Awards for Faculty programs in 2010, the Endowment received a record number of applications from the target institutions and made its first awards. For example, Julie Weise of California State University, Long Beach, received a grant to study the changing status of Mexicans and Mexican-Americans in the U.S. South between 1910 and 2010. And, Richard McCallister of Delaware State University received NEH support for the first reconstruction of the literary corpus of Nawat, an endangered language originally spoken by the Aztecs and now surviving in only a few isolated locales in modern-day Panama, Honduras, and Guatemala.

In FY 2010, NEH awarded 227 Fellowships and Stipends from a pool of 2,504 applications. In FY 2011, 225 awards are anticipated from an applicant pool of 2,890. In FY 2012, the Endowment expects to award 209 grants from approximately 3,000 applications.

Programs Supporting Collaborative Research

Modern scholarly endeavors increasingly require the collaboration of many scholars working across a wide range of specialties or scholars working alongside one another in research centers and archives. The Endowment nurtures such collaborative efforts through three programs—Scholarly Editions and Translations, Collaborative Research, and Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions.

Scholarly Editions and Translations

Scholarly Editions and Translations grants support the preparation of important texts and documents of enduring value that otherwise would be inaccessible to scholars and the public. Scholarly editions projects involve significant literary, philosophical, and historical materials, with the majority being in U.S. history and literature. Most are produced in print editions and increasingly also in a variety of digital formats. Recent grants have supported, for example, editions of the papers of such major historical figures as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Dolley Madison, Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Jackson, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Thomas Edison; and such literary and cultural figures as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Virginia Woolf, William F. Cody ("Buffalo Bill"), and Mark Twain. Other projects are preparing editions of documents important to the nation's history. For example, *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights* at the Wisconsin Historical Society collects and publishes the documentary record of the debate over the ratification of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights between 1787 and 1791. The project staff has searched hundreds of libraries, historical societies, and other possible sources throughout the United States and Europe for documents written by members of the Constitutional Convention of 1787, the Confederation Congress, the thirteen state legislatures that called ratifying conventions, members of those ratifying conventions, and other contemporaries. The *Documentary History* is a remarkably powerful research tool, and the quality and variety of material justify the assertion that the debate over the Constitution forms the greatest body of political writing in American history.

Another scholarly edition, *The First Federal Congress Project* at the George Washington University in Washington, D.C., is publishing the complete record of the First Federal Congress, 1789-1791, including unofficial records and primary material such as letters and diaries that document the actions, debates, and thoughts of that body and its members. *The Freedmen and Southern Society* project at the University of Maryland is documenting the transition from slavery to freedom in the American South in the years 1861 to 1867. The project will ultimately consist of nine volumes of some 50,000 documents selected by the editors from materials at the National Archives of the United States, including a large number of letters, affidavits, and other personal accounts by slaves and ex-slaves.

Projects also support great cultural, literary, and intellectual achievements. In the field of philosophy, for example, NEH awarded funding for a project at Indiana University, Indianapolis, to edit the papers of the influential nineteenth-century American philosopher

and scientist Charles S. Peirce. The University of Virginia received NEH support to create an electronic edition of *Piers Plowman* by the medieval English poet William Langland, one of the most important and widely taught works of early English literature. When completed, this open access site will include multiple digital versions of a text of Langland's masterpiece, as well as a repository of scholarly criticism and resources on the work.

Translation projects likewise involve significant literary and historical material translated into English for English-speaking scholars and readers. NEH has a long history of supporting translations of works from a wide variety of languages. Recently, a grant to Professor Peter Brand at the University of Memphis is supporting the preparation of a print and online translation of the hieroglyphic inscriptions from the Great Temple in Karnak, Egypt, one of the largest monuments ever built in the ancient world. Hieroglyphics cover the walls, roof, and 134 columns of the temple and chronicle wars and religious beliefs during the reign of pharaohs Sety I and Ramesses II, approximately 3,300 years ago. Professor Donald Lopez at the University of Michigan received funds to collaborate with a Tibetan scholar to translate *The Golden Chronicle*, a 20th-century Tibetan text written by the Tibetan monk, philosopher, and artist, Gendün Chöpel (1905-1951). *The Golden Chronicle* is widely considered the most significant work of Tibetan scholarship of the 20th century.

Collaborative Research

Collaborative Research grants support teams of researchers involved in a variety of large-scale domestic and international projects, including archaeological excavation and interpretation, scholarly conferences, and wide-ranging original and synthetic research that significantly adds to our understanding of historical issues and cultures worldwide. For example, Stephen Houston, professor of anthropology at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, received a grant to conduct archaeological field work at an ancient Mayan settlement in El Zotz, Guatemala. As a result of NEH funding, Houston and his team in May 2010 uncovered one of the most complete royal Mayan tombs ever discovered, a find that has the potential to add significant new knowledge about this large and influential pre-colonial population. Phillip Rupprecht, associate professor at Duke University, received support to convene an international conference on the history of tonal music in twentieth-century Austria, Germany, France, and the United States. The three-day conference probed current historical assumptions and presented new knowledge about the range of music composed and performed during one of the most important periods in the development of classical music. And, with NEH support, Kenneth Winkle, professor of history at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, leads a team of scholars documenting dramatic changes in the city of Washington, D.C., during the Civil War. The city—symbolic and strategic seat of the Union war effort—became the hub of the wartime antislavery movement and the locus of federal efforts to promote emancipation and civil

rights. The project website (www.civilwardc.org) will hold data, maps, essays, and other material useful to scholars, students, and the general public.

Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions

Grants through Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions support residential fellowships at major U.S. research centers located at home and abroad, as well as fellowships awarded under the auspices of U.S. organizations that facilitate international research. NEH supports institutions as varied as the Newberry Library in Chicago and the American Research Institute in Turkey, and funds individual research in China through the American Council of Learned Societies. The program recognizes that intellectual exchange and collaboration are vital to the scholarly enterprise and to advanced research in the humanities. These partnerships expand the access of American scholars to important research collections and scholarly communities, including many with rare and specialized expertise. NEH funds partially support the costs of fellowship stipends, while the partner institution covers such costs as meals, lodging, copying and library services, computer access, and, in the case of organizations supporting international research, assistance in securing the necessary visas and research permits. NEH grants to the institutions support approximately 75-80 individual fellows annually.

Awards through this program yield a wide range of published scholarship. For example, Lori Ferrell of the Claremont Graduate University in California held a NEH fellowship at the Huntington Library in California. With her award, she used the extensive collections of the Huntington to trace the history of the Bible. Her book, *The Bible and the People* was recently published by Yale University Press. Historian Glen Ames of the University of Toledo held a fellowship at the American Institute of Indian Studies in Delhi to research and write *The Globe Encompassed: European Expansion and Conquest 1500-1700* (Prentice Hall). Ames argues that expansion efforts in places such as India, Indonesia, and the Americas by great European colonial powers set in motion today's experience of economic and cultural globalization. Christopher Brown of Columbia University used his fellowship at the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture in Williamsburg, Virginia, to produce *Moral Capital: Foundations of British Abolitionism* (University of North Carolina Press), which received the Frederick Douglass Book Prize from the Gilder Lehman Institute of American History for the best book on slavery or abolition and the James A. Rawley Prize in Atlantic History from the American Historical Association.

In FY 2010, the Endowment made 70 awards in Scholarly Editions and Translations, Collaborative Research, and Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions from a pool of 264 applications. In FY 2011, 70 awards and 265 applications are estimated. At the FY 2012 request level, the agency anticipates 57 awards from a pool of approximately 265 applications.

OFFICE OF DIGITAL HUMANITIES

FY 2012 Request: \$4,250,000

Programs/Grant Categories:

- Digging Into Data Challenge
- Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants
- Digital Humanities Advanced Implementation Grants
- Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities
- NEH/German Research Foundation Bilateral Digital Humanities Programs

The National Endowment for the Humanities supports projects that utilize or study the impact of digital technology on research, education, preservation, and public programming in the humanities. In 2006, NEH established an Office of Digital Humanities to foster the development of world-class, leading-edge research and education in the emerging field of digital humanities. Over the last several years, the Endowment has earned a reputation in the U.S. for its leadership in this emerging field, and its work has become a model for funding bodies in a number other nations.

As our world becomes increasingly digital, computationally sophisticated research methods will become important to the humanities as well as to many other disciplines. Since the advent of the Internet, we have seen the creation of vast databases of digital books, newspapers, photographs, music, and other materials. These and other research resources are the traditional materials studied by humanities scholars. But now that we have access to literally millions of pages of materials in digital form, how does this change the very nature of humanities research? How does the large scale—and the availability of large-scale computing—change the research paradigm? These are among the important and fundamental questions being addressed by the Endowment and by NEH-supported scholars and researchers.

NEH's leadership role in the field of the digital humanities has been widely acknowledged in the humanities community and has received a good deal of publicity in the popular press. In July 2010, for example, scientists at Google Research announced their interest in the digital humanities and have begun investing money and resources. In their announcement, Google specifically acknowledged the work of NEH's Office of Digital Humanities as a supporter of innovative work in this area and expressed the hope that "over time the field of digital humanities will fulfill its promise of transforming the ways in which we understand human culture." In November of 2010, the *New York Times* published the first in a series of articles entitled "Digital Keys for Unlocking the Humanities' Riches" (<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/17/arts/17digital.html>). In this widely read piece, the *Times* noted that "This latest frontier is about method . . . using powerful technologies and vast stores of digitized materials that previous humanities

scholars did not have.” The article then discusses the work of NEH, including in-depth examples of a number of Endowment-funded projects.

As these examples (and many others) attest, NEH is one of the key players in this new field. This work is also having an impact on higher education in the United States: More and more leading universities are adding digital humanities laboratories and centers and hiring new digital humanities faculty.

The Endowment’s Office of Digital Humanities sponsors a number of innovative grant programs aimed at moving the field forward rapidly:

Digging into Data Challenge. This program funds international teams that are investigating new research methods that use advanced computing to query large digital datasets of books, newspapers, music, economic data, survey data, or other digital materials typically studied in the humanities and social sciences. The program uses the “challenge” format to create interest in the field and encourage innovative research. The Endowment recognized that with the explosion of Internet-based digital materials, this grant opportunity would be of great interest to a wide variety of scholars and funders of advanced research in the U.S. and internationally.

The program, which made its initial awards in FY 2010, is a collaboration of among NEH, the National Science Foundation, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, and the Joint Information Systems Committee of the United Kingdom. This first competition was open only to international partnerships involving research teams in at least two of the three participating countries: Canada, England or Wales in the United Kingdom, and the United States. There was a huge response to this competition, with 87 international teams submitting grant applications, indicating this is an area of great interest in the field. Some notable projects that received awards include:

- A team of humanities scholars and computer scientists from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and the University of Portsmouth in the United Kingdom is embarking on a project to integrate a vast collection of textual, geographical, and numerical data about the development of the American railroads and its impact on our nation, concentrating initially on the Great Plains and Northeast United States.
- Scholars from George Mason University, the University of Hertfordshire in the United Kingdom, and the University of Alberta in Canada will be developing tools and models for comparing, visualizing, and analyzing the history of crime, using the Old Bailey Online, which contains extensive court records of more than 197,000 individual trials held over a period of 240 years in Great Britain.
- A team of humanities scholars, librarians, and computer scientists from Stanford University, the University of Oklahoma, and Oxford University in the United Kingdom are embarking on a project to develop new visualization techniques and tools for use with Oxford University's Electronic Enlightenment collection of 55,000 letters. The project will support research into the history of the "Republic

of Letters"—scholarly communities and networks of knowledge during the period 1500-1800.

Building on the overwhelming response to the program's initial grant competition, four additional funders will participate in the next grant competition in 2012: the Institute of Museum and Library Services in the United States, the Organisation for Scientific Research in the Netherlands, and two new institutions in the United Kingdom—the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the Economic and Social Research Council.

Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants. This is a “seed grant” program that is designed to spur innovative research and education projects in the digital humanities. It takes a “high risk/high reward” approach, trying to identify exciting new research by American universities, libraries, archives, or non-profits that use technology in an innovative way. These small grants (ranging from \$25,000 to a maximum of \$50,000) result in plans, prototypes, or demonstration models for long-term digital humanities projects. Successful Start-Up grants that have demonstrated their impact on the field are encouraged to pursue larger implementation funding at a later stage. In terms of applications, this program has proven to be quite successful, with nearly 300 applications received and about 34 awards made each year. The large number of grant applications and the high quality of awards suggest that the Endowment has tapped an important unmet need in the humanities. Some notable recent grants include:

- A group of historians, librarians, and linguists at the University of North Texas are developing advanced text-mining and visualization tools to study historical trends in vast databases of digitized American newspapers.
- The University of Kentucky received a grant to create digital, web-based tools to enable students to study Medieval Latin legal manuscripts, many of which form the basis for modern-day law.
- A team at the Indiana University, Bloomington is investigating the creation of optical music recognition software that can read and interpret large repositories of digitized images of musical scores, allowing musicologists—and the public—much greater ability to search and access the history of music.

Digital Humanities Advanced Implementation Grants. As the Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant program enters its fifth year, the Endowment has funded a total of 145 of these small seed projects. At the Endowment's FY 2012 request level, the agency would be able to build on and extend the accomplishments of this grant category by creating a new program of Digital Humanities Advanced Implementation Grants. This program would fund the next stage of the best of these cutting-edge research and education projects. While some Start-Up grants can complete their work with just a small initial award, others create experimental prototypes or proofs of concept that have potentially larger outcomes. A follow-up program would target projects that have already demonstrated a successful beginning phase and that have a clear plan for moving towards full implementation. The new program would offer larger dollar amounts than the Start-Up Grants program to

enable these projects to develop fully and have maximum impact on the field. While we would expect many former Start-Up grantees to apply, the program will also be open to other researchers who have successfully completed initial planning phases of their project. At the FY 2012 request level, we estimate receiving approximately 50 implementation proposals and funding four projects.

Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities. This grant category encourages the sharing of best technology practices among humanities scholars. As reflected by the research grants made in the Digging into Data Challenge and Start-Up Grants categories, more and more humanities scholars are using sophisticated technology tools and techniques. The Institutes program sponsors training workshops that allow scholars to learn about these new technologies, tools, and techniques. This funding opportunity has received an enthusiastic response from the field: For example, two recent training institutes reported that well over 100 people applied for the 30 available seats. The program also ensures that scholars from universities both large and small have opportunities to learn about the latest research and education techniques in the digital humanities. Examples of recent awards include:

- The University of Southern California received support to host a four-week summer institute aimed at humanities scholars who are interested in learning to use new modes of scholarly communication. Participants will learn how to publish their work in multimedia formats, making use, for example, of audio, video, computer simulations, and interactive maps. The institute will include guest lecturers as well as hands-on collaborations between scholars and technologists.
- The University of Virginia received a grant to host an institute for scholars, librarians, museum officials, and advanced graduate students to explore how geospatial technologies like Geographic Information Systems can be used for teaching, learning, and research in the humanities.
- The University of California, Los Angeles received a grant to host an institute aimed at bringing together humanities scholars, mathematicians, and computer scientists to explore how ideas are transmitted across networks of people over time and place. The scholars and scientists will learn from a distinguished set of lecturers who will be discussing this theme in many different contexts, including literature, language, art, and history.

NEH/German Research Foundation Bilateral Digital Humanities Programs. As noted previously, the Endowment has forged creative partnerships with organizations in the U.S. and in other nations in support of the digital humanities. Another example of international partnership is the NEH/German Research Foundation Bilateral Digital Humanities Program. Under this program, the Endowment and the German Research Foundation splits costs equally to fund research partnerships between American and German universities and other research institutions. This program has proven to bring in high-caliber digital humanities proposals and has helped to build capacity and research collaborations among

American and German humanities scholars, librarians, and scientists. Examples of recent awards include:

- An international collaboration between Tufts University in Massachusetts and the German Archaeological Institute will join together the digital holdings of both institutions to form the largest collection of Greco-Roman materials online. The new, combined digital library will be a major step forward for research related to the Greco-Roman world.
- A team from the University of California, Los Angeles and the German Archaeological Institute of Cairo, is embarking on a major project to create a digital library of three-dimensional renderings of ancient Egyptian structures based on a variety of existing sources using CAD (Computer Aided Design) technology. This new library will enable not only scholars but also students of Egyptology, archaeology, and architecture to access this remarkable resource.
- Teams from the University of Virginia and the Universities of Paderborn and Detmold in Germany received support for a project called “Digital Music Notation Data Model and Prototype Delivery System,” which will develop methods, standards, and software for a scholarly music notation system. The two nations have brought together stakeholders from around the world to ensure that the new notation standard meets the needs of music scholars everywhere.

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Digital technology—in both the sciences and the humanities—is an increasingly important tool for research and education. Most critically, it does not simply allow scholars to work more quickly or more efficiently, it also is changing the very fabric of research methods, allowing scholars to raise new questions and to advance knowledge in ways not previously possible. With the funds requested for the Office of Digital Humanities in FY 2012, the Endowment will be able to strengthen these innovative programs, enhance its leadership role in the digital humanities, and continue its work encouraging this leading-edge research at institutions across the nation.

OFFICE OF CHALLENGE GRANTS

FY 2012 Request: \$8,750,000

- Strengthening humanities education
- Special Challenge Grants initiative for two-year colleges
- Encouraging financial planning
- Facilitating humanities research and scholarship
- Preserving and increasing access to cultural resources
- Providing opportunities for lifelong learning in the humanities
- Enhancing infrastructure for digital humanities

A small public library in Alaska constructs a new facility. A liberal arts college located in the Blue Ridge Mountains endows a new archivist position to enhance programming and research based on their extensive collections in Southern Appalachian history and culture. A regional historical society in Arkansas expands its public programming by endowing a position of humanities educator. A major university in Indiana conducts research and public outreach on the place of religion in American civic life. An educational center for the study of the historic events surrounding the Underground Railroad enhances its core exhibits, distance learning, and workshops. A small college in Ohio creates a new Center for the Study of American Democracy. Consortia of research libraries join together to underwrite—and thus to ensure open access to—an online encyclopedia of philosophy, which in turn has become one of the finest online resources in philosophy.

This brief sampling of recent challenge grants awarded by NEH illustrates how the Endowment helps local, state, and national institutions secure their humanities resources and activities for the long term. Crucial to achieving this goal is the “multiplier effect.” Recipients of a challenge grant must match every federal dollar with three nonfederal gifts to the grantee. (Different matching ratios may obtain in special initiatives.) In fact, many grantees raise significantly more than the required amount.

Grantees may use both the NEH challenge funds and the matched nonfederal funds for a variety of long-term institutional purposes. Grantees may use the money to purchase capital equipment and upgrade technology, renovate or construct facilities, and add to library holdings or museum collections. Challenge grants can also establish or augment endowments or spend-down funds that support basic humanities needs such as staff and programming.

A wide array of nonprofit organizations has taken up the NEH “challenge,” including museums, tribal centers, public libraries, colleges and universities, scholarly research organizations, state humanities councils, public radio and television stations, and historical societies and historic sites. Over the life of the program (since 1977), federally funded challenge grants have leveraged over \$1.685 billion from individuals, local governments, foundations and other nonfederal contributors. That donations to a challenge

grant are worth more than the dollar amount of the gift appeals to donors who want evidence that their gifts make a difference in furthering the goals of the recipient organization.

Many challenge applicants solicit gifts even before applying to NEH, as the mere anticipation of a possible challenge grant has proven to leverage donations. (Even if the application is unsuccessful in the highly competitive NEH review process, donors usually allow the organization to retain gifts given in anticipation of the grant.) While most evidence of the leveraging power is anecdotal, occasionally a donor will articulate in writing the effect of the grant. In Texas, for example, a foundation that limited its grants to a geographic area different from that of the challenge grantee, wrote to the humanities organization before it had received its NEH challenge that the foundation "regret[s] to inform you that our Directors were not in a position to authorize a grant toward your [project]." After NEH offered the challenge grant, however, a letter from the foundation stated that "now that you have picked up specific support [from NEH] . . . we should have another discussion here . . . about whether [the foundation] can enter into the project." A substantial donation of \$50,000 resulted.

In FY 2010, the NEH Office of Challenge Grants received 141 applications and made twenty-two awards. The program anticipates receiving approximately 150 applications in FY 2011 and making twenty awards. In FY 2012, the program anticipates receiving 150 applications and making eighteen awards.

Strengthening Humanities Education

In accord with a key element of the Endowment's strategic plan, the NEH Challenge Grants program helps strengthen humanities teaching and learning across the nation. For example, Swarthmore College received a \$600,000 challenge grant (to match \$2,400,000 in nonfederal funds) for teaching positions in Modern Standard Arabic. The college currently has substantial enrollments in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, and it seeks to address a national need by offering instruction in first- and second-year Arabic in a tri-college consortium with Haverford College and Bryn Mawr College. The consortium seeks to integrate language and cultural study and to encourage participation by its students in overseas residential programs. The grant will support a full-time faculty position at Swarthmore, a part-time faculty position to be shared with Haverford and Bryn Mawr, and Arabic language drill instructors.

Special Initiative for Two-Year Colleges

Recognizing that the majority of postsecondary education in the humanities takes place at two-year colleges, the Endowment regards strengthening humanities education at these institutions as especially vital. The importance of these institutions to humanities education in the United States has been overlooked, and they have not applied for challenge grants in anything like the numbers expected from a cohort of over 1,100 institutions nationwide. Beginning in FY 2011, the Challenge Grants program will undertake a special initiative to encourage two-year colleges to plan for ways to strengthen their activities, programs, capital resources, and endowments that support the humanities.

Encouragement for applicant institutions that have been reluctant to apply for challenge grants will include a lower matching ratio of 2-to-1 (instead of 3-to-1), and an extended grant period to allow increased time to meet the NEH fundraising challenge.

The Endowment will particularly encourage applications from two-year colleges that respond to the agency-wide *Bridging Cultures* emphasis. Two-year colleges are one of the most diverse educational settings in the nation, where student populations comprise persons of varied ethnicity and nationality, persons with low or moderate incomes who must work on average thirty hours a week to attend college, persons who are the first in their families to attend college, and persons newly arrived in the U.S. who seek through education to establish their place in the American culture and economy. For these students, the humanities can provide direct contact with significant questions of cultural identity, national citizenship, and personal values. The humanities can lead students to understand their own and others' cultures not as inevitably conflicting value systems but as expressions of difference deserving respect and understanding. Two-year colleges form a crossroads where cultures meet and mingle and where, in a humanities context, they can be better understood. The Endowment will particularly invite applications for programs and curricula that compare two or more distinct cultures.

In line with Presidential Executive Orders #13256 on Historically Black Colleges and Universities and #13270 on Tribal Colleges and Universities, NEH also extends special encouragement of a lower matching ratio and extended grant period to these types of institutions to apply for challenge grants.

Encouraging financial planning

Successful challenge grant applications require evidence of careful strategic planning for the long-term strength of the humanities. For example, NEH recently offered a \$300,000 challenge grant (to match \$900,000 in nonfederal funds) to Lake County Library District in Lakeview, Oregon. As the only significant humanities entity in a county the size of some states, the Lake County Library District recognized that, when it builds its new facility, it will need to accommodate an influx of patrons currently making do with a single cramped facility. So the library specifically designated certain areas of the library building for use in humanities programs. The library is also finding ways to enhance the technology available to its patrons. This small, rural library will be better able to serve the citizens of the county by preparing carefully and wisely for the changing circumstances in its far-flung, thinly populated region. Another illustration of excellent long-range planning can be seen in the recently completed challenge grant to Pilgrim Hall Museum, in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The museum's historic 1824 facility lacked adequate climate control, thus imperiling the valuable collection of early American artifacts that includes William Bradford's Geneva Bible and the only portrait made of a Pilgrim from life. The museum successfully raised the \$900,000 required for matching \$300,000 in federal funds, and it used the \$1,200,000 in total challenge funds to install a state-of-the-art heating, ventilating, and air conditioning system; to construct new exhibition space; and to make other capital improvements necessary to protect the collection and better serve an increased number of visitors.

Facilitating Humanities Research and Scholarship

NEH Challenge Grants support scholarly research in the humanities at a variety of types of institutions, from large universities to small colleges, from major history museums to historic sites. For example, the Endowment recently offered a grant of \$850,000 (to match \$2,550,000 in nonfederal donations) to Knox College of Galesburg, Illinois, in support of its Lincoln Studies Center. Founded by two long-time members of the Knox faculty, now retired, the center's aim is to make primary Lincoln resources more available to scholars and the public. The center is particularly known for its numerous publications and its partnership with the Library of Congress in transcribing and annotating Lincoln's personal papers for the library's website. The challenge grant will endow the directorship of the center and develop a Web resource that provides access to full-text versions of significant Lincoln-related materials. The endowment resulting from the grant would also enhance a series of educational initiatives that benefit the undergraduate program of Knox College, the general public, and scholars of Lincoln's Presidency.

NEH also supports overseas research centers that assist American scholars who are advancing our knowledge of the world beyond our shores. Scholars studying a diverse group of cultures and peoples from ancient to modern times rely on overseas research centers for access to important collections, for introductions to scholars in other nations, for access to national libraries, and for important logistical assistance with everything from where to eat and sleep to finding necessary transportation to significant sites. The American Research Institute in Turkey, for example, received a challenge grant of \$550,000 (to match \$1,650,000 in nonfederal donations) to expand and enhance the institute's extensive library facilities in Ankara and in Istanbul. Besides supporting direct expenditures for moving to larger facilities in both library locations, the grant will enable the institute to purchase technology equipment and endow professional library staff and collections development.

Preserving and Increasing Access to Cultural Resources

The Challenge Grants program supports long-term institutional capacity to preserve manuscripts, art works, artifacts, documents, and other collections important to our cultural heritage. The North Haven Historical Society, which serves the community on a small island off the coast of Maine, used a \$60,000 challenge grant (matched by \$180,000 in nonfederal gifts) to construct an archives building that now houses important documents and materials from the region's past. According to the project director, the challenge offer "was just the incentive the Society needed and a clear indication to our potential donors that we . . . meant to provide an archival safe haven for all that we had been given, for future acquisitions, and an enticement for community members (especially students) to explore their heritage." Protection of another region's history is the purpose of a recent challenge grant offered to Cape Cod Community College in Massachusetts. The college houses the W.B. Nickerson Cape Cod History Archives, the only archival resource dedicated to preserving the rich historical and cultural heritage of Cape Cod. The collection of over 10,000 items (town records, personal papers, deeds, genealogical

records) and over 5,000 books, has outgrown the capacity of the college's library to house and protect this historical treasure. With an NEH challenge grant of \$170,000 (matching \$340,000 in nonfederal donations), the college will renovate the archival space in accord with best conservation standards and will establish a small endowment to fund educational outreach, archival supplies, and new acquisitions to the collection.

Conservation facilities, programs, and staff play an increasingly important role in many challenge grants. The Endowment has long supported conservation education and training; it has helped museums establish conservation departments; and it has strengthened conservation centers across the nation—at the Toledo Museum in Ohio, the Baltimore Museum of Art, the Chrysler Museum in Virginia, the Anchorage Museum of History and Art in Alaska. For example, NEH offered a Challenge Grant of \$625,000 to the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco to help establish an endowment for its Conservation Department. The annual interest on the \$2,500,000 endowment will yield funds to underwrite the Head of Conservation position. The museum will then use monies previously allocated for this position to expand staffing levels, address ongoing and specialized conservation needs, conduct analysis of individual objects, and make the entire collection more widely available for exhibitions, educational programs, and scholarly study and interpretation. The museum currently draws over 400,000 visitors each year. Spanning 6,000 years, the museum's collection of over 15,000 objects enables it to provide an intensive introduction to all the major cultural and religious traditions in Asia.

Providing Opportunities for Lifelong Learning in the Humanities

An excellent example of the important role local historical societies play in providing opportunities for lifelong learning in the humanities can be seen in the challenge grant of \$575,000 awarded to Historic Cherry Hill, located in the South End of Albany, New York. The grant provides for restoration of a 1787 wood-frame, Georgian-style farmhouse (listed on the National Register of Historic Places). The grant will also allow the society to endow the Curatorial and Research Department. Home to five generations of Van Rensselaers, Cherry Hill today tells a nationally significant story through the lens of an important family in the Albany area. Using the site's intact family collections of 20,000 objects, 30,000 manuscripts, 7,500 textiles, 5,000 books, and 3,000 photographs, the society educates its core audience of schoolchildren, college students, family groups, tourists, and researchers. The endowment will transform the society's humanities activities through improved access to the wealth of information contained in these collections.

Enhancing Institutional Infrastructures for Digital Humanities

In FY 2012, the Office of Challenge Grants will continue its long-standing emphasis on digital humanities. The program invites applications to enhance the institutional infrastructure that makes sustained use of advanced technology possible. For example, NEH offered the University of Illinois a \$750,000 challenge grant (to match \$2,250,000 in nonfederal donations) to support the university's Institute for Computing in Humanities, Arts, and Social Science (I-CHASS). The institute charts new ground at the intersection of digital scholarship and the humanities. I-CHASS fosters path-breaking

research and develops computational resources, collaborative tools, and educational programming to advance humanities scholarship. The grant will build an endowment of \$3,000,000, the income from which will support staff positions and workshops. Crucial staff expertise in data analytics and pattern recognition, in human-computer interaction, and in digital modeling will be supported through the grant, bringing to bear on significant issues in the humanities the best of technical skills. I-CHASS staff will collaborate with humanities scholars on specific projects and help to build a cyberstructure for the digital humanities more broadly, connecting faculty students, and members of the public with the vibrant national digital humanities community.

TREASURY FUNDS

FY 2012 Request: \$2,750,000

NEH uses Treasury funds to match nonfederal contributions in support of humanities projects. Encouraging private-sector support for cultural activities is an important goal of the Administration and of Congress, and NEH Treasury funds and Challenge Grants have proven to be an effective means of leveraging the contributions of the nation's businesses, foundations, and individuals on behalf of the humanities. From the establishment of the agency in 1965 through fiscal year 2010, Endowment matching grants for humanities projects have stimulated approximately \$420 million in third-party donations. (NEH Challenge Grants have leveraged another \$1.685 billion in institutional support.) In order to build on that record of success, we are requesting an appropriation of \$2.750 million for the Endowment's Treasury funds program in FY 2012.

Matching grants are awarded in most programs of the Endowment. A matching award entails an offer of NEH funding that is conditioned on an equivalent amount of fund-raising by the recipient. A matching offer may comprise the entire amount of the Endowment's support. More often, however, it is combined with an outright grant that permits the project activity to begin while a fund-raising effort is being organized.

Although Treasury matching funds support discrete projects rather than basic institutional needs, matching grants awarded with Treasury funds generally have the effect of improving the financial stability of humanities institutions. By providing incentives for fund-raising, Treasury funds help humanities institutions establish long-term relationships with potential donors.

In FY 2010, NEH matching grants, leveraging an equivalent amount in nonfederal giving, supported humanities activities of every kind. Awards of Treasury matching funds included the following:

- \$100,000 awarded to the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts in Philadelphia in support of a regional preservation field service program that conducts preservation surveys, workshops, technical consultations, and provides educational materials to libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations in the Mid-Atlantic states.
- \$23,197 in support of the Kansas-Nebraska Chautauqua, "Bright Dreams, Hard Times: America in the Thirties," a series of public programs in 12 rural communities in Kansas and Nebraska over three years exploring political, environmental, economic, and cultural changes during the Depression.
- \$200,000 awarded to the WGBH Educational Foundation to produce *Robert E. Lee*, a two-hour television program with accompanying website for the American Experience that examines the life of Robert E. Lee.

- \$100,000 awarded to the University of California, Berkeley, to complete editorial work on electronic and print editions of the *Autobiography of Mark Twain*.
- \$155,000 awarded to the University of Wisconsin, Madison, to complete two volumes of *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution and the Adoption of the Bill of Rights*.
- \$60,000 awarded to University of Virginia to continue editing and publication of *The Papers of James Madison*.
- \$37,800 awarded to the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, to conduct an archaeological excavation of the 5,000 year-old Minoan trading center at Mochlos in eastern Crete.



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

MISSION STATEMENT

Because democracy demands wisdom, the National Endowment for the Humanities serves and strengthens our Republic by promoting excellence in the humanities and conveying the lessons of history to all Americans.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

FY 2012 PERFORMANCE BUDGET

I. INTRODUCTION

The National Endowment for the Humanities is pleased to present the agency's FY 2012 Performance Budget. This document provides a measure of the Endowment's progress toward attaining the goals and objectives of the NEH multi-year strategic plan. In form and content, it conforms to the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA) and to the published guidance of the Office of Management and Budget. The annual performance goals and indicators below are integrally connected to the long-range goals, objectives, and strategies detailed in the Endowment's strategic plan. FY 2012 performance data are consistent with the program activities currently planned at levels of the Endowment's FY 2012 Congressional request. FY 2011 performance data are consistent with the program activities currently planned at levels of the Endowment's FY 2011 Congressional request. Also shown are actual performance results for fiscal year 2010.

The Endowment is now in the process of reviewing and updating its multi-year strategic plan. Once our new plan is in place, we will recast our performance goals and indicators and our performance plan. In the meantime, we are also planning to adapt elements of the new Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) format, which was developed by a committee of the National Science and Technology Council, to help us capture performance information from grantees in NEH's grants management system. On a parallel track, we are also developing an in-house system for collecting information on the products and prizes that result from NEH grants. This system will help both the agency and the general public have a better understanding of the impact of our work.

II. PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS

In the tables that follow, nine objectives of the Endowment's strategic plan are expressed as goals of the NEH performance budgets for FY 2012 and for the two preceding fiscal years. Annual progress toward the attainment of those goals is calibrated with reference to numerical or qualitative indicators. The integration of the Endowment's performance budget and its budget submission is fully evident in these tables. In each, the left-most column explicitly relates requested (or appropriated) funding for each of the major programmatic areas of the Endowment to a specific performance goal and to anticipated (or actual) performance levels. The nine strategic objectives/performance goals below all address the Endowment's primary strategic goal: **To advance knowledge and understanding in the humanities in the United States.** They are:

- To facilitate basic research and original scholarship in the humanities.

- To strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in schools and colleges across the nation.
- To preserve and increase the availability of cultural and intellectual resources essential to the American people.
- To provide opportunities for Americans to engage in lifelong learning in the humanities.
- To create new program initiatives that respond to needs and opportunities in American society.
- To strengthen the institutional base of the humanities.
- To maintain and strengthen partnerships with the state humanities councils.
- To establish collaborative partnerships with individuals and institutions in support of the humanities.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES
FY 2012 PERFORMANCE BUDGET

II. Table A

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2012 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
RESEARCH PROGRAMS \$14,900,000	A: To facilitate basic research and original scholarship in the humanities.	
	1) Support is provided that enables scholars-- both those affiliated with educational institutions and those working independently-- to devote a concentrated period of time to research and writing on significant subjects in all fields of the humanities.	Support would be provided for 209 individual scholars to make significant progress on important humanities research projects through fellowships and stipends.
	2) Support is provided for collaborative research projects that develop significant intellectual advances and resources for scholars, teachers, students, and the general public.	Support would be provided for 48 important long-term collaborative projects in the humanities such as scholarly editions, translations, archaeological excavations and analyses and other complex, large-scale undertakings. In addition, 24 previously awarded grants would receive ongoing support through NEH matching funds.
	3) Support is provided for overseas research in the humanities by American scholars and, where appropriate, encouragement offered for international collaboration in research on significant topics in the humanities.	Funding for 22 humanities fellowship programs at independent research institutions would support the work of 79 humanities scholars who would make significant contributions to scholarship in the humanities.
	4) Support is provided for humanities scholarship by faculty members at Historically Black, Hispanic-serving, and Tribal colleges and universities.	Support would enable up to 10 individual scholars who teach at historically black colleges and universities, at institutions with high Hispanic enrollment, and at tribal colleges and universities to make significant progress on important scholarly projects in the humanities through faculty research awards.

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2012 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
EDUCATION PROGRAMS \$13,550,000	B: To strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in schools and colleges across the nation.	
	1) Teachers are provided opportunities to renew and deepen their knowledge of the humanities.	<p>Support for 53 NEH summer seminars and institutes would enable 435 college teachers and 674 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of the humanities. College teachers participating in seminars and institutes during the summer of 2013 would reach approximately 76,125 students annually; school teacher participants would reach approximately 84,250 students annually.</p> <p>Support for 19 “Landmarks of American History and Culture” workshops to take place in the summer of 2013 would enable approximately 1,520 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of American history, particularly as it relates to the relationship between specific sites and the episodes in history, the writers, and/or the artists associated with that location. These teachers would annually reach approximately 190,000 students. Through a partnership of NEH and the U.S. Department of State, selected “Landmarks” workshops will invite participation by teachers from other nations.</p> <p>Support for 9 “Landmarks of American History and Culture for Community College Faculty” workshops to take place during the summer of 2013 would enable 450 community college teachers to reach 78,750 students annually with their revitalized knowledge, understanding, appreciation, and teaching of American History, particularly as it relates to the relationship between specific sites and the episodes in history, the writers, and/or the artists associated with them.</p> <p>Teaching Development Fellowships, a special grant category in 2009, 2010, and 2011, will be discontinued for 2012.</p> <p>Support to 20 award recipients for Enduring Questions would enable faculty members to develop a new course at the undergraduate level to grapple with the most fundamental concerns of the humanities across cultures, and to join with their students in deep, sustained programs of reading in order to encounter influential thinkers over the centuries into the present day. These teachers would reach at least 175,000 students annually.</p> <p>The Picturing America School Collaboration Projects program held its last grant competition in FY 2011. Projects funded during that competition will continue through 2012.</p>

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2012 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
EDUCATION CONT'D	2) Support is provided for humanities education programming in Historically Black, Hispanic-serving, and Tribal colleges and universities across the country.	Humanities Initiatives at Presidentially Designated Institutions would provide 10 grants to support faculty professional development activities for improvement in humanities instruction, as well as other capacity building activities at these institutions.
PRESERVATION AND ACCESS \$15,600,000	C: To preserve and increase the availability of cultural and intellectual resources essential to the American people.	
	1) Support is provided to preserve and create intellectual access to humanities collections and resources. Supported activities include digitizing collections; arranging and describing archival and manuscript collections; cataloging collections of printed works, photographs, recorded sound, moving image, art, and material culture; preservation reformatting; deacidification of collections; preserving and improving access to humanities resources in "born digital" form; creating research tools and reference works; and developing technical standards, best practices, and tools for preserving and enhancing access to humanities collections.	<p>Grants would be made to 9 projects to begin or continue work on the preparation of dictionaries, atlases, encyclopedias, and textbases central to knowledge and understanding of the humanities.</p> <p>Twenty-two projects would preserve and/or provide access to 1,000 hours of recorded sound and video collections; 3,000 linear feet of archival documents; and 400,000 manuscripts, broadsides, oversize volumes, and other non-print materials.</p> <p>Cooperative agreements supported through the National Digital Newspapers Program would digitize hundreds of thousands of microfilm pages of historic newspapers.</p> <p>Support would be provided for 3 research and development projects concerned with standards and procedures.</p>
	2) Support is provided to train staff from the nation's cultural repositories in the appropriate procedures for preserving and enhancing access to the humanities collections for which they are responsible.	Six awards would be made for regional and national education programs that would provide training for 4,700 people in U.S. museums, libraries, archives, and historical organizations.

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2012 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
PRESERVATION AND ACCESS \$15,600,000	3) Support is provided to museums, libraries, archives, historical organizations, and other cultural institutions to extend the useful life of fragile humanities collections and to develop sustainable strategies for their care. Supported activities include preventive conservation measures, such as managing relative humidity, temperature, light and pollutants in collection spaces; providing protective storage systems for collections; and safeguarding collections from theft and disasters.	Projects supported would help 17 cultural institutions preserve and ensure continued access to their humanities collections institutions through preventive conservation measures.
	4) The Endowment extends its reach to institutions across the country by providing support for basic preservation activities to small and mid-sized libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations.	Projects supported would assist in preserving collections at 166 institutions in all fifty states and two U.S. Territories.
PUBLIC PROGRAMS \$13,800,000	D: To provide opportunities for Americans to engage in lifelong learning in the humanities.	
	1) Substantive media presentations, exhibitions, reading and discussion programs, and other public projects advance public understanding of the humanities.	Twenty-eight television/radio projects would produce 96 broadcast hours and draw a cumulative audience of approximately 36 million people. Twenty-eight exhibitions, reading, viewing, and discussion programs, web-based programs, and other public education programs would employ various delivery mechanisms at venues across the country.
	2) High quality interpretative panel exhibitions and public programs are circulated to libraries through Small Grants to Libraries, and selected sites that receive smaller versions of NEH-funded exhibitions through the NEH on the Road cooperative agreement receive funds for additional public programming.	Forty-five NEH on the Road grants would be made to museums, and approximately 90 Small Grants to Libraries would be awarded.

	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2012 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
NEW PROGRAM INITIATIVES \$8,250,000	E: To create new program initiatives that respond to needs and opportunities in American society.	
	1) New initiatives and programs that address important concerns and opportunities in the humanities are established.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$4,000,000. A special initiative, Bridging Cultures, that will enhance Americans’ understanding of their own rich cultural heritage, as well as the cultural complexity of the world in which we live. The initiative will sponsor a series of conferences across the nation that will involve scholars and members of the public to discuss issues that divide us as Americans and that will help us understand the history, heritage, and cultures of peoples in countries around the world. In addition, the Endowment will encourage scholars, educators, museums, libraries, and other individuals and institutions to develop humanities projects and programs that address the goals and objectives of the initiative. We will also make creative use of social and digital media to foster dialogue among people of diverse cultures in the United States and abroad. ● \$4,250,000. Funding would be provided through a major Digital Humanities program to support projects that utilize or study the impact of digital technology on research, education, preservation, and public programming in the humanities. Digital Humanities would support a variety of new funding categories or programmatic emphases: 1) Digital Start-Up Grants to encourage innovative work at the nexus of information technology and the humanities; 2) Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities to encourage the sharing of best practices among humanities scholars; 3) Digital Humanities Implementation Grants; 4) DFG/NEH Bilateral Digital Humanities Programs jointly supported by NEH and the German Research Foundation (DFG) to encourage collaborative digital humanities projects between American and German institutions; and 5) Digging into Data Challenge, an international collaboration among eight funding agencies in Canada, Europe, and the United States to explore how vast libraries of digitized books, newspapers, art, and music can be used for advanced scholarship.
	2) Agency-wide initiatives are developed in selected humanities areas.	Additional awards would be made through the NEH/NSF “Documenting Endangered Languages” special initiative.

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2012 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
CHALLENGE GRANTS \$8,750,000	F: To strengthen the institutional base of the humanities.	
	Support is provided for institutions to increase nonfederal contributions for their humanities activities and enhance their resources over the long term.	By FY 2015, NEH Challenge Grants awarded in FY 2012 would generate more than \$30 million in nonfederal donations to recipient institutions in support of their humanities activities.
FEDERAL/STATE PARTNERSHIP \$40,100,000	G: To maintain and strengthen partnerships with the state humanities councils.	
	Support is provided to the councils to encourage locally initiated, substantive humanities programs for the people in each state.	Support for the programs and operations of 56 state humanities councils would make possible high quality state and local humanities projects throughout the nation, including 15,000 reading and discussion programs, 3,500 exhibitions, 4,800 literacy programs, 5,200 speakers bureau presentations, 2,900 teacher institutes and workshops, 3,000 conferences and symposia, 2,000 Chautauqua events, 5,600 media program events, 590 technology projects, 550 preservation projects and 5,000 local history projects.
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT \$500,000	H: To establish collaborative partnerships with individuals and institutions in support of the humanities.	
	1) Partnerships are forged to leverage new resources for the humanities and expand audiences for the humanities.	The Endowment would develop of a number of new partnerships with other institutions and organizations, leveraging approximately \$1.5 million in new funding for humanities programs.
	2) New programming, funding, and administrative partnerships are established with other agencies, foundations, and organizations, both public and private.	NEH partnerships would include the following: 1) a program of fellowships to be sponsored jointly by NEH and the Library of Congress to support humanities scholars who wish to conduct research at the Library of Congress; 2) the National Digital Newspapers Program, a multi-year collaboration with the Library of Congress to digitize and make publicly available on the World Wide Web historic U.S. newspapers; 3) the Advanced Research Fellowships on Japan Program to be jointly sponsored by NEH and the Japan-United States Friendship Commission; 4) a "Cultural Diplomacy" partnership of NEH and the U.S. Department of State that would enable teachers from other nations to participate in "Landmarks of American History and Culture" workshops; 5) EDSITEment; 6) Digging into Data Challenge, an international collaboration among eight research teams in Canada, Europe, and the United States to explore how vast libraries of digitized books, newspapers, art, and music can be used for advanced scholarship; and 7) programmatic collaboration with the National Trust for the Humanities.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES
FY 2011 PERFORMANCE BUDGET

II. Table A

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2011 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
RESEARCH PROGRAMS \$16,866,000	A: To facilitate basic research and original scholarship in the humanities.	
	1) Support is provided that enables scholars-- both those affiliated with educational institutions and those working independently-- to devote a concentrated period of time to research and writing on significant subjects in all fields of the humanities.	Support would be provided for 225 individual scholars to make significant progress on important humanities research projects through fellowships and stipends.
	2) Support is provided for collaborative research projects that develop significant intellectual advances and resources for scholars, teachers, students, and the general public.	Support would be provided for 56 important long-term collaborative projects in the humanities such as scholarly editions, translations, archaeological excavations and analyses and other complex, large-scale undertakings. In addition, 24 previously awarded grants would receive ongoing support through NEH matching funds, in part through the use of We the People funding.
	3) Support is provided for overseas research in the humanities by American scholars and, where appropriate, encouragement offered for international collaboration in research on significant topics in the humanities.	Funding for 25 humanities fellowship programs at independent research institutions would support the work of 80 humanities scholars who would make significant contributions to scholarship in the humanities.
	4) Support is provided for humanities scholarship by faculty members at Historically Black, Hispanic-serving, and Tribal colleges and universities.	Support would enable up to 10 individual scholars who teach at historically black colleges and universities, at institutions with high Hispanic enrollment, and at tribal colleges and universities to make significant progress on important scholarly projects in the humanities through faculty research awards.

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2011 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
EDUCATION PROGRAMS \$15,616,000	B: To strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in schools and colleges across the nation.	
	1) Teachers are provided opportunities to renew and deepen their knowledge of the humanities.	<p>Support for 54 NEH summer seminars and institutes would enable 451 college teachers and 674 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of the humanities. College teachers participating in seminars and institutes during the summer of 2012 would reach approximately 78,925 students annually; school teacher participants would reach approximately 84,250 students annually.</p> <p>Support for 20 “Landmarks of American History and Culture” workshops to take place in the summer of 2012 would enable approximately 1,600 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of American history, particularly as it relates to the relationship between specific sites and the episodes in history, the writers, and/or the artists associated with that location. These teachers would annually reach approximately 200,000 students. Through a partnership of NEH and the U.S. Department of State, selected “Landmarks” workshops will invite participation by teachers from other nations.</p> <p>Support for 9 “Landmarks of American History and Culture for Community College Faculty” workshops to take place during the summer of 2012 would enable 450 community college teachers to reach 78,750 students annually with their revitalized knowledge, understanding, appreciation, and teaching of American History, particularly as it relates to the relationship between specific sites and the episodes in history, the writers, and/or the artists associated with them.</p> <p>Thirteen Teaching Development Fellowships would enable recipients to pursue research aimed specifically at deepening their core knowledge in the humanities to improve their undergraduate teaching. These teachers would reach 2,275 students annually.</p> <p>Support to 18 Enduring Questions award recipients would enable individual faculty members to develop a new course at the undergraduate level to grapple with the most fundamental concerns of the humanities, and to join with their students in deep, sustained programs of reading in order to encounter influential thinkers over the centuries and into the present day. These questions would include: What is the good life? What is justice? What is friendship? Is there a human nature, and, if so, what is it? These teachers would reach 3,150 students annually.</p> <p>Support for 8 Picturing America School Collaboration Projects would enable approximately 470 teachers in a local area or region to attend workshops that would enhance their incorporation of Picturing America into core curriculums. These teachers would reach 58,750 students annually.</p>

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2011 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
EDUCATION CONT'D	2) Support is provided for humanities education programming in Historically Black, Hispanic-serving, and Tribal colleges and universities across the country.	Humanities Initiatives at Presidentially Designated Institutions would provide 13 grants to support faculty professional development activities for improvement in humanities instruction, as well as other capacity building activities at these institutions.
PRESERVATION AND ACCESS \$17,116,000	C: To preserve and increase the availability of cultural and intellectual resources essential to the American people.	
	1) Support is provided to preserve and create intellectual access to humanities collections and resources. Supported activities include digitizing collections; arranging and describing archival and manuscript collections; cataloging collections of printed works, photographs, recorded sound, moving image, art, and material culture; preservation reformatting; deacidification of collections; preserving and improving access to humanities resources in “born digital” form; creating research tools and reference works; and developing technical standards, best practices, and tools for preserving and enhancing access to humanities collections.	<p>Grants would be made to 11 projects to begin or continue work on the preparation of dictionaries, atlases, encyclopedias, and textbases central to knowledge and understanding of the humanities.</p> <p>Twenty-four projects would preserve and/or provide access to 1,145 hours of recorded sound and video collections; 3,685 linear feet of archival documents; and 631,401 manuscripts, broadsides, oversize volumes, and other non-print materials.</p> <p>Cooperative agreements would digitize hundreds of thousands of microfilm pages of historic newspapers.</p> <p>Support would be provided for 3 research and development projects concerned with standards and procedures.</p>
	2) Support is provided to train staff from the nation's cultural repositories in the appropriate procedures for preserving and enhancing access to the humanities collections for which they are responsible.	Six awards would be made for regional and national education programs that would provide training for 4,700 people in U.S. museums, libraries, archives, and historical organizations.

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2011 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
PRESERVATION AND ACCESS \$17,116,000	3) Support is provided to museums, libraries, archives, historical organizations, and other cultural institutions to extend the useful life of fragile humanities collections and to develop sustainable strategies for their care. Supported activities include preventive conservation measures, such as managing relative humidity, temperature, light and pollutants in collection spaces; providing protective storage systems for collections; and safeguarding collections from theft and disasters.	Projects supported would help 18 cultural institutions preserve and ensure continued access to their humanities collections institutions through preventive conservation measures.
	4) The Endowment extends its reach to institutions across the country by providing support for basic preservation activities to small and mid-sized libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations.	Projects supported would assist in preserving collections at 186 institutions in all fifty states and two U.S. Territories. Thirty-eight percent of the awards would be to first-time NEH grantees.
PUBLIC PROGRAMS \$15,616,000	D: To provide opportunities for Americans to engage in lifelong learning in the humanities.	
	1) Substantive media presentations, exhibitions, reading and discussion programs, and other public projects advance public understanding of the humanities.	Thirty-five television/radio projects would produce 110 broadcast hours and draw a cumulative audience of approximately 37 million people. Thirty exhibitions, reading, viewing, and discussion programs, web-based programs, and other public education programs would employ various delivery mechanisms at venues across the country.
	2) High quality interpretative panel exhibitions and public programs are circulated to libraries through Small Grants to Libraries, and selected sites that receive smaller versions of NEH-funded exhibitions through the NEH on the Road cooperative agreement receive funds for additional public programming.	Sixty NEH on the Road grants would be made to museums, and approximately 80 Small Grants to Libraries would be awarded. In addition, through the We the People office, grants for the Picturing America project will be made.

	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2011 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
<p style="text-align: center;">NEW PROGRAM INITIATIVES \$19,366,000</p>	<p>E: To create new program initiatives that respond to needs and opportunities in American society.</p>	
	<p>1) New initiatives and programs that address important concerns and opportunities in the humanities are established.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A special initiative, Bridging Cultures, that will enhance Americans’ understanding of their own rich cultural heritage, as well as the cultural complexity of the world in which we live. The initiative will sponsor a series of conferences across the nation that will involve scholars and members of the public to discuss issues that divide us as Americans and that will help us understand the history, heritage, and cultures of peoples in countries around the world. In addition, the Endowment will encourage scholars, educators, museums, libraries, and other individuals and institutions to develop humanities projects and programs that address the goals and objectives of the initiative. We will also make creative use of social and digital media to foster dialogue among people of diverse cultures in the United States and abroad. ● \$14,500,000. Through We the People, funding will be provided to support the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture. These funds will help to support projects and programs throughout the agency, including, for example, special activities of the state humanities councils; Landmarks of American History and Culture workshops for schoolteachers and community college faculty; the National Digital Newspaper program; scholarly editions of the papers of U.S. Presidents and other figures important to our history; and the We the People Bookshelf program, which annually provides thousands of sets of humanities books to libraries and encourages young people to read great literature based on themes central to American history and culture. ● \$4,866,000. Funding would be provided through a major Digital Humanities program to support projects that utilize or study the impact of digital technology on research, education, preservation, and public programming in the humanities. Digital Humanities would support a variety of new funding categories or programmatic emphases: 1) Digital Start-Up Grants to encourage innovative work at the nexus of information technology and the humanities; 2) Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities to encourage the sharing of best practices among humanities scholars; 3) DFG/NEH Bilateral Digital Humanities Programs jointly supported by NEH and the German Research Foundation (DFG) to encourage collaborative digital humanities projects between American and German institutions.

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2011 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
NEW PROG. CON'T.	2) Agency-wide initiatives are developed in selected humanities areas.	Additional awards would be made through the NEH/NSF "Documenting Endangered Languages" special initiative.
\$9,500,000 CHALLENGE GRANTS	F: To strengthen the institutional base of the humanities.	
	Support is provided for institutions to increase nonfederal contributions for their humanities activities and enhance their resources over the long term.	By FY 2014, NEH Challenge Grants awarded in FY 2011 would generate more than \$30 million in nonfederal donations to recipient institutions in support of their humanities activities.
\$40,370,000 FEDERAL/STATE PARTNERSHIP	G: To maintain and strengthen partnerships with the state humanities councils.	
	Support is provided to the councils to encourage locally initiated, substantive humanities programs for the people in each state.	Support for the programs and operations of 56 state humanities councils would make possible high quality state and local humanities projects throughout the nation, including 16,600 reading and discussion programs, 3,000 exhibitions, 5,400 literacy programs, 5,000 speakers bureau presentations, 3,300 teacher institutes and workshops, 5,700 conferences and symposia, 2,500 Chautauqua events, 7,400 media program events, 1,375 technology projects, 1,100 preservation projects and 5,300 local history projects.

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2011 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT \$750,000	H: To establish collaborative partnerships with individuals and institutions in support of the humanities.	
	1) Partnerships are forged to leverage new resources for the humanities and expand audiences for the humanities.	The Endowment would develop of a number of new partnerships with other institutions and organizations, leveraging approximately \$1.5 million in new funding for humanities programs.
	2) New programming, funding, and administrative partnerships are established with other agencies, foundations, and organizations, both public and private.	NEH partnerships would include the following: 1) a program of fellowships to be sponsored jointly by NEH and the Library of Congress to support humanities scholars who wish to conduct research at the Library of Congress; 2) the National Digital Newspapers Program, a multi-year collaboration with the Library of Congress to digitize and make historic U.S. newspapers publicly available on the World Wide Web; 3) the Advanced Research Fellowships on Japan Program to be jointly sponsored by NEH and the Japan-United States Friendship Commission; 4) a “Cultural Diplomacy” partnership of NEH and the U.S. Department of State that would enable teachers from other nations to participate in “Landmarks of American History and Culture” workshops; and 5) EDSITEMent.

II. Table A		NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES FY 2010 PERFORMANCE BUDGET	
PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2010 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS	
RESEARCH PROGRAMS \$16,866,000	A: To facilitate basic research and original scholarship in the humanities.		
	1) Support is provided that enables scholars-- both those affiliated with educational institutions and those working independently-- to devote a concentrated period of time to research and writing on significant subjects in all fields of the humanities.	Support was provided for 227 individual scholars to make significant progress on important humanities research projects through fellowships and stipends.	
	2) Support is provided for collaborative research projects that develop significant intellectual advances and resources for scholars, teachers, students, and the general public.	Support was provided for 59 important long-term collaborative projects in the humanities such as scholarly editions, translations, archaeological excavations and analyses and other complex, large-scale undertakings. In addition, 20 previously awarded grants received ongoing support through NEH matching funds, in part through the use of <i>We the People</i> funding.	
	3) Support is provided for overseas research in the humanities by American scholars and, where appropriate, encouragement offered for international collaboration in research on significant topics in the humanities.	Funding for 25 humanities fellowship programs at independent research institutions supported the work of 80 humanities scholars who will make significant contributions to scholarship in the humanities.	
	4) Support is provided for humanities scholarship by faculty members at Historically Black, Hispanic-serving, and Tribal colleges and universities.	Support enabled 5 individual scholars who teach at historically black colleges and universities, at institutions with high Hispanic enrollment, and at tribal colleges and universities to make significant progress on important scholarly projects in the humanities through faculty research awards.	

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2010 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
EDUCATION PROGRAMS \$15,616,000	B: To strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in schools and colleges across the nation.	
	1) Teachers are provided opportunities to renew and deepen their knowledge of the humanities.	<p>Support for 56 NEH summer seminars and institutes will enable 421 college teachers and 750 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of the humanities. College teachers participating in seminars and institutes during the summer of 2011 will reach approximately 73,675 students annually; school teacher participants will reach approximately 93,750 students annually.</p> <p>Support for 20 “Landmarks of American History and Culture” workshops to take place in the summer of 2011 will enable approximately 1,600 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of American history, particularly as it relates to the relationship between specific sites and the episodes in history, the writers, and/or the artists associated with that location. These teachers will annually reach approximately 200,000 students. Through a partnership of NEH and the U.S. Department of State, selected “Landmarks” workshops will invite participation by teachers from other nations.</p> <p>Support for 10 “Landmarks of American History and Culture for Community College Faculty” workshops to take place during the summer of 2011 will enable 500 community college teachers to reach 87,000 students annually with their revitalized knowledge, understanding, appreciation, and teaching of American History, particularly as it relates to the relationship between specific sites and the episodes in history, the writers, and/or the artists associated with them.</p> <p>Eighteen Teaching Development Fellowships enabled recipients to pursue research aimed specifically at deepening their core knowledge in the humanities to improve their undergraduate teaching. These teachers will reach 3,150 students annually.</p> <p>Support to 17 Enduring Questions award recipients enabled individual faculty members to develop a new course at the undergraduate level to grapple with the most fundamental concerns of the humanities, and to join with their students in deep, sustained programs of reading in order to encounter influential thinkers over the centuries and into the present day. These questions would include: What is the good life? What is justice? What is friendship? Is there a human nature, and, if so, what is it? These teachers will reach 2,800 students annually.</p> <p>Support for 11 Picturing America School Collaboration Projects enabled approximately 1,019 teachers in a local area or region to attend workshops that would enhance their incorporation of Picturing America into core curriculums. These teachers will reach 127,375 students annually.</p>

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2010 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
EDUCATION PROGRAMS \$15,616,000	2) Support is provided for efforts to develop new teaching and learning resources, particularly in digitized forms.	The Teaching and Learning Resources (Materials Development and Curriculum Development) category was discontinued in FY 2009.
	3) Support is provided for humanities education programming in Historically Black, Hispanic-serving, and Tribal colleges and universities across the country.	No Humanities Initiatives at Presidentially Designated Institutions grants were made, owing to an adjustment in the application submission deadline.
PRESERVATION AND ACCESS \$17,116,000	C: To preserve and increase the availability of cultural and intellectual resources essential to the American people.	
	1) Support is provided to preserve and create intellectual access to humanities collections and resources. Supported activities include digitizing collections; arranging and describing archival and manuscript collections; cataloging collections of printed works, photographs, recorded sound, moving image, art, and material culture; preservation reformatting; deacidification of collections; preserving and improving access to humanities resources in “born digital” form; creating research tools and reference works; and developing technical standards, best practices, and tools for preserving and enhancing access to humanities collections.	<p>Grants were made to 14 projects to begin or continue work on the preparation of dictionaries, atlases, encyclopedias, and textbases central to knowledge and understanding of the humanities.</p> <p>Twenty-five projects are preserving and/or providing access to 4,650 hours of recorded sound and video collections; 4,387 linear feet of archival documents; and 693,402 manuscripts, broadsides, oversize volumes, and other non-print materials.</p> <p>Cooperative agreements supported through the We the People program are digitizing hundreds of thousands of microfilm pages of historic newspapers.</p> <p>Support was be provided for 3 research and development projects concerned with standards and procedures.</p>
PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2010 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
PRESERVATION AND ACCESS	2) Support is provided to train staff from the nation's cultural repositories in the appropriate procedures for preserving and enhancing access to the humanities collections for which they are responsible.	Ten awards were made for regional and national education programs that provide training for 21,860 people in U.S. museums, libraries, archives, and historical organizations.

	3) Support is provided to extend the useful life of fragile collections held by American museums, libraries, archives, historical organizations, and other cultural institutions and develop sustainable strategies for their care.	Projects supported are helping 23 cultural institutions preserve and ensure continued access to their humanities collections institutions through preventive conservation measures. The new Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections made its first awards in FY 2010.
	4) The Endowment extends its reach to institutions across the country by providing support for basic preservation activities to small and mid-sized libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations.	Projects supported are assisting in preserving collections at 159 institutions in forty states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Forty-two percent of the awards went to first-time NEH grantees.
PUBLIC PROGRAMS \$15,616,000	D: To provide opportunities for Americans to engage in lifelong learning in the humanities.	
	1) Substantive media presentations, exhibitions, reading and discussion programs, and other public projects advance public understanding of the humanities.	<p>Twenty-four television/radio projects produced 88 broadcast hours and drew a cumulative audience of approximately 35 million people.</p> <p>Thirty-three exhibitions, reading, viewing, and discussion programs, web-based programs, and other public education programs are employing various delivery mechanisms at venues across the country.</p> <p>Ten historic site-specific interpretations and programming are attracting over 1,000,000 people.</p>
	2) High quality interpretative panel exhibitions and public programs are circulated to libraries through Small Grants to Libraries, and selected sites that receive smaller versions of NEH-funded exhibitions through the NEH on the Road cooperative agreement receive funds for additional public programming.	Twenty-eight NEH on the Road grants were made to museums, and 25 Small Grants to Libraries were awarded. In addition, through the We the People office, small grants for the We the People Bookshelf and the Picturing America project and for projects focusing on the Lincoln bicentennial celebration were made.

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2010 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
<p style="text-align: center;">NEW PROGRAM INITIATIVES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$19,366,000</p>	<p>E: To create new program initiatives that respond to needs and opportunities in American society.</p>	
	<p>1) New initiatives and programs that address important concerns and opportunities in the humanities are established.</p>	<p>Significant funding was provided through We the People to support a variety of new programmatic initiatives: 1) We the People Bookshelf grants for up to 4,000 public and school libraries; 2) “Landmarks of American History and Culture” workshops for K-12 teachers and community college faculty, several of which invite participation by teachers from other nations; 3) Picturing America, a special program that provides educational materials on key works of American art ultimately to 79,000 school and public libraries; 4) public programs supported through the new “America’s Historic Places” and “Family and Youth Programs in American History” categories; 5) additional awards through the NEH/Library of Congress National Digital Newspaper Program; 6) special NEH Challenge Grants for educational and cultural institutions working to advance knowledge of the founding principles of the United States; and 7) an Endowment-wide effort to contribute to national planning for the sesquicentennial of the Civil War in 2011-2015. Additional humanities projects supported by NEH programs received We the People grants. The state humanities councils also received significant funding to support projects and programs related to the initiative.</p> <p>Funding was provided through a major Digital Humanities program to support projects that utilize or study the impact of digital technology on research, education, preservation, and public programming in the humanities. Digital Humanities supported a variety of new funding categories or programmatic emphases: 1) Digital Start-Up Grants to encourage innovative work at the nexus of information technology and the humanities; 2) Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities to encourage the sharing of best practices among humanities scholars; 3) Transatlantic Collaboration Grants supported jointly by NEH and the Higher Education Funding Council for England; 4) Bilateral Symposia and Workshops jointly supported by NEH and the German Research Foundation to encourage collaborative digital humanities projects; and 5) Digging into Data Challenge, an international collaboration among research teams in Canada, England or Wales in the United Kingdom, and the United States to explore how vast libraries of digitized books, newspapers, art, and music can be used for advanced scholarship.</p>
	<p>2) Agency-wide initiatives are developed in selected humanities areas.</p>	<p>Additional awards were made through the NEH/NSF “Documenting Endangered Languages” special initiative.</p>

PROGRAM DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2010 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
CHALLENGE GRANTS \$9,500,000	F: To strengthen the institutional base of the humanities.	
	Support is provided for institutions to increase nonfederal contributions for their humanities activities and enhance their resources over the long term.	By FY 2013, NEH Challenge Grants awarded in FY 2010 would generate more than 32 million in nonfederal donations to recipient institutions in support of their humanities activities.
FEDERAL/STATE PARTNERSHIP \$40,370,000	G: To maintain and strengthen partnerships with the state humanities councils.	
	Support is provided to the councils to encourage locally initiated, substantive humanities programs for the people in each state.	Support for the programs and operations of 56 state humanities councils made possible high quality state and local humanities projects throughout the nation, including 17,700 reading and discussion programs, 4,600 exhibitions, 5,700 literacy programs, 5,800 speakers bureau presentations, 3,700 teacher institutes and workshops, 5,800 conferences and symposia, 2,300 Chautauqua events, 7,120 media program events, 660 technology projects, 700 preservation projects and 6,300 local history projects.
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT \$750,000	H: To establish collaborative partnerships with individuals and institutions in support of the humanities.	
	1) Partnerships are forged to leverage new resources for the humanities and expand audiences for the humanities.	The Endowment would develop of a number of new partnerships with other institutions and organizations, leveraging approximately \$1.5 million in new funding for humanities programs.
	2) New programming, funding, and administrative partnerships are established with other agencies, foundations, and organizations, both public and private.	NEH partnerships would include the following: 1) a program of fellowships to be sponsored jointly by NEH and the Library of Congress to support humanities scholars who wish to conduct research at the Library of Congress; 2) the National Digital Newspapers Program, a multi-year collaboration with the Library of Congress to digitize and make publicly available historic U.S. newspapers on the World Wide Web; 3) the Advanced Research Fellowships on Japan Program to be jointly sponsored by NEH and the Japan-United States Friendship Commission; 4) the interagency Save America's Treasures initiative; 5) a "Cultural Diplomacy" partnership of NEH and the U.S. Department of State that would enable teachers from other nations to participate in "Landmarks of American History and Culture" workshops; 6) EDSITEMent; and 7) programmatic collaboration with the National Trust for the Humanities.

III. MEETING THE PERFORMANCE GOALS: REQUIRED RESOURCES AND OPERATIONAL PROCESSES

A. **Required Resources.** NEH promotes national progress in research, education, and lifelong learning in the humanities by awarding project grants to organizations and individuals in all parts of the United States. A program appropriation adequate to provide for a sufficient range of grant opportunities across all disciplines of the humanities is, thus, the Endowment's most important resource requirement. For each performance goal, we have estimated a sum that would be required to produce the desired outcomes in FY 2012:

<u>Performance Goal</u>	<u>Funding Required*</u>
1. To facilitate basic research and original scholarship in the humanities.	\$14,900,000
2. To strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in schools and colleges across the nation.	\$13,550,000
3. To preserve and increase the availability of cultural resources for the American people.	\$15,600,000
4. To provide opportunities for Americans to engage in lifelong learning in the humanities.	\$13,800,000
5. To create new program initiatives that respond to emerging needs and opportunities in American society.	\$8,250,000
6. To strengthen the institutional base of the humanities.	\$8,750,000
7. To maintain and strengthen partnerships with the state humanities councils.	\$40,100,000

* In FY 2012, the Endowment would allocate \$114,950,000 in definite and Challenge funds among programmatic activities that address the above performance goals. Another \$500,000 in definite funds would be provided for Program Development. During the year, Treasury Funds totaling \$2,750,000 would also be allocated among program areas of the Endowment as needed to match nonfederal contributions in support of NEH-sponsored projects.

Also important are the kinds of administrative resources that it make possible for the Endowment's staff to advance the agency's performance goals through our daily work. Chief among these resources are the following:

- A highly trained **staff**, many of whom are credentialed practitioners of a humanities discipline;
- access to the new **information technologies** that reinforce the agency's efforts to serve the public efficiently; and
- a **physical office environment** conducive to productive work.

B. **Operational Processes.** NEH support for the humanities is provided through an annual sequence of highly selective grant competitions. Because insuring the fairness and rigor of that award process is of paramount importance—both for the sake of taxpayer value and for the integrity of the humanities—the Endowment's most essential operational process is that of conducting a national, merit-based system of grant application review. Through this system, we annually draw upon the services of hundreds of humanities practitioners from outside the agency in order knowledgeably to evaluate each project proposal submitted to NEH. The judgments of panelists and reviewers from all humanities disciplines and every part of the country weigh heavily in the agency's funding decisions.

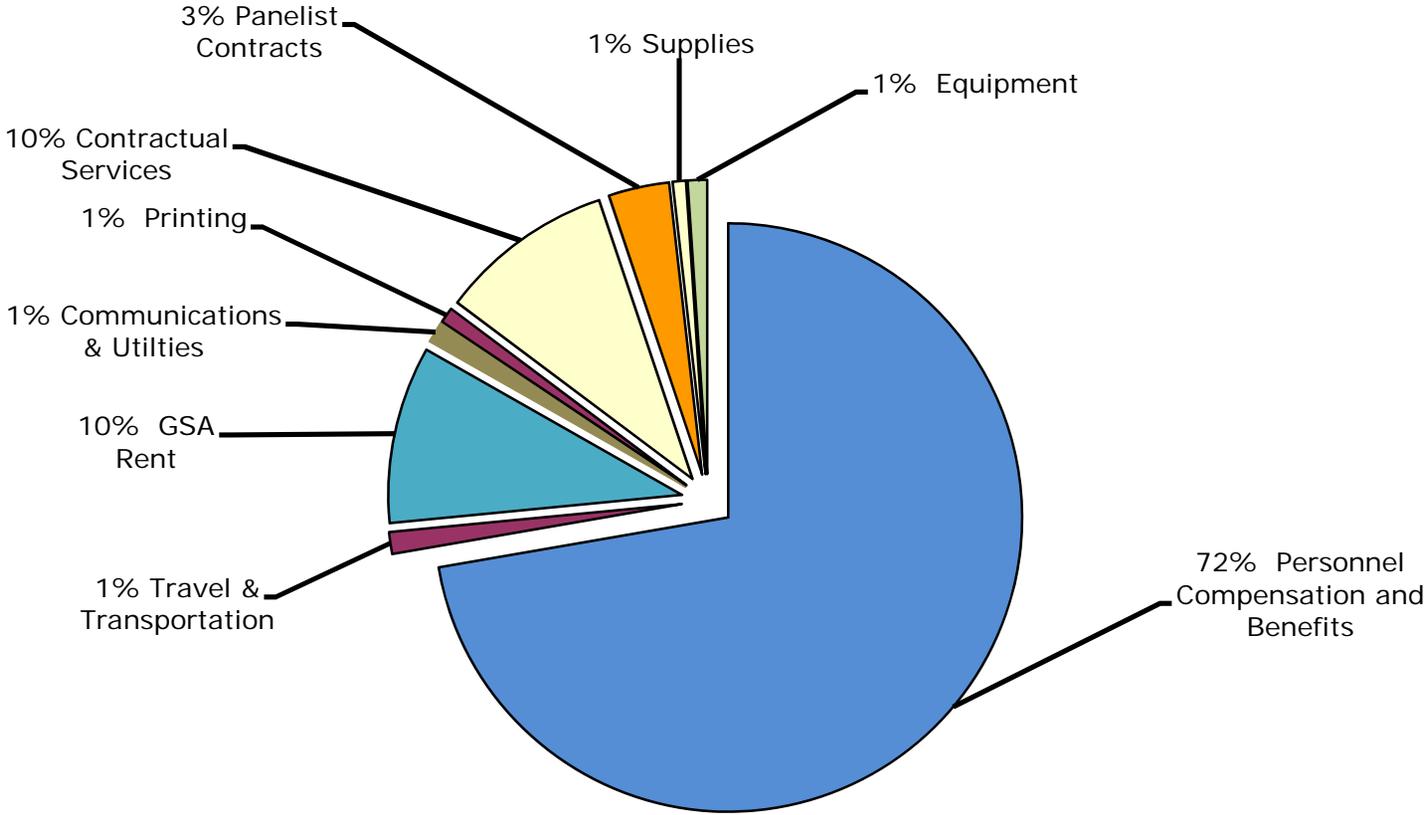
IV. MEANS OF VERIFYING AND VALIDATING PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The Endowment will use a variety of means to collect and verify information that measures our progress in attaining our performance goals:

- **Interim and final reports of grantees** will provide the most comprehensive source of information about the outcomes of NEH-supported work. From these reports the Endowment will regularly compile data about the results of activities undertaken in connection with each of our performance goals.
- To systematize the information collected from grantee reports, NEH continues to develop an **outcomes database** for its grant programs. This database is capturing information about the short- and long-term results of funded projects. At present, it links information about 6,184 humanities research projects in the Endowment's grant information database to bibliographic information about approximately 4,000 published books that these projects produced between 1980 and 2010.
- The Endowment will conduct **site visits** as a means of documenting the progress and accomplishments of selected grantees.
- **Evaluations** of selected projects and programs will be conducted to determine whether program goals are being met.

- Information on **awards, prizes, and other forms of recognition**, such as favorable press articles, will be collected so that the agency can gain a better sense of the impact and quality of our funded projects.

**FY 2012 Administrative Budget
\$28,055,000**



Administrative Budget by Object Classification
(\$ in thousands)

OBJECT CLASSES		FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Estimate	FY 2012 Request
11.1	PERSONNEL COMPENSATION	16,060	16,557	16,170
12.1	BENEFITS	4,183	4,060	4,108
	TOTAL-PERSONNEL COMPENSATION	20,243	20,617	20,278
21.0	TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION	378	350	335
23.1	GSA RENT	2,720	2,728	2,734
23.3	COMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES	264	262	326
24.0	PRINTING	234	236	239
25.1	OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	2,510	2,461	2,699
25.9	PANELIST CONTRACTS	907	940	940
26.0	SUPPLIES	200	204	205
31.0	EQUIPMENT	419	279	299
	TOTAL	27,875¹	\$28,077²	\$28,055

¹ Includes FY 2010 appropriation and FY 2009 carry-over and de-obligated funds.

² Includes annualized FY 2011 continuing resolution level, FY 2010 carry-over, and prior-year de-obligations.

NEH ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

FY 2012 Request: \$28,055,000

Introduction

The administrative budget for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) supports staff salaries and benefits, rental of office space, building security at the Old Post Office building, staff travel, contractual services, equipment, supplies, and related program support activities. These funds enable the agency to achieve its legislated mission to advance high quality research, education, preservation, and public programming in the humanities. For fiscal year 2012, NEH is requesting \$28,055,000 in administrative funds to support the agency's program request level of \$118,200,000.

NEH Administrative Costs

The Endowment's grant-making function is the single most important factor shaping the agency's administrative budget. This function directly involves the majority of NEH's staff and includes such varied tasks as the planning of programs and special initiatives, the development of application guidelines, the receipt and processing of proposals, the review of applications, the awarding of grants, and the management and oversight of the grants and awards themselves. These labor-intensive tasks require a highly trained program staff that is knowledgeable about the content and methods of the humanities. Most NEH program staff hold Ph.D.s or other advanced degrees in the humanities. In addition to this highly specialized program staff, the Endowment retains the services of personnel needed to perform the everyday but essential activities involved in operating a federal agency, such as budgeting, accounting, and other financial functions; human resources; information resources management; legal counsel; public affairs and communications; and administrative services.

Personnel compensation and benefits account for about 72 percent of agency administrative expenses. Of the remaining 28 percent, a significant portion is taken up with fixed costs—that is, items over which we have no control, including annual rent payments to the General Services Administration, building security payments to the Department of Homeland Security, and mandated transfers to other agencies for various E-Gov services.

As a grant-making agency, there are a number of items in NEH's administrative budget that are not typically included in other federal agencies' overhead. The most prominent of these is the annual cost of operating our system for evaluating grant applications. The Endowment currently administers more than three dozen discrete grant categories that receive more than 5,000 applications annually, resulting in the awarding of approximately 1,000 grants. These applications are all processed and read by NEH staff and then evaluated by experts outside of the agency, who are asked for their judgments about the quality and significance of the proposed projects. Nearly 1,000

scholars, teachers, museum curators, filmmakers, and other humanities professionals and experts serve on approximately 200 panels we convene throughout the course of a typical year. Each of these evaluators receives a \$250 honorarium. Since most of our panels are sitting panels—that is, are convened at the Endowment’s offices in D.C., to review applications to various grant programs—we also incur substantial travel, lodging, and per diem expenses for each attending panelist. In FY 2012 we estimate that these panelists will cost us approximately \$940,000, or more than three percent of our total administrative budget.

Another cost directly related to our grant-making function is the expense of convening the National Council on the Humanities. The 26-member Council—which is statutorily mandated to advise the NEH Chairman on all grant applications—meets in Washington three times annually. Each Council member is compensated for his or her service. The Endowment also incurs travel, lodging, and per diem expenses for the preponderance of Council members who live outside of the Washington metropolitan area. The annual cost of convening these meetings is approximately \$60,000.

Other expenses that are directly related to our role as a grant-making agency include the cost of participating in the government-wide online grant application portal, Grants.gov. This annual transfer of funds to the Department of Health and Human Services will cost NEH an expected \$186,191 in FY 2012. Also, NEH will again participate in the Grants Management Line of Business program, as partnered with the National Science Foundation, which will cost an additional \$28,640.

Overall, nearly \$1.3 million of our overhead, almost five percent of our administrative budget, is spent directly on expenses that are not typical of most other federal agencies.

Recent Administrative Highlights

NEH is a well-managed agency that has an exemplary record of extracting the most value from its administrative resources, while at the same time ensuring the highest quality service to its customers. We make every effort to reduce overhead and operating costs whenever possible, and we continually stress this priority to all our program and office managers. In the face of upward pressures in various cost categories in recent years, we have made a conscientious effort to limit other administrative cost increases, including holding the number of NEH staff level; and increasing our use of nontraditional panel arrangements, such as mail panels and conference panels, as a means of keeping our panel costs in check.

Among our recent administrative achievements are:

- In FY 2011, we moved from a schedule of four annual meetings of the National Council on the Humanities to three meetings per year. We think this change will make more productive use of the Council’s time, as well as save the Endowment approximately \$20,000 per year.

- Our Grants Management System, developed in-house by NEH's talented programmers, has proven so successful that it has been adapted for use by other agencies—most notably the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Archives and Records Administration—as part of the government-wide Grants Management Line of Business effort.
- The acquisition of in-house printing capabilities has enabled us to more effectively handle the increased printing burden associated with the submission of grant applications through the government-wide Grants.gov portal.
- In an effort to increase the transparency of our operations, we developed and posted on our homepage a description of the work of each of our program divisions and offices. This material consists of a brief explanation of the work of the division or office, a “by the numbers” overview of program outcomes, and examples of notable recent grants. Prospective applicants are well-served by this rich trove of information about our grant-making programs.
- The recent development of a grant-search query form on the agency's website is enabling the public to search our grant database for a wide-range of information about NEH grants and awards. This easy-to-use feature has opened up access to grant records dating back to 1980.
- NEH has instituted an Electronic Grants Management System ("eGMS"), which is being used by grantees to submit their required financial and performance reports. This new system has enabled us to streamline and standardize current paper-based reporting procedures, making it much easier for grantees to prepare and submit their reports, while also enabling NEH to more closely monitor grantee reporting. The eGMS system was developed in close consultation with our two partner agencies in the Grants Management Line of Business—the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Historical Records and Publications Commission, which is affiliated with the National Archives and Records Administration—and both agencies plan to implement the system at a future date.

Coordination of Agency Support Functions

As NEH understands the continued importance of controlling costs related to agency operations, we are working in conjunction with one of our sister agencies at the Old Post Office Building, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), to coordinate a number of support functions that will reduce duplicative efforts by the two agencies. This would include, for example, a joint post-award grants management system that would significantly expand the current functions of NEH's eGMS system. We also are exploring the development of shared network security training, and we are planning to collaborate extensively on the maintenance of, and improvements to, the agencies' network operations center. Such shared functions should enable both agencies to realize administrative savings in FY 2012 and the following out-years.

Information Technology Initiatives

NEH is always looking for ways to make its information technology operations more efficient and cost effective. For this reason, NEH recognizes the benefits of the Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative in regards to both agency IT infrastructure and cyber security needs.

IT Infrastructure

NEH anticipates realizing cost savings in the years ahead as we move to cloud computing, the consolidation of storage capacity, and more efficient server hardware. However, in FY 2012 there will be some upfront implementation costs due primarily to the agency having to purchase updated servers and storage area network equipment. We also expect that there will be some upfront and ongoing costs for moving applications to the cloud format, but these costs should be offset by better service and more robust continuity of implementation.

Cyber Security

NEH is also aware of the importance of providing a thorough and extensive IT security system to guard against outside cyber threats. We are continuously monitoring such threats and submit monthly status reports in keeping with Federal Information Security Management Act guidelines. NEH is actively working to improve staff awareness of outside threats by training and by being aware of the latest technologies related to firewall monitoring. In FY 2012, we expect to spend a minimum of \$20,000 to comply with ongoing and newly issued cyber security guidelines. Added security measures will be implemented in the following areas: inventory, systems, and services; hardware and software; external connections; security training; and identity management and access.

Budget Estimates in Detail
(\$ in thousands)

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS	20,243	20,617	20,278

These object classes fund the salaries and benefits of all employees of the Endowment, including full-time permanent, part-time permanent, temporary, and intermittent appointments (for example, the members of the National Council on the Humanities). The estimates for personnel benefits provide for the Endowment's share of contributions toward employees' retirement, health, and life insurance plans. The funding level NEH is projecting for FY 2012 will support 163 FTEs. This staffing level will be a small reduction from the staffing level we are estimating for FY 2011 and will be achieved by filling only selective open positions created by staff departures and retirements. In doing so, we will be able to lower baseline personnel costs in FY 2012.

In line with the current executive mandated pay-freeze, this request holds all salary funding expectations steady at current 2011 levels. Additional costs for future retirement separations have been included in the 2012 personnel costs. Also included are public transportation subsidies for employees, which have increased considerably from 2010 and under current Congressionally authorized levels should exceed \$180,000 in 2012.

As a result of a number of retirements of CSRS-covered NEH staff in recent years, and with a greater number of staff now under the FERS system, NEH's benefits-to-salary ratio has increased slightly. This change has resulted in an increase in estimated fringe benefits in 2012 of more than \$100,000, which in effect has lessened somewhat our overall salary savings for FY 2012.

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION	378	350	335

Travel funds support local and out-of-town travel of NEH staff to make site visits to NEH grantees, make presentations on Endowment programs, conduct grant-application workshops and other outreach activities, attend conferences and training courses, and conduct other business critical to the mission of the agency. Also supported are the travel expenses of the members of the National Council on the Humanities, who come to Washington three times per year to discuss Endowment policies, review applications, and provide advice to the NEH Chairman concerning funding of specific projects.

In FY 2012, we will be continuing our efforts to reduce the cost of staff travel, such as encouraging more trips that combine multiple venues and purposes and reducing the number of staff who attend national conferences and meetings that are directly related to the work of the agency.

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
GSA RENT	2,720	2,728	2,734

The FY 2012 space rental estimate reflects a marginal increase from the FY 2011 level that we have been told to anticipate as part of GSA's forthcoming occupancy agreement for tenants in the Old Post Office building. The FY 2012 estimate reflects GSA's current assessment of local commercial values for business space in the downtown business corridor.

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
COMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES	264	262	326

This object class primarily funds telecommunications and postage expenses. NEH telecommunications costs include local call message units, telephone lines, instruments, installation/service, local Washington Interagency Telephone Service, mobile phones, and Internet line access fees. Our FY 2012 request will fund the customary levels of expenditures for local and long distance telephone plans, as well as postage and courier charges. In FY 2012, we are expecting an increase of about \$60,000 in our Internet service costs due to a new connection contract that will enable us to replace our current in-house service with one that will be a trusted government connection, as required by OMB.

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
PRINTING	234	236	239

This object class covers the costs of printing NEH publications such as the Endowment's award-winning, bimonthly periodical *Humanities*; posters, program announcements, and program brochures; and stationery and envelopes.

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	2,510	2,461	2,699

The Endowment supports a wide range of contractual services under this object classification. These include contracts that are required for running the agency but are not covered in any of the other cost categories. These services include, for example: (1) support, maintenance, and improvement of information technology systems; (2) annual contract and maintenance of the agency's Oracle financial database; (3) employee training; (4) fees for site visitors who evaluate selected NEH grants; (5) security guards at the Old Post Office building; (6) agency contracts for temporary personnel assistance; (7) support of humanities-related activities of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities; (8) maintenance and repair of all IT equipment; and (9) interagency transfers in support of Grants.gov and the Grants Management Line of Business (GMLoB) program.

Anticipated costs in this object classification for FY 2012 include:

- Continued participation in the Grants.gov and GMLoB programs, which will be increasing by \$30,000 in FY 2012.
- Resources needed to support slight increases in ongoing service expenses, such as IT support, mail services, office equipment maintenance service contracts and repairs, consultation services and maintenance for the Oracle accounting system, and the like.

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
PANELIST CONTRACTS	907	940	940

These funds provide for the contract costs (including travel, subsistence, and honoraria) of panelists. NEH convenes many panels each year to evaluate the quality of grant applications submitted to our programs. Panelists are selected from a database that includes scholars, teachers, historians, archivists, curators, media producers, and other humanities professionals. NEH panelists represent a diversity of disciplinary, institutional, and regional backgrounds. Sufficient funding for panel reviews of grant applications is one of the Endowment's highest priorities. We strive to recruit the most competent panelists and to give them the time needed to perform an expert evaluation of all grant proposals. Our overriding goal is to ensure that the projects ultimately receiving federal support will be those most likely to make significant contributions to the humanities.

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
SUPPLIES	200	204	205

The estimates in this object class provide for the cost of expendable supplies required to carry on the daily business of the Endowment. In addition to supporting the purchase of routine office supplies, funds in this category cover IT supplies, including disks and toner cartridges for printers, and the cost of maintaining the agency's subscriptions to essential periodicals.

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
EQUIPMENT	419	279	299

This spending category provides for all equipment, furniture, and office machines having a useful life in excess of one year--items such as chairs, desks, file cabinets, computers, software, and miscellaneous equipment. Equipment purchases in FY 2010 were inflated due to an upgrade of agency telecommunications equipment. FY 2011 was more in line with prior year spending levels. For FY 2012, we expect equipment costs to rise due mostly to increased IT network security needs, which are currently estimated to increase at least \$20,000.

BUDGET ADDENDA

NEH Inspector General Budget Request

The budget for the operations of NEH's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is subsumed within the agency's general administrative budget. In accordance with Section 6 of the Inspector General Act of 1978, NEH is estimating an aggregate budget for the OIG of \$741,000, which will support all staff salaries and allow for full administrative and legal support of this office, including:

- A travel budget of \$9,000, which will allow for audit support and attendance at all appropriate IG conferences and training seminars;
- Estimated IT expenses of \$10,477;
- A training budget of \$10,500 to allow for staff recertification as mandated by the IG Act; and
- \$5,000 in estimated reimbursements to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration for legal services provided during the fiscal year.

