



## Alabama Humanities Foundation

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### *We the People in Alabama*

The Alabama Humanities Foundation (AHF) will use its *We the People* funds to bolster current initiatives, including a week-long residential teacher institute entitled “Sunshine and Shadow: Comedy, Condemnation, and Contemplation in Southern Literature”. The Institute, designed for secondary teachers in Alabama schools, will take an interdisciplinary approach to Southern Literature from three critical periods in the state’s history: the frontier period of Jacksonian Democracy, the Great Depression, and the Civil Rights Era. The Institute on Southern Literature will be part of the Foundation’s ongoing and very successful SUPER (School and University Partners for Education Renewal) program, an initiative that provides workshops and institutes for junior high and high school teachers. Besides the Institute on Southern Literature, the Foundation will fund other ongoing projects, including:

- a speaker bureau, now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year, which provides communities throughout the state with hour-long presentations on a variety of topics relating to the humanities;
- a regrant program, which will issue a call for new proposals specifically relating to *We the People* themes

## Alaska Humanities Forum

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### *Alaska’s March to Statehood: Celebrating the Constitution*

The Alaska Humanities Forum *We the People* project builds on the efforts of the Forum’s 2004 project by aiming to engage students and the general public in learning about the historical context of Alaska’s entry into statehood. From September 2005 to December 2006, the Forum will produce programs related to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Alaska Constitutional Convention, a landmark event which was held over the course of seventy-six days from November 8, 1955 to February 6, 1956.

The Forum’s proposed projects include:

- A partnership with Alaska Public Radio Network to develop seventy-six-one-minute radio stories drawn from the minutes of each day of the convention;
- The grant program, “Alaska’s Constitution: Reflections on Unique Factors Defining Alaska”;
- “Exploring the Alaska Constitution in High School History Classrooms,” a re-grant program for history teachers who are teaching the Forum’s Alaska History Course ([www.akhistorycourse.org](http://www.akhistorycourse.org));
- “The Statewide Convention of Young Alaskans: Leadership across Generations,” an event intended to foster awareness and appreciation of the state’s founders among emerging leaders.

## Amerika Samoa Humanities Council

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### *History of American Samoa: 1900 – 1977 (continued)*

In 1900, the United States and the forefathers of American Samoa signed the Deed of Cession, a document that made the islands of Tutuila and Manu’a U.S. territories. American Samoans subsequently experienced three different types of government leadership in the 20th century while attempting to form a democratic relationship with the U.S. While the Council has chosen not to request a 2005 *We the People* grant, it will continue work on its 2004 project of documenting the historical issues and events that

shaped its relationship with the US over the past 100 years. The goal of this research-driven project is to explore the principles that define indigenous identity as both American and Samoan.

## **Arkansas Humanities Council**

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### *We the People Program in Arkansas*

The Arkansas Humanities Council will allocate *We the People* funds to three Council projects that are both consistent with the purposes of the initiative and reflect the Council's three most fundamental program emphases: supporting humanities teaching in Arkansas K-12 classrooms, supporting statewide efforts to document and interpret Arkansas history and heritage, and assisting community-based organizations as they document and interpret the history and heritage of their locales. The Council will focus especially on student projects and competitions, collaboration between Arkansas historians and classroom teachers, and support and development of Arkansas studies. The Council's proposed projects include:

- History Day in Arkansas, an event organized by the University of Central Arkansas to give students the opportunity to develop history projects, including films, exhibits, and research papers;
- Public web access for the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*, an invaluable resource developed by the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies; and
- Funding proposals on themes in American history through the Council's existing regrant program.

## **Arizona Humanities Council**

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### *We the People in Arizona*

In partnership with Humanities Texas, the Arizona Humanities Council will develop a traveling exhibition interpreting the life of labor activist César Chávez (1927-1993). This exhibit and its supplementary educational resources will help viewers understand how Chávez's campaign for farmworkers' rights effected public health, working conditions, and the general welfare of people throughout the nation. Target audiences include K-12 students as well as out-of-school adults. The Council will also fund several other projects, including:

- the 2005 tour of the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street exhibit "Between Fences" to six rural communities;
- partnering with the Phoenix High School District to present History Fest, a one day conference with workshops related to the teaching of American history in high schools;
- a training program for Motherread and Fatherread instructors working with the "My United States" family literacy/citizenship curriculum; and
- two \$5,000 grants to local institutions to encourage cultural heritage tourism.

## **California Council for the Humanities**

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### *New Californians Exhibition*

With its 2004 *We the People* grant, the California Council for the Humanities created its *California Stories Uncovered* campaign. During the campaign, immigrant youth from countries ranging from Russia to the Republic of Congo worked with award-winning photographers and writing instructors to create exhibitions for five communities within the state. With funding from its 2005 *We the People* grant, the Council will expand the project into the New California Exhibition program, which will travel to eight venues over the next two years. Each of the eight sites will receive a grant to create a local photo documentary that will both add images to the project and help to facilitate community dialogue.

## Colorado Endowment for the Humanities

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### *We the People: A Colorado Initiative*

The Colorado Endowment for the Humanities will use funding from the *We the People* initiative to support programming related to its recently released documentary *The Five States of Colorado*. The documentary has been used with great success to stimulate discussion of how the differences—and similarities—between the five regions of the state have shaped and continue to shape Colorado's government, economic institutions, and the lives of individuals and families. The Endowment will sponsor both a teacher's institute centered on the documentary and further screenings and discussions of the video.

Other *We the People* projects include:

- High Plains Chautauqua 2005, a five day event that will examine the cultural, scientific, political and economic history of the United States from 1945-1960 through scholars performing first-person interpretations of important historical figures;
- Expanding the Endowment's Young Chautauqua program to include two additional school districts;
- Continuing to fund the Chautauqua Speaker's Bureau, a panel of 30 scholars who perform first-person interpretations of 38 key historical figures; and
- Using regrants to fund both scholarly research and the annual CEH Publishing Prize.

## Connecticut Humanities Council:

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### *HITS/MOMS*

The Connecticut Humanities Council will use much of its *We the People* grant to support humanities programming that has been the recent victim of state budget cuts. Such programs include the grant program for K-12 teachers "Humanities in the Schools (HITS)". The Council will also support the 2005 tour of the Museums on Main Street Exhibition "Barn Again!" along with several related local projects, including:

- Conducting a barn survey that documents Connecticut barns with the help of the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation;
- Examining existing information and conducting new research into Jewish Farms in eastern Connecticut; and
- Making previously conducted research on the history of tobacco workers in the state widely available.

## Delaware Humanities Forum:

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### *Freedom's Fathers: Connecting People, Cultures, and Ideas*

The Delaware Humanities Forum will use *We the People* funding to support "Freedom's Fathers", a series of public programs focusing on the dramatic story behind the development of the United States Constitution. The intended audience is adults, both in and out of school, as a complement to the Forum's previous *We the People* project that focuses on school-age youth. Special emphasis will be placed on the contributions of the five Delaware delegates: John Dickinson, Gunning Bedford, George Reed, Richard Bassett and Jacob Broom. As part of the initiative, the Forum will:

- Produce two special chautauquas in addition to its ongoing Chautauqua, one in each of the state's three counties to provide greatest access;
- Organize three symposia, one in each of the three counties, where participants will be asked to read Catherine Drinker Bowen's book, *Miracle at Philadelphia*, prior to participating in a symposium.

## Florida Humanities Council

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*Extending the Circle of We: Democracy and Diversity in the Sunshine State*

The Florida Humanities Council will use its *We the People* grant to fund five weeklong teacher seminars in the summer of 2006 that will give our teachers a deeper understanding of the multicultural forces that have shaped the diversity in our state and our classrooms. Seminar topics include:

- “Extending the Circle of We”, an examination of the challenges to and the protection of the founding ideals on which this country was based;
- “Los Latinos: The View from Florida”, a seminar that examines the complexities of race, culture, ethnicity, identity, and nationality through a Latin lens;
- “Race in America”, an exploration of the challenge of race relations and the place of the humanities in racial reconciliation; and
- “Asian Religions in Florida”, a seminar that will examine Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam using a cross-disciplinary perspective;
- “Florida Folk Culture,” a study of how cultural tradition creates cultural cohesiveness.

## Fundacion Puertorriqueña de la Humanidades (Puerto Rico)

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*A people at a crossroad: key historical, societal and cultural events and themes*

Fundacion Puertorriqueña de la Humanidades will use its *We the People* grant to continue work on the Foundation’s bilingual, online encyclopedia of the Puerto Rican experience. A host of scholars will write introductory essays on the key social and cultural events that shaped Puerto Rican History, excerpts of which will be disseminated via radio spots and newspaper articles.

## Georgia Humanities Council

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*We the People in Georgia 2005*

With the help of *We the People* funding, the Georgia Humanities Council will contract and disseminate a poster/historical timeline to teachers, highlighting the *New Georgia Encyclopedia* and the *Digital Library of Georgia*, two of the Council’s recently created electronic resources. The poster will include suggested research topics, information on finding primary sources, and images of documents from the archives new “Virtual Vault” website. The Council will also support a number of other projects, including:

- Sponsoring National History Day in Georgia, giving over 5000 students in grades 6-12 a chance to deepen their understanding of American history;
- Working with the Center for Georgia Studies at Georgia College and State University on an historical education outreach to four rural counties in the state; and
- Increasing the support for the Council’s regrant program for topics in American history.

## Guam Humanities Council

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*Guampedia: Religion’s Role in Guam’s History*

The Pacific island of Guam, inhabited for between four and five thousand years, has a rich history and culture dominated by the indigenous Chamorro people. Guam’s history, however, is for the most part unknown to the world, including the United States of which it is a part. Thus, the Guam Humanities Council has recently begun work on *Guampedia*, an online encyclopedia about Guam and the Chamorro people. The Council will use this year’s *We the People* grant to develop the section on religion. Many aspects of Guam’s history are tied to religion, since Guam and the Chamorro people were colonized by the Spanish. Through scholarly essays and accompanying photographs, illustrations, maps, audio, and video, *Guampedia* will communicate the complexity of Guam’s history and religious expression under that have led to a unique perspective on the American experience.

## Hawai'i Council for the Humanities

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### *Produce for Victory: World War II and the Home Front in America and in Hawai'i*

In 2005, the Hawai'i Council for the Humanities will use *We the People* funding to tour the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street exhibit "Produce for Victory: Posters on the American Home Front, 1941-1945." The Council will also produce an accompanying traveling display that will compliment the national focus of the Museum on Main Street exhibit. The accompanying display will address themes such as Hawai'i under martial law, the role of wartime propaganda, and ethnic conflict and relations during WWII. Each of the seven sites will also receive a \$2,500 grant to develop community and school programs in conjunction with several leading humanities scholars. Finally, the Council will produce a one-day workshop in 2006 for teachers entitled "Triumph and Tragedy in History: From World War II to the Cold War."

## Humanities Tennessee

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### *We the People of Tennessee: Telling Museum on Main Street Stories Digitally II*

In 2004, Humanities Tennessee received a *We the People* grant to create "Telling our Stories Digitally", an online database of narratives about the state's people, organizations, art, and historical events. The database is linked to a map created through the Geographical Information System, resulting in an online, digital atlas of historical places in Tennessee.

With the help of this year's grant, Humanities Tennessee plans to use additional work on the database to help the state's small, nonprofessional, emerging museums and cultural organizations. Humanities Tennessee will work with the several small community organizations hosting the Museum on Main Street exhibition "Between Fences" to both create local projects and integrate them into the digital atlas. The project will give members of host communities an opportunity for active training in research and interpreting local history, along with the technological skills necessary for making such work widely available to others. At the close of the project, each museum will:

- have a professional-quality local history project as part of a larger web presence;
- be a viable partner in a statewide cultural tourism initiative;
- possess humanities-based content with experience and guidance in program development;
- have lasting connections to scholars and peers across the state.

## Idaho Humanities Council

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### *American Identity Programs in Idaho*

The Idaho Humanities Council will use its grant from the *We the People* initiative to fund a wide range of projects, including a teachers institute focused on exploring what many have called the "new classics" of Native American literature. The Institute, entitled "Nothing but the Truth: Survival and Celebration in Native American Literature," will look at such texts as N. Scott Momaday's "The Way to Rainy Mountain," James Welch's "Fools Crow," and Louise Erdrich's "Tracks." This body of imaginative writing is not only an expression of the persistent effects of colonial expansion, but also testimonies to the enduring power of contemporary Native peoples. In addition to the its teachers institutes, the Council plans to support several other projects, including,

- 50 speakers bureau events;
- "Let's Talk About It", the Council's library reading and discussion program;
- Public programming that will compliment the 2005 tour of the Smithsonian's Museums on Main Street project's "Barn Again!" exhibit; and
- Regrant proposals that explore significant themes and events in American history.

## Indiana Humanities Council

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### *We the People Leadership and Education Program*

Under the auspices of the *We the People* initiative, the Indiana Humanities Council will conduct two main projects. The first will be a summer workshop for middle and high school teachers and to work with

university scholars to develop curriculum resources related to the history and development of the United States from the founding period to the end of Reconstruction. Teachers will produce Toolkits that include attention to the integration of primary source documents and other humanities content, a well-structured plan for assessing student learning, a detailed lesson design, and a reflective section about how the design worked in the classroom.

The second project will be a series of reading and discussion seminars across the state that will use both selected readings from our nation's founding documents and essays on leadership. The events will be presented in collaboration with the Liberty Fund and will convene leaders in business, government, education, and the nonprofit sectors to discuss how the principles of the founding of America continue to inform leadership today. Sessions will be led by humanities experts and will be conducted in a Socratic style of question and discussion.

## **Illinois Humanities Council**

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### *We the People in Illinois*

This year's *We the People* initiative will support a number of the activities of the Illinois Humanities Council that are meant to encourage greater public understanding of and appreciation for American history. A primary project for this year will be bringing two of the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street exhibitions to rural Illinois towns. The exhibit "Between Fences" will explore the role that fences have served in the formation of national and local identity in the United States. The other exhibit, "New Harmonies," engages both the history of the United States and the cultural identities of its citizens through an exploration of the place of music in American culture. Other major projects to be conducted by the Council include:

- Additional funding for the organization's Road Scholar speaker's bureau, a program that brings high quality humanities programs to local audiences;
- increased support for the Council's regrant program, with an emphasis on issues such as Westward expansion, the history of American music, and other, smaller issues relating to American culture.

## **Humanities Iowa**

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### *We the People in Iowa: Exploring Ethnicity, Identity and Diversity*

Humanities Iowa will use funding from We the People for council-conducted programming and regrants. Supported projects will include those that demonstrate a broad, interdisciplinary view of the circumstances and people that contributed to cultural, economic, and civic progress in the United States. The Council will prioritize projects that examine cultural and ethnic diversity in Iowa life and the formation of our civic identity. Prospective *We the People* projects include:

- an interpretive exhibit featuring the work of Theodore Horydczak, a photographer who chronicled the rise of Iowa industry in the 20<sup>th</sup> century;
- employing David Plowden, a celebrated photographer and essayist, as a humanist-in-residence. Plowden will offer master classes on his work to students and work on a unique project that features images from Iowa;
- creating the first documentary film about the history and culture of the loway people and collecting oral histories related to the history of broadcasting in Iowa; and
- continuing to support humanities programs that promote the inclusion of multicultural perspectives and values of diversity.

## **Kansas Humanities Council**

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### *Better Together: Kansans Tell Their Stories*

Throughout its 150-year history, Kansas has been a destination for people who value hard work, religious freedom, and land ownership. In consideration of the state's changing demographics, the Kansas Humanities Council will support the examination of their community's ethnic history through a re-grant program entitled "Better Together: An Ethnic Heritage Initiative." The project will help increase

understanding of new populations and their culture, improve the integration of new immigrants into Kansas traditions, and examine new experiences through the lens of past stories. The results of each project funded by the initiative will be shared with the general public through websites, exhibits, cable television, newspaper articles, and workshops. The Kansas Humanities Council will focus in particular on the history and culture of African-Americans, Hispanics, Southeast Asians, and Native Americans.

## **Kentucky Humanities Council**

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### *Prime Time Family Reading and Chautauqua in Schools*

Over 996,000 adults in Kentucky cannot read at the eighth grade level and there is a growing population of at-risk children—especially among underserved minority populations. As part of the *We the People* initiative, the Kentucky Humanities Council will extend the reach of “Prime Time,” a 6-week reading and discussion program held in public libraries to target at-risk youth and their parents. Humanities scholars and storytellers will lead discussions of themes central to the values of America in the context of award-winning children’s books. For homes that have little or no access to books, the Council will work in local communities to support reading and discussion as keys to becoming an informed and effective citizen. The Council will also use a portion of its *We the People* grant to support the Kentucky Chautauqua program. Kentucky’s Chautauquans will tour individually, interpreting the lives of individuals, half of whom are unknown heroes, who have contributed in many ways to the history and heritage of the state.

## **Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities**

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### *Exploring American History in Local Context*

The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities believes that its competitive regrant program is the most effective device for encouraging its diverse citizenry to celebrate the humanities. Regrants allow projects to be initiated at the grassroots level, leaving the state’s citizens free to develop projects that are most meaningful to them and their local communities. Through its *We the People* regrants, the Endowment will especially encourage projects that explore national themes in a local context. In addition to funding regrant proposals, the Endowment will promote the exploration of American history in local context through its RELIC discussion series and its quarterly publication *Louisiana Cultural Vistas*.

## **Maine Humanities Council**

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### *Understanding Our Past, Shaping Our Future*

The Maine Humanities Council will launch a multi-faceted initiative, entitled “Understanding Our Past, Shaping Our Future”, which will reach across many of the Council’s programs. The project will consist of two new initiatives along with an expansion of two existing programs, including:

- The creation of a new Speaker’s Bureau that will afford local communities the opportunity to hear historians address issues related to both local and national history;
- A new series of local history workshops meant to build professionalism and increase the exhibition and production capacity of small historical societies;
- Support for the Council’s full-day programs for teachers, which will parallel the topics and themes of the Speaker’s Bureau; and
- A regrants that connect significant themes in American history and culture with contemporary topics or issues.

## **Maryland Humanities Council**

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### *We the People of Maryland 2005-2006*

The Maryland Humanities Council will use the 2005 *We the People* grant to support projects that are part of the Council’s 2005-2006 special initiative, “The Changing Faces of Democracy.” The Initiative will

explore the concept of democracy and the diverse forms it has taken across cultures and time. The special initiative will contain a number of smaller projects, including:

- The Council's 2005 Chautauqua, "War and Democracy-Personal Journeys";
- A regrant program that will fund proposals that are consonant with the goals of the special initiative; and
- A three reading and discussion series based around the themes of "Changing Faces".

The Council will also use the grant to support two other projects not directly a part of "The Changing Faces" initiative, including:

- Maryland History Day, the largest humanities enrichment event in the state for middle and high school students
- 35 speaker bureau presentations directly relating to themes in American history and culture

## **Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities**

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*We the People: Mass Moments and Mass Movements*

Both the issue of voting rights and the long struggle black Americans waged to gain them are subjects that go to the heart of our democratic system of government. To address these issues, the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities will present a public symposium on October 29th that will address the legacy of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The symposium will engage prominent Civil Rights historians, journalists, and activists in a series of public conversations on a topic that is as important as it was 40 years ago.

The Foundation will also use a portion of its grant to implement a the second phase of Mass Moments, a daily series of 60 second radio clips that serve as an almanac of significant events and people in the state's history. The second phase of this very successful project will include:

- a new marketing plan for the website;
- an online "toolbox for teachers" intended to help with the use of Mass Moments in the classroom;
- an increased number of features and images on the website.

## **Michigan Humanities Council**

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*The Peopling of Michigan*

The history of Michigan is as distinct and diverse as the people who made it. The state exemplifies American history and culture through its stories, its documents, its past, and its people. The Michigan Humanities Council will use *We the People* funding to support grant proposals that address national themes within the context of the history and culture of Michigan. *We the People* funding will be combined with an existing grant program, making more than \$230,000 available for a wide variety of humanities projects across the state through the Council's regrant program.

## **Minnesota Humanities Commission**

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*We the People: Tradition and Change*

The Commission will use *We the People* funding to support regrants for projects that addresses Minnesota topics in light of the traditions, history, and founding principles of our nation. A special outreach effort will be made to stimulate proposals from community colleges and minority organizations. In a separate project, the Commission will develop two, three-day teacher seminars to reevaluate the history of Native American-European contact in light of recent scholarship. These seminars are particularly appropriate, since 2005-2007 marks the anniversary of two significant events in Indian-European encounters in Minnesota—the Dakota conflict of 1862 and the signing of the Mille Lacs Ojibwe Treaty.



## Mississippi Humanities Council

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*The People of Mississippi: We are America*

As the United States settles into a new, shaken by violent current events and circumstances at home and abroad, and seemingly divided on even the most basic values and principles, thoughtful citizens must take a fresh look at our country, its history, its aspirations, and its goals for the future. Few organizations are better prepared and positioned to lead such significant and serious public discussions of American identity and direction than state humanities Councils. To this end, the Mississippi Humanities Council will use its 2005 *We the People* grant to fund three major projects:

- The Council will work with the University of Southern Mississippi and Mississippi Public Radio to produce Mississippi Moments, a series of daily four-minute radio segments about important historical events that occurred in the state;
- A *Mississippi Timeline* website will be created for teachers, students, and citizens interested in Mississippi;
- A revised and updated version of the *Ethnic Heritage in Mississippi* will be published.

## Missouri Humanities Council

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*Tribal Exhibition and America the Bountiful*

The Missouri Humanities Council plans to use the largest portion of its *we the People* funding to continue work on the development of both permanent and traveling exhibits on the four Native American tribes that have lived in the state: the Osage, Eastern Shawnee, Sac, and Fox. The Council will also fund projects associated with its 2005 theme, "America the Bountiful". As part of this theme, the Council will sponsor the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street exhibit "Key Ingredients: America by Food" in several local communities. *We the People* funding will be used to recruit a Chautauqua cast to do performances in conjunction with the exhibits. While food customs offer a good way to study and compare the traditions within America, the Chautauqua events will also demonstrate how foods are the phenomenal wealth of human and natural resources that enabled our nation to become a world power.

## Montana Committee for the Humanities

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*We the People in Montana, 2005-2006*

The Montana Committee for the Humanities will use its *We the People* grant to support a major statewide conference on Montana history and culture, along with a variety of American history and culture projects. In the spring of 2006, a statewide We the People Conference will address a variety of issues, historical well as prospective, related to the state's cultural identities and economic development. Speakers will include a number of public policy makers, scholars, and authors, perhaps most notably Pulitzer Prize winning author Jared Diamond. The Committee expects the conference to provide a major instance of bringing the humanities, and especially historical perspectives, to bear on public issues in a civic forum. Other Council projects will also include:

- Expanding the Committee's speakers bureau for the Lewis and Clark bicentennial;
- Hosting the three day Montana Festival of Books, now in its sixth year;
- Supporting programs in the Committee's Open Book reading and discussion program;
- Supplementing the Committee's regrant program by using *We the People* funding to support projects related to American history and culture.

## Nebraska Humanities Council

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*We the People—Nebraska*

In 2005, the Nebraska Humanities Council will use its *We the People* grant to co-sponsor the Capitol Forum on America's Future with the Nebraska Secretary of State. The Forum will provide an opportunity for high school juniors and seniors to examine key issues facing the United States through the lens of the humanities. A group of selected students and teachers will participate in a one-day dialogue with elected

officials at Nebraska's Capitol. After the Forum at the Capitol, teachers and students will together lead their class through a lesson plan on the issues they discussed with both state legislators and other students from across the state. The Nebraska Humanities Council will also fund two other major initiatives, including:

- "Great Plains Chautauqua," a week of featured events and discussion in which Nebraskans interact with scholars performing first-person interpretations of major historical figures. This year's topic is "From Sea to Shining Sea: American Expansion and Encounter from 1790 to 1850";
- Supporting speakers from the Council's Humanities Resource Center who will address themes in American history.

## **Nevada Humanities**

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*All History is Local History: An American History Initiative in Nevada*

Nevada Humanities will use its *We the People* grant to support the Nevada tour of the Museum on Main Street exhibit "Between Fences". The exhibit surveys the role of fences in the settlement and growth of the United States, examining both their practical role and their symbolic ability to define us as individuals and as a nation. The issues suggested by this exhibit are of special interest to Nevada, a state where cattle ranches, bombing ranges, mines, and nuclear facilities share a vast and fragile environment with rapidly expanding cities. In addition, Nevada has the highest rate of government land ownership in the lower forty-eight state (over 87%). Thus, concerns about land ownership, land use, and water rights are central to life in this most arid of all states. Besides being of great interest to the citizens of the state, "Beyond Fences" will provide underserved rural communities with national quality humanities programs and opportunities to develop programs meaningful to their communities.

Nevada will also use a portion of its *We the People* funding to form a special regrant category for American History as a way of encouraging grassroots initiated humanities activities.

## **New Hampshire Humanities Council**

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*America Reinvents Itself*

The New Hampshire Humanities Council's annual Chautauqua program is a premier summer event, providing the citizens of New Hampshire with a prizewinning program featuring scholar monologues, music by local artists, and additional programs and workshops. While the Council's 2005 Chautauqua, "1905: American Reinvents Itself" will center around hour-long evening tent shows, accompanying programs will also be a part of the initiative, including:

- Three community breakfasts with visiting Chautauqua scholars that will be open to the public and held in Portsmouth;
- Young Chautauqua, a program through which students from the ages of 12-18 will research and perform and interpretation of a significant historical person from the 20<sup>th</sup> century;
- Two one-day workshops for teachers entitled "Religion in the American Progressive Era, 1865-1925."

## **New Jersey Council for the Humanities**

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*A Democratic Vision: Forming a More Perfect Union*

The New Jersey Council for the Humanities will use its *We the People* grant to fund a three-part project, "A Democratic Vision: Forming a More Perfect Union." With each of its distinct components, the program's purpose is to provide the citizens of New Jersey with the opportunity to explore the ideals and history behind our nation's founding principles. The three parts of the Council's initiative are:

- "Teachers as Scholars," a project created at Harvard University in 1996 that became national under the auspices of the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. This year, the program will host a series of two-day seminars for K-12 teachers led by prominent humanities scholars. The theme of this year's seminars is "Critical Moments in the Making of a Nation";

- “American Freedom: The History of an Ideal,” an eight month college level course modeled after the Bard College Clemente Course. Students will examine the idea of freedom from multiple perspectives including that of founding documents, abolitionist struggles, presidential proclamations and congressional debates.
- “Rights and Responsibilities: Exploring the History of Citizenship in America,” a special grant initiative that will support reading and discussion programs that consider a specific question about citizenship through engagement with at least one historical document.

## **New Mexico Humanities Council**

*From Nation to State: New Mexico’s Centennial of Statehood Initiative*

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In 2005, the New Mexico Humanities Council will use its *We the People* grant to fund “From Nation to State: New Mexico’s Centennial of Statehood Initiative.” The WTP grant will fund the initial stage of this project, lasting from twelve to sixteen months, which will include public discussions and public programs about New Mexico’s struggle for statehood. This initial stage of public programs will serve as the beginning of a seven-year long series of activities and public events recognizing and commemorating statehood in New Mexico that will conclude in the year 2012. Project activities will include:

- selecting Chautauqua characters for the centennial speakers series;
- planning meetings that will include both the general public and specific stakeholders;
- the creation of a “Centennial” page on the Council’s website that will provide information on related events;
- identifying educational materials and media resources to aid in the development of New Mexico history curricula.

Once a tentative plan for centennial activities is agreed upon by the initial gathering of planner and stakeholders, the Council will conduct a series of statewide meetings to elicit responses, criticisms, and suggestions from the general public.

## **New York Council for the Humanities**

*We the People – Reading Between the Lines*

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The New York Council for the Humanities’ innovative reading discussion program “Reading Between the Lines” engages members of the public in conversations facilitated by university scholars and students about books chosen to illuminate significant themes in American history and culture. The Council will use its funding from the *We the People* initiative to continue to expand both this existing program and to pilot a new project entitled “Reading Between the Lines for Children and Families.” The new program is designed to not only encourage members of literate but generally low-income families (many of them immigrants) to read to their children, but also to engage them in discussion of the ideas and issues found in the books. By focusing on books relating to enduring American themes such as freedom, courage, and diversity, the program will encourage families to conceptualize and discuss who we are as individuals and who we are as a nation.

## **North Carolina Humanities Council**

*We the People of North Carolina*

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The North Carolina Humanities Council used *We the People* funding to host its 2005 Teacher’s Institute, “The Culture of Religion in North Carolina.” The institutes, which have been held 14 times since 1983, provide outstanding educators with an intellectual challenge in a setting that encourages collegiality and the exchange of ideas between university professors and classroom teachers. The theme for this year’s institute was intended to help teachers deal with both an increasingly diverse religious environment and confusion regarding the implications of the separation of church and state within the classroom. The Council will also use its funds to support the book discussion program “Let’s Talk About It”, the Council’s speakers bureau, and a regrant program that will fund projects related to American history.

## North Dakota Humanities Council

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### *North Dakota Reads*

The North Dakota Humanities Council will use *We the People* funding to support the development and execution of a pilot program, "North Dakota Reads." The program will examine the role of reading in North Dakota and will establish book discussion groups throughout the state. Books chosen for the discussion groups will explore the history and culture of both North Dakota and the nation as a whole. After the books have been chosen and the reading groups have been formed, scholars will be recruited to lead discussion of books related to their major field of study.

## Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities

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### *From Colony to Commonwealth: The Northern Mariana Islands and the "American Century"*

The roughly 100-year period from the outbreak of the Spanish-American War in 1898 to the end of the second millennium has been referred to by historians as the "American Century." Through two world wars, social upheavals, advancements in science and technology, cultural trends, and the spread of democracy, the United States has left an indelible mark on the 20th Century. The Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities proposes to utilize its *We the People* grant to support a series of public humanities programs that will examine important historical events associated with this period as they relate to the social, cultural, economic, and political changes they engendered in the Northern Mariana Islands. The Council will explore this theme through four projects, including:

- "American Foreign Policy", a series of Chautauqua featuring interpretations of Mark Twain and President Theodore Roosevelt that will specifically address issues of American foreign policy;
- "Guam-NMI Relations", a series of lectures and symposia that will explore the split of the administration of Guam and the NMI following the Spanish American War;
- "The Road to Commonwealth", a collection of activities, including seminars and student projects, related to the 1970 bilateral talks between NMI and the US that resulted in the formation of NMI into a commonwealth;
- "Constitutional Awareness," a series of seminars on NMI's constitutional convention, held in 1976, that are meant to both increase citizen's knowledge of history and prepare them for a possible fourth constitutional convention in 2006.

## Ohio Humanities Council

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### *We the People in Ohio – 2005-2006*

In 2005, The Ohio Humanities Council will use its *We the People* grant primarily to support the 2006 Ohio Forum on the First Amendment. The project comes as the result of a recent study done by the First Amendment Center concerning the woeful lack of understanding among students and adults about the contents and the implications of the First Amendment. The Forum will encompass a number of projects and will utilize the talents of many scholars of the American Revolution, early Republic, and the Constitution. In June and July, the Council sponsored a six-week "Ohio Chautauqua 2005" tour on the theme of "The Roaring Twenties," featuring such characters as Henry Ford, Zora Neale Hurston, Harry Houdini, Zelda Fitzgerald, and H.L. Mencken

The Council will also use its *We the People* funding to underwrite several other projects, including:

- Support and development of "Gateway to History: A Website to Support K-12 History Instruction in Ohio," featuring work generated by "Teaching American History" grant recipients;
- Collaboration with Ohio Educational Television Services to sponsor the development and distribution of educational materials.

## Oklahoma Humanities Council

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*Oklahoma We the People, 2005-2007*

Patterned after the National Endowment for the Humanities' (NEH) Jefferson Lecture, the Oklahoma Lecture in the Humanities highlights the accomplishments of a scholar with national reputation in the humanities. The 2006 lecture will take place in Tulsa and will feature Dr. Jane Smiley. Jane Smiley is the author of 12 works of fiction, including *The Age of Grief*, *The Greenlanders*, *Moo*, *Horse Heaven*, and *A Thousand Acres*, which won the Pulitzer Prize. She is also a frequent contributor to *The New Yorker*, *Vogue*, and *Harper's*. Besides being the speaker for the Oklahoma Lecture in the Humanities, Smiley will also be available for several student workshops.

The Council will dedicate the remaining \$50,000 for a statewide Request for Proposals (RFPs) from organizations seeking funding for projects that both reflect WTP themes and relate to Oklahoma's upcoming centennial in 2007.

## Oregon Council for the Humanities

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*On Principle: A Statewide Conversation*

The Oregon Council for the Humanities will use 2005 *We the People* funding to implement "On Principle: A Statewide Conversation" as a follow up program to its 2004 WTP project. Last year, the Council created and aired a radio series in which Oregonians consider five principles of American democracy: freedom, equality, economic opportunity, civic engagement, and justice. "On Principle: A Statewide Conversation" will consist primarily of a series of lectures and discussion groups organized by local working groups. Each community will have four lecture and discussion events and a concluding panel discussion. Each community will be paired with a humanities scholar who will help organize and conduct the activities on the ground. The Council will also create a handbook for the program and dedicate one of the issues of its biannual magazine *Oregon Humanities* to summarizing and reporting on the conversations that took place as part of the program.

## Pennsylvania Humanities Council

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*Our Stories, Our Future*

With its 2005 We the People grant, the Pennsylvania Humanities Council will continue to sponsor "Our Stories, Our Future", an initiative begun last year. This thematic statewide initiative encourages reflection on themes and stories from American history that have importance for our lives today and are critical to our future as a people. The initiative is centered on the Council's regrant program, which will offer more than \$40,000 for local humanities projects. The regrant program will be complimented by several other projects, including:

- Talks given by the 70 Commonwealth Speakers in the Council's speakers bureau;
- Eight library book discussion groups formed around the themes of "Our Stories, Our Future"; and
- Council promotional activities, including revamping portions of their website and special events broadcasted on television or other media.

## Rhode Island Council for the Humanities

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*Access and Audience Development: Responding to Community and Increasing Service at RICH*

Continuing to pursue its strategic goal of increasing the accessibility of humanities programming, the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities will use We the People funding to support television, radio, and speaker bureau projects. Throughout 2005, for example, the Council will be working with Rhode Island PBS stations to broadcast one film per month that explores the cultural myth of the "American Dream." The Council will also encourage the creation of short documentaries through its Short Film Initiative. The films are typically created by independent film makers working closely with a humanities scholar. Other projects will include,

- “Action Speaks,” a radio series to intended to contextualize contemporary American issues by examining less well known events in American 20th century history; and
- Providing additional support to the Council’s speakers bureau.

## Humanities Council SC

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### *We the People and the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual SC Book Festival*

The Humanities Council SC intends to strengthen public knowledge of national history and collective memory through using its We the People grant to support the 2006 South Carolina Book Festival. The Festival, held in late February, is a two-day series of literary and scholarly events meant to encourage civic dialogue and debate of difficult issues. The attending writers, educators, poets, and presenter (many of whom are local) encourage audience members to reflect on the value of story and words, on how writing and reading serves as means of exploring and transmitting both personal values and national identity. The Council will also fund a number of regrant programs, including:

- *What Does Freedom Mean to Us?*, a program aimed at projects relating to cultural identity in America;
- *Hidden Pasts*, a grant meant to fund the study of underrepresented histories, cultures, and ways of life;
- *Heroes of History*, a program that supports projects relating to those extraordinary, historic individuals that have unified divergent points of view; and
- *The Public Square*, a grant supporting projects that encourage discussion of contemporary social issues.

## South Dakota Humanities Council

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### *Third Annual Festival of Books*

In the first two years of the program’s existence, the South Dakota Humanities Council’s “Festival of Books” has drawn almost 10,000 people. The Council plans to use *We the People* support to help fund the event, which will feature 75 authors presenting readings, workshops, panel discussions, interactive children’s activities, a poetry slam, a book appraisal, and book signings. During this year’s festival, the Council hopes to:

- Encourage an appreciation for the written word and encourage the publication of works by South Dakotans;
- Promote a better understanding of local, regional, and national history;
- Address literary issues in South Dakota; and
- Increase the festival’s attendance to 6,000 by drawing from a diverse range of different ages, ethnicities, and socioeconomic groups.

## Humanities Texas

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### *Gateway on the Gulf: Galveston and American Imagination, 1845-1915*

In the final decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Galveston was known as the “Ellis Island of the West.” By 1900, more than 100,000 immigrants had entered the United States through the city. Humanities Texas will use *We the People* funding for a diverse range of projects, including a residential teacher institute exploring the rich immigrant history of Galveston, TX. The Institute will feature presentations by pre-eminent scholars in Texas and immigration history. Participating teachers will also move out of the lecture hall and into the city to explore Galveston’s wealth of architectural and archival resources. Other Humanities Texas projects include:

- A weekly three-minute long radio feature significant individuals, historical events, and cultural forces in Texas that have shaped our nation;
- Supporting proposals that explore significant historical events through regrants; and

- Developing a traveling exhibit in conjunction with the Arizona Humanities Council on the life of labor activist César Chávez and his campaign for farm workers' rights.

## Utah Humanities Council

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*We the People -- Utah*

In order to provide the greatest amount of visibility and the broadest participation in Utah's *We the People* initiative, the Utah Humanities Council has allocated We the People funding to a combination of programs designed to appeal to a variety of different audiences. The Council intends to fund activities using a combination of proven formats and new initiatives, all of which will be dedicated to exploring topics in American history and culture. Projects for 2005 include:

- Special offerings from the Council's "Road Scholars Speakers Bureau," in which public historians, humanities professors, government officials, and journalists will travel across Utah to speak to a variety of public, nonprofit organizations;
- "The Great Salt Lake Book Festival," a free two-day event in which over forty writers will read and discuss their work. The 2005 festival will feature a keynote by Laurel Thatcher, author of the Pulitzer Prize winning *A Midwife's Tale*;
- "The Utah History Fair," a statewide effort that involves thousands of students and teachers in developing individual and collaborative projects focusing on a theme of American history. This year's topic, "Taking a Stand in History", will encourage the examination of constitutional issues that have been debated by government groups at all levels;
- "The Utah Oral History Consortium," an organization formed in 2000 to coordinate and facilitate oral history activities in the state. In 2005, the consortium will focus on a number of different projects, including recording the stories of WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam veterans; and
- A request for regrant proposals that will encourage grassroots involvement in the We the People initiative.

## Vermont Humanities Council

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*Sharing Our American Past: Shaping Our Future*

Now, a little more than halfway through its first We the People-funded project, the Vermont Humanities Council has enjoyed positive feedback and strong attendance at its discussion, lecture, and living history programs. Given the success these programs have demonstrated to date, the Council will use its 2005 grant to continue these current, very successful projects. Specifically, the Council plans to use WTP funds to:

- Run each of the five We the People Reading and Discussion series created in 2004;
- Sponsor 36 public talks and living history presentations from its speaker's bureau catalog;
- Run ten lectures as part of the Council's "First Wednesdays" program, a monthly humanities forum held in local libraries;
- Fund two week-long humanities camps for at-risk middle school students about American history;
- Fund grant projects related to We the People themes, such as Vermont Historical Society's annual two-day Vermont History Expo, which draws more than 8,000 people.

## Virgin Islands Humanities Council

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*U.S. Virgin Islanders: A People's Continued Quest for Self-Governance*

As the Virgin Islands prepare for another constitutional convention in 2006, the Virgin Islands Humanities Council will encourage citizens of all ages to consider the themes relevant to self-determination through a variety of programs, including two relating specifically to role of women in self-government. The Council will support its "Three Queens Chautauqua" series, a program that interest and presents three of the five Virgin Islands female revolutionaries, known locally as "queens": Queen Breffu of the St. John revolt of 1733-34, Queen Mary of the St. Croix Fireburn in 1878 and Queen Coziah, who started the Mexican Silver Riot of 1892. These women, along with their collaborators, embarked on the journey that would

become our quest for self-governance as early as the 1700's. The Council's 2006 Heftel Lecture will also focus on the roles of women in the past, present, and future of Virgin Island self-determination.

## Virginia Foundation for the Humanities

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### *We the People in Virginia*

Over the past thirty years, the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities has devoted much of its energy and resources to advancing the goals recently defined for the We the People initiative. The Foundation's work has focused on events and themes in American culture, especially as these are expressed in the history and stories of Virginia. The upcoming 400th anniversary in 2007 of the Jamestown Colony, the first permanent English settlement in the Americas, creates a new opportunity to examine and understand the themes and events that define us as citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia and of the United States. In 2005-2006 VFH proposes to use *We the People* funds for a number of both proven and innovative initiatives, including:

- Awarding 10-15 grants to support projects focusing on the relationship between Virginia's traditions and the distinctive culture and communities in which they have developed;
- Funding the Virginia Center for the Book, a Council initiative that seeks to reach a wide range of people with a variety of educational and economic backgrounds through several of its programs, including Motherhead and Fatherhead;
- Launching its Humanities Features Bureau for radio in September of 2005. The bureau will assign and produce as many as fifty engaging short features annually that focus on issues, programs, and personalities in the humanities throughout Virginia;
- Awarding a residential fellowship to a scholar whose work expands understanding of the significance of Virginia history and geology.

## Humanities Washington

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### *We the People*

In Washington, changing demographics have led to a number of divides in our communities: a growing Russian population in Spokane and Whatcom County, a surge in Southeast Asian immigrants in the Puget Sound, and increasing Latino populations in Wenatchee, Yakima, the Tri-Cities and Walla Walla. In addition to ethnic divisions, the state is dominated by geographic, economic, educational, and technological divides. Humanities Washington aims to address these divides through "The Stories of Us: Immigrant and Native Histories", a project that will engage Washingtonians in an exploration of the many diverse stories of the people of our state. Inspired by the California Stories project, Humanities Washington will fund up to seven community "story" projects that will consist of both long-running exhibits and community workshops. We the People funds will also be used to help fund "Destination: The Pacific," a special project commemorating the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition. The project will include both educational outreach and a number of panel discussions across the state.

## Humanities Council of Washington, DC

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### *Freedom, Rights and Responsibilities: Examining and Embracing their Role in Citizenship*

Within the first five years of Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, recently freed African Americans instituted annual celebrations to commemorate the day. These celebrations have been revived in the District of Columbia by a small number of citizens over the past decade. The Council, in conjunction with the DC government, will host a program on Freedom Plaza celebrating the Emancipation Proclamation. The program will include a parade, a ceremonial reading of the Bill of Rights and the Emancipation Proclamation, and a Chautauqua-like atmosphere where actors, poets, musicians, and historians will interpret the events surrounding the emancipation. The Council will also support two other prominent initiatives, including:



- The Soul of the City, a week long urban leadership development seminar for 40 high school youth that will use the subjects of history, literature, ethics, and public space to apply the founding texts of America to the student's lives; and
- Producing four new episodes of "Humanities Profiled," a television series profiling important individuals involved in the humanities in Washington D.C. Each program will deal with themes of the We the People Initiative.

## West Virginia Humanities Council

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### *The American Way*

By supporting a variety of projects through its We the People grant, the West Virginia Humanities Council hopes to underscore the diversity that has historically been a major part of the American story. One such project is the support of the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street exhibit "Produce for Victory: Posters on the American Homefront, 1941-1945". Funding will not only pay for the display of the exhibit, but also a stipend for a project scholar to work with each of the six venues to create unique humanities content for local programs related to the exhibit. Other projects the Council initiatives include:

- The 2005 McCreight Lecture, which will be given by Pulitzer Prize winner Joseph J. Ellis on the political value of the Revolutionary generation;
- A variety of other lectures, including talks by the Imam Jamal Daudi and archaeologist Darla Spencer; and
- Increased funding for the Council's regrant program for projects related to American history.

## Wisconsin Humanities Council

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### *A More Perfect Union*

One of the most famous humanities discussions in the history of the world occurred in Philadelphia in 1789, when the framers of the U.S. Constitution convened to form "a more perfect Union." With one sentence, known as The Preamble, the authors of the Constitution hoped to distill the federal government's reason for existence. This Preamble is the cornerstone of the Wisconsin Humanities Council's "A More Perfect Union" (AMPU) program. Originally, AMPU was intended to be a one-year initiative aimed at coinciding with the 2004 presidential election. However, because we've heard reports of vigorous, intelligent and civil discussions from all corners of the state—exactly the kind of conversations public humanities programs should inspire— we've developed a new multi-year initiative that furthers the scope and reach of AMPU. In 2005, the Council will use its We the People funding to support several facets of the initiative, including:

- Multiple-book discussion groups that will examine the themes of the initiative in both classic and contemporary works;
- Supporting programming at the Wisconsin Book Festival, where two of the authors of the discussion books for 2005 will be featured; and
- Regrant funds, marketing for events, and other miscellaneous expenses related to the initiative.

## Wyoming Council for the Humanities

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### *Wyoming Common Ground*

Wyoming's low population encourages face-to-face democracy and dialogue on important issues. Yet as the energy boom, an influx of retirees, rural sprawl and rising poverty alter the face of Wyoming, citizens continue to express deep ambivalence about how to respond to social, economic and environmental change. In order to encourage active participation and dialogue regarding current social issues, the Wyoming Council for the Humanities will use *We the People* grant funding to create a statewide, multi-faceted initiative entitled "Wyoming Common Ground." The initiative will consist of a number of smaller projects, including:

- “Common Ground: Shared Values in the Developing West”, a series of three, one-day meetings that will discuss the environmental philosophies of preservation and conservation. Historian Patricia Limerick will be the keynote speaker of the event;
- “Faces of Family in Wyoming”, a project that will consist of several short radio vignettes where poor families tell their stories and discussion groups based on the series;
- “Welcome to Wyoming: A Primer for Newcomer and Long-Terms”, a short booklet that introduces newcomers to the myths and realities of Wyoming history, values and culture, along with tips for how to integrate into small town communities and the natural environment; and
- We the People grants in a number of categories related to American history