



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

FEDERAL/STATE PARTNERSHIP

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We the People Project Grants for State Humanities Councils Project Summaries of Grants Awarded in FY2006

Alabama Humanities Foundation

We the People of Alabama

The Alabama Humanities Foundation will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for programs on the diversity and divisions of Alabamian society and history. *Prisms in Place: Alabama's Black Belt* is a one-week teacher institute on the rich complexity and diversity of Alabama's black belt. The institute will include multidisciplinary elements along field trips to important sites. The *Between Fences* exhibition from the Museum on Main Street program will be brought to Alabama. *Between Fences* focuses on the fence as a physical feature of the built environment, which allows for discussion on issues such as land use, property rights, and community. Other initiatives include:

- a Speakers Bureau program, which provides communities with hour-long presentations on humanities topics, such as *Preparing the Way: The Tuskegee Airmen and the 'Double V.'*
- *My United States*, a special Motherhead program, which uses children's literature to assist immigrants who are seeking U.S. citizenship.

Alaska Humanities Forum

Alaska's March to Statehood

The Alaska Humanities Forum will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for programs in relating to the 50th anniversary of Alaskan statehood, which will be celebrated from July 7, 2008, through January 3, 2009. AKHF will partner with scholars and designers to develop an Alaskan history board game, which will be integrated into the study of state historical landmarks in Alaska's high schools. Other initiatives include:

- *On Being Alaskan*, a media project in partnership with the Alaska Public Radio Network, which will gather and broadcast personal narratives from people across the state reflecting on their identities as Alaskans and the first 50 years of statehood.
- a regrant program for projects exploring Alaskan statehood.

Arizona Humanities Council

We the People

The Arizona Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding to offer a history-based book discussion at the Ellis-Shackelford House, a Phoenix historical home. The discussion will center on works central to American history themes. The AHC will also fund, in partnership with Humanities Texas, the development of a traveling exhibit on the life and leadership of Cesar Chavez. The exhibit and its supplementary educational programming will help viewers understand the national impact of Chavez's campaigns. Other initiatives include:

- a regrant program for heritage sites to develop products that tell the story of Arizona's history.
- creation and maintenance of a cultural heritage tourism website, in partnership with the Arizona Office of Tourism.
- the Motherhead program *My United States*, a two-day training program that prepares instructors to teach civics, history, and government as part of a literacy development course.
- a regrant program for oral history projects that encourage the telling of Arizona's stories, specifically for preservation of the language, culture, and oral traditions of Native American tribes.
- continuation of AHC's successful ongoing speaker and book discussion programs.

Arkansas Humanities Council

We the People Programs in Arkansas

The Arkansas Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for programs that enhance and create opportunities to study Arkansas' history, specifically by students within the state. The University of Arkansas Press will employ a novel team to develop a new eighth-grade history textbook, which will be ready for adoption in mid-2007. The online component of the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture will be continue to be enhanced. The eighth-grade textbook currently under construction will include extensive tie-ins with the online version of the Encyclopedia, along with a comprehensive teacher guide and other allied tools. The final aspect of AHC's program is funding for *History Day in Arkansas*, an annual program in affiliation with National History Day.

California Council for the Humanities

Youth Speak

The California Council for the Humanities will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for Phase III of its multiyear *California Stories* initiative, which will focus on bringing humanities resources to the state's youth. Two primary components of this Phase are the Youth Digital Storytelling Program and 10 California Story Fund grants. Through the Youth Digital Storytelling Program, youth participants will acquaint themselves with a culture of history other than their own and create a digital account of what they learn. Youth will be assisted by humanities scholars in interviewing persons from other cultures across the state. The California Stories Fund, a long-standing program that funds local programs on the larger narratives of California, will fund youth story projects that will highlight the experiences, needs, and concerns of California youth.

Colorado Endowment for the Humanities

We the People: A Colorado Initiative

The Colorado Endowment for the Humanities will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for various Chautauqua programs across the state. High Plains Chautauqua, with the theme *The Civil War: A House Divided*, will be a five-day event examining the Civil War and the antebellum period from many perspectives. Young Chautauqua, which brings history to life for K-12 students, will expand into two new communities, increasing the total span of the program to six statewide communities. Other initiatives include:

- Two Rivers Chautauqua, a two-day program on *The Call of the West*, which will include historic characters such as Theodore Roosevelt, Jessie Benton Fremont, Marie Curie, and Kit Carson.
- Chautauqua Speakers Bureau, which consists of more than 30 scholars who present first-person interpretations of 40 historic figures, including newly-added special presentations relating to black history and Benjamin Franklin 300th birthday.
- a regrant program for public humanities programs throughout Colorado.

Connecticut Humanities Council

Humanities in the Schools and Online Encyclopedia of Connecticut History

The Connecticut Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for two initiatives. The first initiative, *Humanities in the Schools*, is a regrant program supporting teacher institutes, seminars, and other professional development activities for Connecticut's K-12 teachers. These programs focus on engaging teachers in defining themes and events of America's past. The second initiative, the *Online Encyclopedia of Connecticut History*, will expand the *Encyclopedia* by adding additional entries and theme essays, creating an online topical bibliography, illustrating the entries, and establishing 'crosswalks' between these collections.

Humanities Council of Washington D.C.

Becoming a Washingtonian: What it means to be American in the Nation's Capital

The Humanities Council of Washington D.C. will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for programs relating to local identity in a national city. *Soul of the City* is a week-long, humanities-based community leadership institute for high school students in high-crime areas of the District. Four episodes of the acclaimed series *Humanities Profiled* will be produced, including episodes on D.C. Emancipation history and *Soul of the City* youth. Other initiatives include:

- *DC Emancipation Week*, which will commemorate President Lincoln's freeing of the slaves in the District on April 16, 1862.

- *Who is a Washingtonian?*, a reading and discussion series allowing residents to discuss issues involving D.C.'s changing demographics and landscape.
- the *D.C. Community Heritage Preservation Symposia*, which will assist residents in community heritage preservation work.
- the HCWDC Research Center, which serves as the archive of the Council.

Delaware Humanities Forum

We the People: A Dialogue for Democracy

The Delaware Humanities Forum will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for a film project to engage both youth audiences and the general public. The project will seek to foster a greater understanding of civil rights and women's rights leaders in Delaware's history, and to encourage full civic engagement, particularly among youth. In addition to a 30-minute film, *A Dialogue for Democracy* will also include a companion curriculum examining the national impact of Delaware's civil rights leaders.

Florida Humanities Council

Land of Sunshine, State of Dreams: Florida in the 20th Century

The Florida Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding to create educational resources and seminars that provide resources and critical perspectives to the study of modern Florida. These resources include a one-hour public television documentary. The documentary will tell the story of 20th-century Florida using archival photos, film, scholar narrations, and interviews with historical figures. A week-long teacher seminar will be conducted by historian Gary Mormino and other scholars focusing on major themes in modern Florida history. Other initiatives include:

- one-day district workshops for teachers conducted by Gary Mormino.
- creation of an educational website housing primary documents, maps, video clips, readings, and archival images.

Fundacion Puertorriqueña de las Humanidades

Puerto Rico: Common Ground

The Fundacion Puertorriqueña de las Humanidades will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for the production of television and radio programs related to 'common ground' issues within the Commonwealth. The television talk shows will highlight issues such as the current state of common ground in Puerto Rico, the sense of unity within the Commonwealth, and the best ways to foster new areas of common ground. The radio programs, which will be supplemented by appropriate texts, will highlight the media coverage of common ground issues.

Georgia Humanities Council

We the People in Georgia 2006

The Georgia Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for reading and discussion programs across the state. Presentations will be held at both the Decatur Book Festival and the Georgia Literary Festival. The former will feature Georgia authors reflecting on Georgian and Southern identities, and the latter will highlight the national significance of Macon, Georgia, natives Sidney Lanier and John Oliver Killens. Other initiatives include:

- the addition of metadata and searching capabilities into the *New Georgia Encyclopedia*.
- a regrant program in partnership with community organizations.

Guam Humanities Council

Remembering Camp Roxas: The History of Filipino Americans in Guam

The Guam Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for programs related to the 60th anniversary of the first Filipino immigrants to Guam. Oral histories will be collected, and archival research will be performed to document the journey of these immigrants from the Philippines to their settlement at Camp Roxas. Upon collection, these materials will be used to create a thirty-minute documentary film and photo exhibition. Through these productions, the history of this migration will be documented with both visual representations of place and the assemblage of primary source recollections of immigrant experiences.

Hawai'i Council for the Humanities

Key Ingredients: America and Hawai'i by Food, and Literature and Medicine

The Hawai'i Council for the Humanities will use its 2006 *We the People* funding to tour the Smithsonian Museum on Main Street exhibition *Key Ingredients: America by Food* to communities across the state. Local programs at each site will be supported, and a companion book on the literature and history of food in America and Hawai'i will be published. The HCH will also fund training and pilot programs for *Literature and Medicine* reading and discussion series, which are conducted with members of the health care community. Under the leadership of bioethics specialist and legal philosopher Ken Kipnis, various written works will be employed to highlight the connections between literature and medicine.

Humanities Iowa

Exploring Ethnicity, Diversity, and National and Local Identity

Humanities Iowa will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for a regrant program that encourages applicants to design projects that capture both the heritage and contemporary concerns of Iowans, especially in rural areas. Special interest will be taken in projects that explore how cultural and ethnic diversity informs and challenges collective notions of identity. This effort will build upon last year's successful *We the People* funded projects, which successfully brought the humanities into rural areas.

Idaho Humanities Council

American History/American Identity

The Idaho Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for *Controlled by Events: The Presidency of Abraham Lincoln*, a week-long teacher institute. The institute will include daily lectures by scholars, a keynote address, two Chautauquans, and a presentation of the musical legacy of the Civil War. The Idaho Songbag Initiative, a model two-year initiative to sponsor a variety of public program to renew interest in American and Idaho folk music traditions, will also be funded. The Initiative will include a tour by the Museum on Main Street exhibition *New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music* and a teacher institute on the topic. Other initiatives include:

- 50 Speakers Bureau presentations exploring American history and culture.
- *Let's Talk About It*, reading programs on American history in various public libraries.
- the Museum on Main Street exhibition *Key Ingredients: America by Food* and accompanying programming.
- a centennial commemoration of the trial of "Big" Bill Haywood for the assassination of former Governor Frank Steuneger.
- a regrant program for projects exploring significant themes in American history.

Illinois Humanities Council

We the People in Illinois

The Illinois Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for further development of the Illinois Music Heritage program. Launched several years ago, the program highlights the state's rich and diverse folk music heritage. CDs on 'Folk Songs' and 'Fiddle Music' will be completed in 2007, and these will be supplemented by a web presence and curriculum materials. On the same note, the Smithsonian Museum on Main Street exhibition *New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music* will tour Illinois. Other initiatives include:

- expansion of the Road Scholars program and the Speakers Bureau.
- a regrant program for projects furthering the aims of *We the People*.

Indiana Humanities Council

We the People Leadership and Education Programs 2006

The Indiana Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding to expand two of its successful *We the People* programs. The first program is a series of reading and discussion seminars that use selected writing from the founding of the nation and essays on leadership to promote civic dialogue. The seminars will convene leaders from across the state and engage them in a dialogue about the how the principles of the nation's founding inform leadership today. The second program is a series of teacher institutes, where the IHC will bring together K-12 teachers to construct standards-aligned teacher's guides and high tech interactive student models from online learning resources, including primary documents, images, and lesson plans. These have been catalogued into the IHC smartDESKTOP'S Resource Connection, which is a database of links to resources provided by collaborating institutions.

Kansas Humanities Council

Kansans Tell Their Stories Chatauqua

The Kansas Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding to prepare two Chautauqua in June 2007. These events will recognize Kansans Tell Their Stories, a project which strengthens the understanding of Kansas through collection of oral histories and examination of various Kansan experiences. The Chautauqua will share the stories of notable Kansans with the public, including the stories of Clarina Nichols, abolitionist; Langston Hughes, poet; William Allen White, newspaper editor; and Dr. Samuel Crumbine, public health advocate.

Kentucky Humanities Council, Inc.

Prime Time Family Reading, Chautauqua, and Reader Survey

The Kentucky Humanities Council, Inc., will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for three programs, including *Prime Time Family Reading*, a six-week reading and discussion program held in libraries and targeting at-risk youth and their families. Scholars and storytellers will lead audiences in discussions of themes from award-winning children's literature. Other initiatives include:

- a new Chautauqua in celebration of the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth.
- a Chautauqua for Schools, which is a new partnership with Teaching American History regional coordinators and adopts Chautauqua as a classroom tool for enhancing social studies education.
- a readership survey of *Kentucky Humanities* magazine to determine its effectiveness.

Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities

In the Cross Hairs: Louisiana's Hurricane Experience

The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for programs engaging communities in exploration of the state's experiences in Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The Readings in Literature and Culture program (RELIC) will allow participants to express and hear experiences from the hurricanes and other storms. Louisiana Cultural Vistas will continue to capture the swiftly shifting cultural landscape of the post-storm state within its pages. Other initiatives include:

- a regrant program for projects forging links among cultural identity, social groups, race, and class in understanding cultural traditions in a post-Katrina/Rita world.
- a collaboration with scholars, educators, filmmakers, curators, and librarians to develop programs and projects exploring contemporary events surrounding the catastrophes of 2005 in relation to the state and nation's history and culture.

Maine Humanities Council

We the People in Maine

The Maine Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for *Adventures in American Literature*, a pilot of a potentially annual eight-hour program aimed at the general public on a significant piece of American literature. The text will be explored in its cultural and historical context through presentations by a diverse group of scholars. Due to widespread interest in oral history as a research tool, MHC will organize oral history workshops across the state. These will be geared towards non-historians of all ages. Other initiatives include:

- *New Books, New Readers* and *Let's Talk About It*, two of MHC's core programs, which are reading and discussion programs for adults.
- a Cultural Heritage Tour between the Kennebec and Chaudiere Rivers, which have been used for centuries by Native Americans and, later, French and English settlers.

Maryland Humanities Council

We the People of Maryland 2006-2007

The Maryland Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for Maryland History Day, a year-long program engaging middle and high school students in first-hand historical research. Working with classroom teachers, students will select a topic that interest them and undertake primary source research. The results of these studies will be presented through various media, including interpretive papers, historical performances, informative exhibits, and multimedia documentaries. Other initiatives include:

- Speakers Bureau, which offers free speakers to local non-profit groups and organizations.
- a regrant program focused on projects using the humanities to provide context for informed dialogue on critical issues facing Maryland.

Massachusetts Humanities

'...Liberty and Justice for All'

Massachusetts Humanities will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for the first-year of a three-year initiative on the theme ‘Liberty and Justice for All,’ a phrase with many different, often conflicting meanings in our nation’s history. A symposium on *The Least Dangerous Branch?: Liberty, Justice, and the U.S. Supreme Court* will include both a moderated segment and an interactive question-and-answer session with the audience. Sessions during the symposium will include *Judging the Judges: What Makes a Good Justice?; Deciding Justice: What Makes a Good Decision?; and The Supreme Court, Jurisprudence, and Presidential Power?.* Other initiatives include:

- a four-part reading and discussion series in March 2006 exploring the theme of ‘Liberty and Justice for All.’
- a regrant program for projects exploring the understanding of liberty and justice in a modern democratic society.

Michigan Humanities Council

We Made Michigan... We the People

The Michigan Humanities Council will use its 2006 funding to continue and expand its previous *We the People* grant program through a theme-based call for grant proposals that examine events and themes in state and national history related to work. By combining the Council’s major grant programs with WTP funding, additional programs fulfilling WTP objectives will be presented to communities throughout the state. This year’s grant program, under the theme *We Made Michigan... We the People*, will explore the experiences of Michigan’s people, workplaces, and labor efforts and their importance in defining citizens, state culture, and the nation. This analysis of work and identity will come at a time of change in Michigan’s workplaces, with a decline in manufacturing jobs and a major shift in technology and information sharing.

Minnesota Humanities Commission

We the People 2006-07: Tradition & Change

The Minnesota Humanities Commission will use its 2006 *We the People* funding for two new initiatives that will support and give thematic unity to four MHC program areas: the MHC grant program, the Learning in Retirement Network, Museum on Main Street, and teacher institutes. MHC will conduct a week-long teacher institute in August 2007 under the theme ‘A Document for Liberty,’ which will examine the origins and rhetoric of the Declaration of Independence. The institute will also examine the Declaration’s influence on the Revolutionary Era and the 19th and 20th century reform movements. Other initiatives include:

- small grants to partner sites hosting the Museum on Main Street ‘Key Ingredients: America by Food’ exhibit, which will enrich both the content and outreach of the exhibitions.
- regrant programs for projects on ‘Citizenship in America: Rights and Responsibilities’ and ‘America and the World.’

Mississippi Humanities Council

Live, from the Birthplace of America’s Music: An Institute for Teachers

The Mississippi Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding to provide an intensive week-long teacher institute on Mississippi music. This institute, in conjunction with the Museum on Main Street traveling exhibit *New Harmonies*, will provide teachers of Mississippi music and culture—many of whom have little or no formal training in music—with print and electronic resources for classroom use along with the opportunity to tour sites and hear performances.

In conjunction with *New Harmonies*, the Smithsonian traveling exhibit on American roots music, the MHC will provide an intensive one-week seminar on MS music for teachers of MS history and culture and provide print and electronic materials on that topic for classroom and public use.

Missouri Humanities Council

We the People of Missouri: Learning to Tell Our Stories

The Missouri Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding to assist programs that ‘tell’ the stories of Missouri. *READ from the START (RFTS)* outreach, a program to new Americans to discern what it means to be a ‘We’ in *We the People*, will be funded. RFTS provides new books to poor, at-risk parents of infant and preschool children, encouraging family reading and storytelling on America and world histories. Other initiatives include:

- support to Museum on Main Street *Between Fences* exhibit venues.
- a consultancy program for museums, libraries, and historical organizations that help ‘tell’ Missouri’s stories.

- a regrant program.

Montana Committee for the Humanities

We the People in Montana 2006-2007

The Montana Committee for the Humanities will use its 2006 *We the People* funding to support the host Montana Festival of the Book. The Festival of the Book is now in its seventh year, and it has emerged as MCH's signature annual event. The Festival is the largest intellectual and literary gathering in the region. Funds will also be used to support the OpenBook reading and discussion program. OpenBook focuses on connecting civic education, civic discourse, and civic engagement. Other initiatives include:

- a regrant program for projects in American history and culture.
- the Speakers Bureau, which features over 100 titles in state and national history.

Nebraska Humanities Council

We the People – Nebraska

The Nebraska Humanities Council will use its 2006 *We the People* funding to produce an original Chautauqua entitled *Visions for America: Notable Nebraska Reformers*, which will feature scholars portraying William Jennings Bryan, George Norris, Grace Abbott, and Malcolm X. This program will take the place of the Great Plains Chautauqua for the summer of 2007. The Council will also be extending *Capitol Forum on America's Future* to students from western and rural high schools. *Capitol Forum on America's Future* will provide an opportunity for a humanities-based analysis of key issues facing the United States and will employ American democratic values to combat the political apathy of today's youth. High school teachers selected for Capitol Forum will participate in two daylong workshops to learn to use the curriculum developed by Brown University in their American history and U.S. government classes. Teachers and selected students will then participate in a one-day Capitol Forum at the State Capitol that will culminate in a dialogue among students, teachers and elected officials, including Nebraska's Congressional delegation.

Nevada Humanities

Citizenship and Democracy

Nevada Humanities will have a two-part initiative. In the first part, the Council will be supporting the production of four Chautauqua Policy Forums and a series of related *Chautauqua Minutes*, to be produced in partnership with the PBS affiliate in Reno, NV. The four policy forums will take the historic themes addressed by the 2006 Great Basin Chautauqua program and relate them to contemporary political and public policy issues. This will provide a more thorough exploration of key themes in American history, and represents an innovative and cost-effective way to expand the impact of the Great Basin Chautauqua program. The format will be similar to the 2005 Great Basin Chautauqua, which was called Great Confrontations in American History, in which speakers and characters are paired to explore major themes. Related to the policy forums are the *Chautauqua Minutes*, which are brief historical notes patterned after the Bicentennial Minutes that aired nationwide in 1976. These vignettes, which will feature our Chautauqua scholars, will keep issues raised by the Great Basin Chautauqua alive in viewers' minds throughout the year. The second part of the initiative, called the *American History Grant Initiative*, will be a grant program which focuses on the preservation and interpretation of local history and for community-based programs, particularly in rural areas of the state.

NEW JERSEY COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

A Democratic Vision: Forming a More Perfect Union

A Democratic Vision: Forming a More Perfect Union is a 3 part project. The first part is *American Freedom: the History of an Ideal*, which targets low income individuals in NJ, exploring the concept of freedom through history, philosophy, art history and literature. The council will present a two semester Clemente Course in the Humanities, under the direction of the university scholars. Students will consider how the ideal of freedom has been shaped and reshaped through examining founding documents, abolitionist struggles against slavery, congressional debates, presidential proclamations, policy papers, the work of artists and musicians, labor leaders, and ordinary men and women. The course will examine the ideal of freedom from multiple perspectives. The second piece of the project is *American Heroes*, which is a southern NJ teachers seminar looking at the lives and complex decisions of famous and less well known Americans. The council will invite K-12 educators to The Richard Stockton College over eight 3-hour sessions during the academic year to study the lives, complex decisions, and achievements of American heroes. The third component of the project is *George Washington: Founding Our Democracy*, which will

be a week-long residential seminar for NJ K-12 educators to examine the life and legacy of George Washington in his command of the Continental Army, his leadership at the Constitutional Convention and his Presidency. The seminar will include readings, lectures, discussions, films, a field trip, writing and teaching workshops, which will help teachers explore the complexities of the Revolutionary period and the founding of our nation.

NEW HAMPSHIRE HUMANITIES COUNCIL

We the People – The Story America Told A Thousand Ways

The New Hampshire Humanities Council will undertake three major initiatives this year:

- **HUMANITIES TO GO:** For 20 years, the NHHC has offered a vital, unduplicated service – connecting local communities with scholars, sustaining a living culture of interactive, entertaining learning experiences open and free to all. These high quality Humanities To Go (HTG) programs are their most popular offerings and the sole source of cultural programming for many communities in New Hampshire. The majority of these programs focus on American history or culture, including such topics as Chautauqua performance of Abraham Lincoln, the life and culture of the Anasazi Indians, and an exploration of *The American Dream* through literature.
- **WHAT IS NEW HAMPSHIRE READING:** Since the early 1980's, scholar-facilitated book discussions offered by the NHHC have been a mainstay of libraries around the state, providing local residents with books and opportunities for conversation with their neighbors on subjects as diverse as the Founding Fathers, the American Family, and Sport and the American Experience. Since 1994, the Humanities Council has also run a special statewide book discussion series entitled *What is New Hampshire Reading This Month* with a new theme, books, and author visits selected each year. In 2006, we are merging our book discussion catalog with our special annual theme-based series, calling all book-based programs *What is New Hampshire Reading*.
- **VOTE! HERITAGE AND PRIVILEGE TEACHER WORKSHOPS:** This fall, the NHHC will offer a four-part workshop series for public school teachers on the history of voting in America entitled *Vote! Heritage and Privilege*. This professional development series explores particular eras of U.S. history that expanded voting rights: the Women's Suffrage Movement, the Civil Rights Movement which led to the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the enactment of the 26th amendment. The final workshop will explore current voting trends and train teachers to lead a Mock Student Election in their school districts.

NEW MEXICO HUMANITIES COUNCIL

What Does it Mean to be a New Mexican?

The New Mexico Humanities Council will continue to build upon its planning and programming for the New Mexico Centennial of statehood in 2012. They will use regrant projects addressing the topic *What Does it Mean to be a New Mexican?*, a National History Day competition, and an essay contest and awards ceremony for middle and high school students on the theme of *What Does it Mean to be a New Mexican?* With the regrant program, which was inspired by the NEH *We the People* initiative which examines the concepts of freedom and democracy, participants will be asked to discuss who NM's heroes and heroines are and what roles they have played in the state's development. For the National History Day competition, the theme for 2007 is Triumph and Tragedy in History. Four or five regional competitions are held statewide every year with first, second, and third place winners competing at the state finals held annually in Albuquerque. The final project that the NMHC will be focusing on is the essay contest and awards ceremony for middle and high school students on the theme *What Does it Mean to be a New Mexican?* The NMHC staff will circulate essay guidelines to middle and high school students statewide to include private and home school children in grades 7-9. The essay contest offers cash prizes and first place winners in each category will read their essays to a public audience at the awards ceremony, have their essays published in the NMHC newsletter and posted on the NMHC website.

NEW YORK COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

We the People Reading and Discussion Programs

The NYCH will continue to refine, evaluate and expand the reach of its new intergenerational family reading and discussion program focused on universal themes in American culture and will also launch a regionally expandable version of its *Reading Between the Lines for Adults* book discussion program focused on American history, culture life. With the family reading and discussion program, the Council has held a partnership with public libraries around New York State to help literate low-income families read to their children and to engage them in conversations about the issues and ideas found in books. Each

series involves six sessions facilitated by a humanities scholar or librarian. The Council will then offer six series in a range of New York State communities including the original pilot sites. For its version of *Reading Between the Lines for Adults*, adults will engage in facilitated conversations about books related to American history and culture. In the past, graduate students in the humanities have developed and facilitated each of these four-session discussion groups. However, there are a limited number of graduate programs around the state so many interested communities do not have access to the program. For this reason, the Council plans to begin allowing other types of humanities scholars to facilitate these discussion programs. To continue adding to the new series, and to continue the Council's work with humanities graduate students, we will also launch a fellowship program in partnership with the CUNY Center for the Humanities and the University at Buffalo Humanities Institute, offering two year-long fellowships. Fellows will both develop a new series and facilitate it at two sites over the period of a year.

NORTH CAROLINA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

We the People – North Carolina

The North Carolina Humanities Council will continue to support a series of existing programs, which includes a regranting program, a speakers' bureau as well as:

- Let's Talk About It (LTAI) is NCHC's reading-and discussion program designed for libraries. LTAI is one of NCHC's most powerful programs enabling the Council to reach audiences all over the state, especially small towns and rural areas that have a difficult time affording cultural programs without assistance.
- The Teachers' Institute Program since 1983 has provided outstanding public school educators with an intellectual challenge in settings where collegiality between university professors and classroom teachers is encouraged. This summer, the NCHC will host a 10 year "Celebration" of the program for up to 100 TI alumni. Any of the 100 participants can apply to participate in a seminar at the end of the Institute that will be conducted in collaboration with the UNC Library and Documenting the American South and 25 will be accepted.

NORTH DAKOTA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

Scholars on the Road: Talking and Texts

The NDHC plans to create a corps of Chautauqua to research and interpret important figures to the state's history and culture. In March 2006, the NDHC voted to withdraw from the Great Plains Chautauqua Society to develop its own state Chautauqua program. The NDHC plans to select nine scholars in a competitive grant application process for up to \$1,000 in research grant funds to develop a script and essay relating to a historical or literary figure in North Dakota's history. Following the selection of three themes and three scholars for each, the council will invite communities to book each of the programs. The nine scholars will tour the state in groups of three for weekend Chautauqua programs. These same scholars will also conduct programs individually through the Speakers Bureau. The NDHC will also continue development of North Dakota Reads, a new successful book discussion program, which will complement the themes explored the Chautauqua programs. They will fund the purchase of non-fiction works, such as biographies of some of the Chautauqua characters, as well as histories of various eras in North Dakota's past.

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

Embracing Democracy: Vignettes from the Northern Mariana Islands

The origins of democracy in the CNMI can be traced to WWII when the islands were captured by U.S. forces. Over the next 42 years, NMI residents were governed by the U.S. Navy and as a part of a UN trusteeship, before achieving U.S. citizenship under a self-governing Commonwealth in union with the U.S.A. The Council will explore aspects of our democratic form of government through three humanities programs: The Free Press in the NMI; and the Struggle for Civil Rights; and Picturing Democracy.

- The Free Press in the NMI will be examined through three project components that include History of the Media in the NMI, which will document the history of the media in the Northern Mariana Islands from the beginning of the 20th century until present. This project will involve archival research and interviews with individuals knowledgeable about the various media that operated in the NMI including newspapers, magazines, radio and television. The results of the research will be presented in a Council publication, in a traveling museum exhibit, and in other formats for the easy use in the classroom. The second component is Media and the Community, which will comprise a series of public forums to allow for humanities-based discussions on a range of current media-related issues relevant to the NMI. The third component is the Digital

Print Media Database, which will locate and produce digital copies of newspapers, periodicals, and newsletters, both existing and historical. Materials will be scanned and produced as PDF files consistent with the technical specifications established for Phase One of NEH's National Digital Newspaper Program.

- The Struggle for Civil Rights program will comprise of two parts. The first part is a Martin Luther King Chautauqua Series. The council will secure the services of a qualified scholar for Chautauqua performances in schools and public venues on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian. The second part will be the Local Involvement in the Civil Rights Movements, which will collect the oral histories of NMI residents who participated in the civil rights movement and in the indigenous movement of the 1960's and 70's. These interviews will be edited and placed on CD's for distribution to repositories within the NMI.
- The Picturing Democracy is a digital photographic database. The project will involve identifying collections, producing high resolution scans of all available images and organizing the digital images on a set of CD's and on the Council's website to allow for wide distribution.

OHIO HUMANITIES COUNCIL

We the People in Ohio – 2006-2007

The OHC will be supporting several programs this coming year, including the 2006 and 2007 Ohio Chautauquas on the themes of "war and peace" and World War II. The Council is also working on maintaining the Gateway to History Website and a conference for pre-collegiate history teachers, entitled Buckeye Council for History education. The second conference will take place at Ohio University – Zanesville in August 2006. They are also starting a teacher's institute and other programs on Midwestern Foodways in conjunction with the *Key Ingredients* exhibit. OHC has convened an advisory panel of folklore scholars at Ohio universities to plan collateral activities which will include a teachers institute at Bowling Green State University in July 2006 for 25 teachers. The OHC will also be establishing a Cultural/Heritage/Civic Tourism Initiative to help Ohio communities assess and establish tourism priorities. In recent years, OHC has partnered with the state's historical society, arts council, office of travel and tourism and departments of transportation and natural resources, among others, to support the development of state-designated heritage areas and the capacity of individual institutions and communities to communicate their stories to wider audiences.

OKLAHOMA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

Oklahoma We the People 2006-2008

The OHC will present a public lecture featuring a leading humanities scholar, a film festival that explores Oklahoma's image, and place a statewide request for proposals that focus on themes and events in American history as well as interpret the centennial of Oklahoma statehood.

- The public lecture will take place in Oklahoma City and will be the 22nd annual Oklahoma Lecture in the Humanities. The 2007 lecture will feature Chief Wilma Mankiller. Chief Mankiller served as the first female Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation from 1987 to 1995. She is the author of two books and the winner of numerous awards. In her lecture, Mankiller will discuss her perspectives of Oklahoma history as well as the future of the state.
- The Oklahoma Centennial Film Festival will present 8 films about Oklahoma that explore what it means to be an Oklahoman and how these films have shaped the state's identity outside, as well as inside, its borders. Example of films to be shown will include *Cimarron*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Far and Away* and *Twister*. Prior to each film, a scholar will present a 15 minute program about the film and how it has affected the Oklahoma image. A total of 5 scholars will be involved.
- The grant program will fund projects that reflect WTP themes and also interpret Oklahoma's upcoming centennial in 2007. Projects may include lecture series, exhibitions, and documentaries.

OREGON COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

Teacher Institute, Grant Program, and Magazine on Principles of American Democracy and Citizenship

OCH proposes to design and implement a new Teacher Institute on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in American Democracy. This five-day immersion in an intensely intellectual, collegial environment offers teachers new methods and resources to engage their students on important issues in society using the tools of humanities inquiry. The institute will be entitled, *The Good Citizen: What Democracy Demands of Us*, which will be held on July 25-30 in Portland. The OCH will also be offering grants to nonprofit organizations across Oregon to conceive and implement public humanities programs. In the spring of 2007, OCH will curate a special grant cycle to solicit proposals for "One Book" style

community reading and discussion programs that have a thematic focus on American citizenship. The third program that the OCH will be working is *Oregon Humanities*, the Council's thought-provoking magazine devoted to exploring important and timely topics from a variety of perspectives and to stimulate reflection and public conversation. The fall 2006 issue will supplement their current WTP program, *One Principle: Community Conversations*, which features reading and discussion series in small communities in Oregon. This issue will include excerpts from significant texts that speak to the five principles of democracy that OCH has explored in our previous and ongoing WTP programs, as well as commissioned essays that analyze these texts and principles.

PENNSYLVANIA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

Our Stories, Our Future

The PHC will further expand *Our Stories, Our Future* as part of their *We the People* initiative. Their statewide programming will continue to encourage reflection on stories from American History that have importance for our lives today and are critical to our future as a people. Programming will be focused on grants and complemented by speaker presentations, book groups, and promotional activities. Statewide there will be 10 book discussion groups and 70 Commonwealth speakers offered primarily outside urban centers. The program is designed to attract adult readers who might not typically join a book group and use contemporary literature to discuss our nation's past and reflect on generic conventions. Promotional activities will continue to expand their audience, including a widely-distributed view piece and updated website and special events on the American experience.

RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

On Common Ground: What Unites Us? What Divides Us?

The Rhode Island Council for the Humanities will be expanding on a thematic regrants initiative and a film series in collaboration with RI PBS and the Office of Library Information Studies (OLIS). RICH has worked with RI PBS in the past to create a thematic broadcast series and supported the development of original short films about our state. In 2007, RI PBS will broadcast a monthly documentary examining an issue that unites or divides us with a winner from our Short Film Initiative (SFI). Through SFI, local filmmakers create short documentaries revealing the RI connection to the feature film. The vision for 2007 also includes facilitated library discussions, two on-air town hall meetings, and a web resource offering further educational opportunities.

THE HUMANITIES COUNCIL SC

We the People 2007: SC Book Festival, National History Day and Clemente

The major projects the Humanities Council SC has planned for 2007 include the SC Book Festival, a three day series of literary and scholarly events that bring South Carolinians together in an examination of the values and character of our state. The HCSC is also planning to continue support for The Charleston Clemente Course with Trident Technical College, which is a course in humanities for 30-40 disadvantaged, often homeless, Charleston residents. TTC has a 72% success rate and seventeen Clemente graduates have continued their studies. The HCSC will also continue to expand the National History Day, which has offered over eight thousand students the opportunity to develop one of four presentations: an exhibit, a documentary, a performance, or a historical paper. Winners move to the National competition in Washington. HCSC will work on supporting this program as it moves into economically disadvantaged school districts and rural counties.

SOUTH DAKOTA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

Fourth Annual Festival of Books

In 2006, SDHC will be holding its fourth annual Festival of Books in Sioux Falls. The theme will be *Where Readers and Writers Rendezvous*. The U.S. poet laureate and 2005 winner of the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry and the 2005 Pulitzer Prize winner in fiction will headline the event. Authors in the History and Tribal Writers Track include: Joseph Marshal III, frequent Antiques Road Show guest Richard Austin, rare book appraiser and Americana artifact expert, Susan Power, David Laskin, John Glusman, Lawrence Goldstone and Delphine Red Shirt. The 2006 event will feature 50 authors presenting readings and panel discussions, an Exhibitor's Hall, story telling, interactive children's activities, a poetry slam, book signings and free books. The Council expects over 6,000 people come out and join the festivities.

HUMANITIES TENNESSEE

We the People of Tennessee – Stories of Land and Place

Humanities Tennessee will continue to support their 2004 *We the People* project, *We the People of Tennessee – Stories of Land and Peace*. This project supports the digitations and documentation of stories of land and place in 6 communities statewide, creating a database of narratives that communities can use to develop web-based on other programs that explore community life. The Council is nearing the full launch of their software, which would be an internet-accessible database containing data and narratives about places, people, organizations, art and artifacts, historical events and groups of events, all related to each other, and tied to a map through Geographical Information Systems. All records link to one of more of the 10,000+ named Tennessee places identified and located by the USGS and through these named placed to Google Earth and Google Maps. The database holds two general types of narratives. Primary narratives originate outside the database, and include oral histories, historic documents, photographs, descriptions of places or artifacts, narrative histories, analytic essays, traditional folktales, etc. Secondary narratives originate within the database, using the contents of the database to tell or illustrate their narrative, be it a cultural tour, analytic or descriptive essay, on-line museum exhibition, K-12 lesson plan, community, institutional, or family history, etc. They will conduct web-based and live programming statewide to unify the work of our partnering communities, including ongoing web events, a speakers bureau, and a special series at the Southern Festival of Books.

HUMANITIES TEXAS

We the People Programs in Texas

Humanities Texas will sponsor two teacher institutes examining the U.S. - Mexico border in American history entitled *Southwest Vistas: The Border in American History*. Working in conjunction with the University of Houston and the University of Texas at El Paso, Humanities Texas proposes offering two summer institutes exploring these questions. Designed for teachers of U.S. history, Texas history, and world history, *Southwest Vistas* will be held in Houston and El Paso on consecutive weeks in June 2006. Participating teachers will work with leading humanities scholars, exploring topics ranging from the indigenous peoples of the Americas to the significance of the border in contemporary U.S. life. The institutes will also provide teachers an opportunity to share innovative teaching strategies and explore Houston's and El Paso's rich cultural resources as models for using their own communities in teaching state, national and international history. A total of eighty teachers will attend the two institutes. HT will also develop traveling exhibits and make grants to programs exploring WTP topics and offer a public lecture. Two other projects HT will continue to support is a radio program highlighting historically significant Texas figures and events and a local heritage program encouraging communities to explore their unique traditions against the backdrop of U.S. history.

UTAH HUMANITIES COUNCIL

We the People Utah

UHC proposes a diverse array of activities including five successful formats and two new initiatives:

- A grant program funding locally generated projects exploring significant themes and events in American history.
- Road Scholars Speakers' Bureau, which allows public historians, history and political science professors, government officials and journalists with humanities backgrounds speak to public groups.
- *Great Salt Lake Book Festival*, which is an annual free event, brings writers from around the country to read and discuss their work, including well-known historians. For 2006, they have confirmed historian Richard Bushman, a Columbia University professor emeritus whose focus is on American religious history.
- *Utah History Fair*, which is affiliated with the National History Day, hosts multiple competitions at district, regional, and state levels. The 2006-2007 theme, *Triumphs and Tragedies*, invites student projects on topics exploring local, regional, and national history.
- An oral history initiative which is jointly funded and administered with the Utah Division of State History. The resulting stories of veterans, immigrants, Native American tribes, ranchers, miners, ethnic minority groups, and small town centennial celebrations illuminate Utah and American history.
- *My United States* reading curriculum will meet an expressed need for teaching American history, civics, and government.
- *Utah History Minutes*, which are two minute history, segments to be produced and broadcast weekly by a Salt Lake City public radio station, are intended to raise people's awareness of Utah's social, cultural, and political history.

VERMONT HUMANITIES COUNCIL

Sharing Our Past, Shaping Our Future

The VHC plans to build on four areas: public lectures and presentations, grants, reading and discussion programs, and humanities camps. They will run 72 talks and living history presentations from our Speakers' Bureau. They will also run 9 lectures under First Wednesdays, a monthly humanities forum held in 2007 at libraries in six regional hubs and they will run 21 individual discussions of WTP-themed reading and discussion program series for general audiences. The VHC will purchase books for and run WTP-themed reading and discussion programs for low-literacy audiences. In addition, the VHC will be funding two American history-themed Humanities camps for at risk middle school children. These week long day camps reach hundreds of Vermont youth each summer using young adult and children's literature and related activities to build a love of reading and positive peer groups.

VIRGINIA FOUNDATION FOR THE HUMANITIES

We the People in Virginia

Virginia Foundation for the Humanities will be working on 4 different projects in 2006-2007. The first program is a special grants initiative that focuses on African American education during the period between Emancipation and Integration. VHF will award grants to organizations to explore and document the topic, as well as programs that broaden the 2007 commemoration by focusing on Virginia's people, history, traditions, and cultures. The second program is supporting the Center for the Book, which will produce programs featuring *We the People* at its 2007 Virginia Festival of the Book and in schools and libraries. Topics include Virginia Indians, Virginia folk life, Appalachian culture, and civic discourse and engagement, among others. The VHF will also continue to expand on the VFH Radio Humanities Feature Bureau, which produces engaging short features that focus on the diverse people and issues in the humanities throughout Virginia. These features are distributed through Virginia's public radio stations and other services for broadcast during drive-time and newscast programming. Furthermore, the VHF will award a residential fellowship to a scholar whose work expands understanding of the significance of Virginia history and geography and the role of people in them.

VIRGIN ISLANDS HUMANITIES COUNCIL

The Future of the Past: The Business of Cultural Heritage Tourism

The Virgin Islands is exploring the economic benefits of preserving and promoting our culture and heritage through tourism – the mainstay of the Virgin Island economy. In order to explore this topic, the Virgin Island Humanities Council will be holding a Cultural and Heritage Tourism Conference, supporting a VI Heritage Tourism website and publishing the conference proceedings for wide distribution. The conference will link Virgin Islands hospitality industry leaders to renowned international experts and models for successful cultural and heritage tourism development. The two day conference will also present a multimedia exhibit, entitled *My Neighborhood, My Virgin Islands* showcasing VI social histories. There will also be workshops on the following topics: Arts and Humanities, Historic Preservation, Education and Training, Economic Impact and Accountability, Promotion and Marketing, and lastly, Cultural and Heritage Tourism Policy. The website will detail the various historical churches, forts and plantation ruins on all three islands. The publication of cultural and heritage tourism information and plans will include the presentations of the scholars at the conference as well as photographs and summaries of the multimedia exhibit.

HUMANITIES WASHINGTON

We the People in Washington State

Humanities Washington will be expanding four existing programs in 2006 as part of their *We the People* project. These are:

- Project grants to support locally-initiated humanities projects across Washington State.
- Bringing the Museum on Main Street exhibits *Between Fences*, *New Harmonies*, and *Key Ingredients*.
- The Port Hadlock Clemente Course that serves primarily low income women, many of whom are single. The 2006-2007 Clemente Course will explore how our uniquely American relationship to our landscape has defined our political, cultural, and social history through the study of American history, philosophy, art, music, literature.

- Providing training in the new My United States curriculum to 20 trained Motherhead/Fatheread instructors in Washington State. The 12-lesson curriculum teaches civics, history, and government as part of a literacy development course.

WISCONSIN HUMANITIES COUNCIL

A More Perfect Union

A More Perfect Union (AMPU) is a multi-year initiative that illuminates issues of national and local importance through the lens of American history and literature. Annual themes are explored through programs that include book discussions, lectures, panels, publications, and other initiatives, with the belief that the humanities provide a critical and common perspective for the discussion of challenging questions and that the collective reflection on such questions strengthens communities. At the heart of AMPU are the theme-based book discussions, and this year the theme will be “To Ensure Domestic Tranquility.” The programming will coincide with the WHC’s Museums on Main Street exhibit tour of *Between Fences*. By including books that touch up on topics such as land use, international borders, neighborliness, and other arenas in which our definition of who “we” and “others” are contribute to or undermine domestic tranquility, WHC will take advantage of the thematic compatibility of AMPU and *Between Fences*, in hopes of encouraging even greater visibility and participation statewide.

WEST VIRGINIA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

Mining Our History

The Council will explore American and West Virginia historical events and examine their impact on our state’s citizens. The WVHC will support the Ferry Niagara Movement Commemoration in August 2006, which includes public events, an academic symposium, and the development of educator guides and traveling trucks to be placed in public schools. Request for proposals will focus on themes in American and West Virginia history, and will include issues of the southern Virginia coalfields in light of the Sago Mine tragedy and the Harpers Ferry Centennial Commemoration of the Niagara Movement, the cornerstone of the modern civil rights era. The WVHC will also continue to fund the annual McCreight Lecture in the Humanities. This October program presents a national speaker in Charleston. In addition, the Council will be sponsoring a 2006 state tour of the Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit *Produce for Victory: Posters on the American Home Front, 1941-1945*. WVHC will continue to expand its Chautauqua-style *History Alive!* Program to support research of five potential new characters: Susan B. Anthony, Andrew Montour, Rebecca Harding Davis, Frances B. Johnston, and Victoria Woodhull.

WYOMING COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

Between Fences: Exploring Wyoming Boundaries

WCH proposes *Between Fences: Exploring Wyoming Boundaries*, a multi-component project comprised of a film discussion series, book discussion series, speakers’ forum, small grant initiative, and a public television documentary exploring boundaries and borders in Western American life. The theme of fences and borders resonates deeply in a state whose cultural identity remains intertwined with its ranching heritage. From barbed wire fences to the invisible barriers of class, race and religion, the program will encourage Wyoming residents to explore the historical lines and boundaries that divide and potentially unite our state. The film discussion series will explore social barriers and borders in American life, using film as a text. Scholars will consult on film selections and lead post-film discussions. *Reading Wyoming: Living Between Fences* is a 4-part book discussion series reaching 12 communities. *Between Fences Humanities Forum* will support speaker presentations in 20 communities and the *Between Fences* regrant program will support speakers and companion exhibits in the rural communities hosting the *Between Fences* exhibit.