

MISSION STATEMENT

The National Endowment for the Humanities serves and strengthens our nation by supporting high quality projects and programs in the humanities and by making the humanities available to all Americans.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

FY 2018 - 2019 PERFORMANCE PLAN

This document presents the performance plan for fiscal years (FY) 2018 and 2019 for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The plan sets forth indicators of the Endowment's progress in attaining the goals and objectives of the Agency's strategic plan. Together with the strategic plan, it meets the statutory requirements of the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act, which calls for the preparation and publication of updated strategic and performance plans "not later than the first Monday in February of any year in which the term of the President commences…"

The 2019 Budget would eliminate the Agency after orderly termination of operations and funding. For planning purposes only, the performance plan presented in the following pages (as well as the plan's associated strategic plan) assumes that NEH's operations will continue at a level commensurate with recent Congressional appropriations. Under these same assumptions, NEH has recently updated its strategic plan, which will lead to further revisions to our annual performance plan in the weeks to come.

II. Table A		NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES FY 2019 PERFORMANCE PLAN
	IANCE GOALS AND NDICATORS	FY 2019 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
A: Facilitate basic scholarship in the	c research and original humanities.	
1) Provide support for fellowships and stipends that enable scholars—both those affiliated with educational institutions and those working independently—to devote a concentrated period of time to research and writing on significant subjects in all fields of the humanities.		Support would be provided for approximately 200 individual scholars to make significant progress on important humanities research projects through fellowships and stipends.
	orative research projects on ts in the humanities.	Support would be provided for 30-35 important long-term collaborative projects in the humanities such as scholarly editions, translations, archaeological excavations and analyses and other complex, large-scale undertakings. In addition, 25 previously awarded grants would receive ongoing support through NEH matching funds.
3) Encourage international scholarly collaboration in the humanities.		Awards for 20-25 humanities fellowship programs at independent research institutions would support the work of 60-70 humanities scholars who are making significant contributions to scholarship in the humanities.
4) Encourage the use of digital technologies in scholarly research and the dissemination of research findings.		Applicants would be encouraged to harness the vast potential of advanced digital technology in the conduct and dissemination of their research.
Science Foundation record, document, languages worldw	ership with the National on to support projects to , and archive endangered vide, with a special emphasis tive American languages.	Five projects would be supported through the Endowment's multi-year funding partnership with the National Science Foundation to provide awards to scholars engaged in recording and archiving key languages before they become extinct.
course developme Black Colleges an	nities scholarship and related ent by faculty at Historically d Universities, Hispanic- ns, and Tribal Colleges and	Support would enable 10-15 individual scholars who teach at historically black colleges and universities, at Hispanic-serving institutions, and at tribal colleges and universities to make significant progress on important scholarly projects in the humanities through faculty research awards.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2019 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
B: Strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education.	
1) Strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education.	Support for 40-45 NEH summer seminars and institutes would enable up to 500 college teachers and up to 600 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of the humanities. College teachers participating in seminars and institutes during the summer of 2019 would reach approximately 80,000 students annually; school teacher participants would reach approximately 75,000 annually.
	Support for 20-25 "Landmarks of American History and Culture" workshops to take place in the summer of 2019 would enable approximately 1,450 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of American history, particularly as it relates to the relationship between specific sites and the episodes in history, the writers, and/or the artists associated with that location. These teachers would annually reach approximately 215,000 students.
2) Strengthen efforts to enhance the availability and quality of humanities teaching and learning in the nation's community colleges, especially the study of diverse cultures and historical perspectives.	Supporting Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges projects to strengthen community colleges' commitment to educating students on a variety of educational and career paths; this program funds curricular and faculty development projects that help strengthen humanities programs and/or incorporate humanistic approaches in fields that are outside of the humanities. Approximately 10 awards would be made.
	Supporting Humanities Connections projects are enabling faculty at community colleges, colleges, and universities to enhance undergraduate humanities education, to forge links between the humanities and other fields, and to engage undergraduate students in expanded experiential education opportunities. This program funds curricular enhancement projects that help strengthen connections among humanities programs and fields outside the humanities. Approximately 20 awards would be made.
3) Support efforts of faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic- Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities to deepen their knowledge in the humanities and strengthen their humanities offerings.	Humanities Initiatives at Presidentially Designated Institutions would provide approximately 10 grants to support faculty professional development activities for improvement in humanities instruction, as well as other capacity building activities at these institutions.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2019 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
4) Develop and support NEH's EDSITEment web portal as a means of enriching online teaching and learning resources available to teachers, students, and parents.	Special encouragement would be provided for projects that will produce materials for inclusion on EDSITEment, the Endowment's nationally recognized website for K-12 teachers seeking rich humanities resources on the Internet.
C: Preserve and increase access to cultural heritage resources that constitute the cultural and intellectual patrimony of the American people and that are important to research, education, and public understanding of the humanities.	
1) Support the preservation of and expanded access to historically significant collections in libraries, archives, historical societies, and other cultural repositories.	Approximately 25 projects would preserve and/or provide access to 5,000 hours of recorded sound and video collections; 4,000 linear feet of archival documents; and 3 million manuscripts, broadsides, oversize volumes, and other non-print materials.
2) Work in partnership with other institutions, such as the Library of Congress, to digitize and make more accessible historic U.S. newspapers, including newspapers printed in languages other than English.	Cooperative agreements supported through the National Digital Newspaper Program would digitize hundreds of thousands of microfilm pages of historic newspapers.
3) Support the creation of research tools and reference works of major importance to the humanities.	Grants would be made to 8-12 projects to begin or continue work on the preparation of dictionaries, atlases, encyclopedias, and textbases central to knowledge and understanding of the humanities.
4) Work in partnership with the National Science Foundation to support projects to record, document, and archive endangered languages worldwide, with a special emphasis on endangered Native American languages.	Two to 5 projects would support the creation of tools—such as bilingual dictionaries, grammars, and text collections—that document languages threatened with extinction.
5) Support research that leads to new digital tools, technologies, national standards, best practices, and other methodologies for the preservation of collections and cultural resources.	Eight to 10 projects would support the creation of new digital tools, technologies, national standards, best practices, and other methodologies for the preservation of collections and cultural resources.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2019 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
6) Support the training of staff from the nation's cultural repositories in the appropriate procedures for preserving and enhancing access to humanities collections.	Eight to 10 awards would be made for regional and national education programs that are providing training for approximately 450,000 people in U.S. museums, libraries, archives, and historical organizations.
7) Provide support for basic preservation activities to small and mid-sized libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations.	Projects supported would assist in preserving collections at more than 75 institutions in at least 30 states. Approximately 35 percent of the awards would go to first-time NEH grantees.
D: Provide opportunities for American citizens of all ages and wherever located to engage in lifelong learning in the humanities.	
1) Support efforts by museums and historical organizations to produce interpretive exhibitions and educational materials that convey significant humanities themes and topics.	At least 50 grants would support exhibitions, web-based programs, and other public education programs would employ various delivery mechanisms at museums and historical organizations across the country.
2) Support substantive documentary films, radio programs, and online media presentations that advance public understanding of the humanities and promote citizen engagement in consideration of humanities issues and themes.	Twenty to 25 grants for television/radio projects would draw a cumulative audience of approximately 25 million people.
3) Support high quality interpretative panel exhibitions and public programs that interpret the humanities at selected libraries, museums, and cultural organization across the nation through small grants.	At least 30 grants would be made to libraries, museums and cultural organizations that receive smaller versions of NEH-funded exhibitions through the NEH on the Road cooperative agreement to be used for additional public programming.
4) Support humanities projects that make creative use of new technologies to enhance the quality and reach of public humanities programming.	Approximately 15 digital projects would produce online and mobile games and virtual environments, innovative interpretive websites, mobile applications, virtual tours, and other digital formats to engage citizens in thoughtful reflection on culture, identity, and history.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2019 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
E: Maintain and strengthen partnerships with the state humanities councils.	
1) Support state council efforts to develop locally initiated humanities programs for the people in each state.	Support for the programs and operations of 56 state humanities councils would make possible high quality locally initiated humanities programs throughout the nation, including approximately 4,000 reading and discussion programs, 600 exhibitions, 1,100 literacy programs, 1,100 speakers bureau presentations, 800 teacher institutes and workshops, 1,400 conferences and symposia, 400 Chautauqua events, 3,300 media program events, 400 technology projects, 200 preservation projects and 1,400 local history projects.
2) Encourage high quality council-conducted humanities programs in the various states.	Support for the programs and operations of 56 state humanities councils would make possible high quality locally initiated humanities programs throughout the nation, including 12,000 reading and discussion programs, 1,900 exhibitions, 3,400 literacy programs, 3,400 speakers bureau presentations, 2,400 teacher institutes and workshops, 4,200 conferences and symposia, 1,200 Chautauqua events, 9,800 media program events, 1,300 technology projects, 600 preservation projects and 4,000 local history projects.
3) Encourage state humanities councils in their efforts to create and support humanities-rich websites and digital projects.	Support for the programs and operations of 56 state humanities councils would make possible 1,600 high technology projects.
4) Support state humanities councils in ongoing collaborations with colleges and universities, museums, libraries, historical societies, and other institutions.	5,500 collaborations with colleges and universities, museums, libraries, historical societies, and other institutions would be conducted.
5) Recognize and encourage council activities that promote civil discussion, particularly of issues that divide Americans.	5,600 programs to promote civil discussion would be conducted.
F: Provide a focal point for development of the digital humanities.	
1) Provide national leadership in spurring innovation and best practices in the digital humanities.	Approximately 20 Digital Start-Up projects and Digital Humanities Implementation Grants would set the pace for innovation within humanities research and education. These projects would receive extensive media coverage and have a national and international impact on how new scholarship is conducted.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2019 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
2) Encourage and support innovative digital projects and programs that will enhance the way humanities research is conducted and the way the humanities are studied, taught, and presented in the United States.	Four to 5 national summer institutes training American scholars on digital methods for humanities research would be supported. These methods, including geospatial analysis, data mining, sound analysis, information retrieval and visualization, and others, would lead to new research across humanities domains.
G: Strengthen the institutional base of the humanities through financial incentives provided by matching challenge grants.	
1) Encourage and support efforts of educational and cultural organizations to secure nonfederal sources of funding in support of humanities projects and programs.	By FY 2023, NEH Challenge Grants awarded in FY 2019 would leverage at least an equivalent amount of nonfederal donations to recipient institutions in support of their humanities activities.
2) Support universities in preparing for and bringing about wide-ranging changes in humanities doctoral programs to enable students to translate what they learn in doctoral programs into a multitude of careers.	Support would be provided in 1:1 matching grants in support of varied activities designed to encourage doctoral students in multiple career trajectories.
H: Stimulate third-party support for humanities projects and programs.	
1) Return to the NEH's past focus on supporting America's cultural and historical infrastructure.	In order to improve and grow America's cultural infrastructure, NEH will provide matching grants for capital expenditures such as construction projects, the purchase of equipment, sharing of humanities collections, documentation of lost or imperiled cultural heritage, sustaining digital scholarly infrastructure, and the preservation and conservation of humanities collections. These grants help meet the needs of smaller institutions by providing types of funding that are often the most difficult to obtain.
2) Encourage and support efforts of educational and cultural organizations to secure nonfederal sources of funding in support of humanities projects and programs.	Fund-raising by recipients of an NEH matching award will generate more than \$2.2 million in third- party support for humanities projects.
3) Leverage the private sector contributions of the nation's businesses, foundations, and philanthropic-minded individuals on behalf of humanities projects and programs.	NEH partnerships with the private-sector will generate \$1.5 million for exemplary activities in the humanities.

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PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2018 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
A: Facilitate basic research and original scholarship in the humanities.	
1) Provide support for fellowships and stipends that enable scholars—both those affiliated with educational institutions and those working independently—to devote a concentrated period of time to research and writing on significant subjects in all fields of the humanities.	Support will be provided for approximately 200 individual scholars to make significant progress on important humanities research projects through fellowships and stipends.
2) Support collaborative research projects on significant subjects in the humanities.	Support will be provided for 25-30 important long-term collaborative projects in the humanities such as scholarly editions, translations, archaeological excavations and analyses and other complex, large-scale undertakings. In addition, 25-30 previously awarded grants will receive ongoing support through NEH matching funds.
3) Encourage international scholarly collaboration in the humanities.	Awards for 20-25 humanities fellowship programs at independent research institutions will support the work of 60-70 humanities scholars who are making significant contributions to scholarship in the humanities.
4) Encourage the use of digital technologies in scholarly research and the dissemination of research findings.	Applicants will be encouraged to harness the vast potential of advanced digital technology in the conduct and dissemination of their research.
5) Work in partnership with the National Science Foundation to support projects to record, document, and archive endangered languages worldwide, with a special emphasis on endangered Native American languages.	Ten projects would be supported through the Endowment's multi-year funding partnership with the National Science Foundation to provide awards to scholars engaged in recording and archiving key languages before they become extinct.
6) Support humanities scholarship and related course development by faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic- Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.	Support will enable 6-10 individual scholars who teach at historically black colleges and universities, at Hispanic-serving institutions, and at tribal colleges and universities to make significant progress on important scholarly projects in the humanities through faculty research awards.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2018 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
B: Strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education.	
1) Strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education.	Support for approximately 50 NEH summer seminars and institutes will enable more than 500 college teachers and nearly 600 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of the humanities. College teachers participating in seminars and institutes during the summer of 2017 will reach approximately 90,000 students annually; school teacher participants will reach approximately 72,000 annually.
2) Strengthen efforts to enhance the availability and quality of humanities teaching and learning in the nation's community colleges, especially the study of diverse cultures and historical perspectives.	Supporting Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges projects to strengthen community colleges' commitment to educating students on a variety of educational and career paths; this program funds curricular and faculty development projects that help strengthen humanities programs and/or incorporate humanistic approaches in fields that are outside of the humanities. Approximately 10 awards would be made. Supporting Humanities Connections projects are enabling faculty at community colleges, colleges, and universities to enhance undergraduate humanities education, to forge links between the humanities and other fields, and to engage undergraduate students in expanded experiential education opportunities. This program funds curricular enhancement projects that help strengthen connections among humanities programs and fields outside the humanities. Approximately 20 awards would be made.
3) Support efforts of faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities to deepen their knowledge in the humanities and strengthen their humanities offerings.	Humanities Initiatives at Presidentially Designated Institutions will provide approximately 10 grants to support faculty professional development activities for improvement in humanities instruction, as well as other capacity building activities at these institutions.
4) Develop and support NEH's EDSITEment web portal as a means of enriching online teaching and learning resources available to teachers, students, and parents.	Special encouragement will be provided for projects that will produce materials for inclusion on EDSITEment, the Endowment's nationally recognized website for K-12 teachers seeking rich humanities resources on the Internet.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2018 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
C: Preserve and increase access to cultural heritage resources that constitute the cultural and intellectual patrimony of the American people and that are important to research, education, and public understanding of the humanities.	
1) Support the preservation of and expanded access to historically significant collections in libraries, archives, historical societies, and other cultural repositories.	Approximately 30 projects will preserve and/or provide access to 8,000 hours of recorded sound and video collections; 2,000 linear feet of archival documents; and 2.25 million manuscripts, broadsides, oversize volumes, and other non-print materials.
2) Work in partnership with other institutions, such as the Library of Congress, to digitize and make more accessible historic U.S. newspapers, including newspapers printed in languages other than English.	Cooperative agreements supported through the National Digital Newspaper Program will digitize 1,750,000 microfilm pages of historic newspapers.
3) Support the creation of research tools and reference works of major importance to the humanities.	Grants will be made to 8-12 projects to begin or continue work on the preparation of dictionaries, atlases, encyclopedias, and textbases central to knowledge and understanding of the humanities.
4) Work in partnership with the National Science Foundation to support projects to record, document, and archive endangered languages worldwide, with a special emphasis on endangered Native American languages.	Two to 5 projects will support the creation of tools—such as bilingual dictionaries, grammars, and text collections—that document languages threatened with extinction.
5) Support research that leads to new digital tools, technologies, national standards, best practices, and other methodologies for the preservation of collections and cultural resources.	Eight to 10 projects will support the creation of new digital tools, technologies, national standards, best practices, and other methodologies for the preservation of collections and cultural resources.
6) Support the training of staff from the nation's cultural repositories in the appropriate procedures for preserving and enhancing access to humanities collections.	Five to 7 awards will be made for regional and national education programs that are providing training for 300,000 people in U.S. museums, libraries, archives, and historical organizations.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2018 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
7) Provide support for basic preservation activities to small and mid-sized libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations.	Projects supported will assist in preserving collections at 80 institutions in 35 states. Approximately 35 percent of the awards will go to first-time NEH grantees.
D: Provide opportunities for American citizens of all ages and wherever located to engage in lifelong learning in the humanities.	
1) Support efforts by museums and historical organizations to produce interpretive exhibitions and educational materials that convey significant humanities themes and topics.	Fifty grants will support exhibitions, web-based programs, and other public education programs would employ various delivery mechanisms at museums and historical organizations across the country.
2) Support substantive documentary films, radio programs, and online media presentations that advance public understanding of the humanities and promote citizen engagement in consideration of humanities issues and themes.	Sixteen to 20 grants for television/radio projects will draw a cumulative audience of approximately 65 million people.
3) Support high quality interpretative panel exhibitions and public programs that interpret the humanities at selected libraries, museums, and cultural organization across the nation through small grants.	Thirty to 35 grants will be made to libraries, museums and cultural organizations that receive smaller versions of NEH-funded exhibitions through the NEH on the Road cooperative agreement to be used for additional public programming.
4) Support humanities projects that make creative use of new technologies to enhance the quality and reach of public humanities programming.	Approximately 10 digital projects will produce online and mobile games and virtual environments, innovative interpretive websites, mobile applications, virtual tours, and other digital formats to engage citizens in thoughtful reflection on culture, identity, and history.

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F: Provide a focal point for development of the digital humanities.	
1) Provide national leadership in spurring innovation and best practices in the digital humanities.	Approximately 25 Digital Start-Up and Digital Humanities Implementation projects will set the pace for innovation within humanities research and education. These projects will receive extensive media coverage and have a national and international impact on how new scholarship is conducted.
2) Encourage and support innovative digital projects and programs that will enhance the way humanities research is conducted and the way the humanities are studied, taught, and presented in the United States.	Approximately 5 national summer institutes training American scholars on digital methods for humanities research and 5 Digging Into Data Challenge projects will be supported. These methods, including geospatial analysis, data mining, sound analysis, information retrieval and visualization, and others, would lead to new research across humanities domains.
G: Strengthen the institutional base of the humanities through financial incentives provided by matching challenge grants.	
1) Encourage and support efforts of educational and cultural organizations to secure nonfederal sources of funding in support of humanities projects and programs.	By FY 2022, NEH Challenge Grants awarded in FY 2018 would leverage at least an equivalent amount of nonfederal donations to recipient institutions in support of their humanities activities.
2) Support universities in preparing for and bringing about wide-ranging changes in humanities doctoral programs to enable students to translate what they learn in doctoral programs into a multitude of careers.	Support would be provided in 1:1 matching grants in support of varied activities designed to encourage doctoral students in multiple career trajectories.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2018 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
H: Stimulate third-party support for humanities projects and programs.	
1) Encourage and support efforts of educational and cultural organizations to secure nonfederal sources of funding in support of humanities projects and programs.	Fund-raising by recipients of an NEH matching award would generate more than \$2.4 million in third-party support for humanities projects.
2) Leverage the private sector contributions of the nation's businesses, foundations, and philanthropic-minded individuals on behalf of humanities projects and programs.	NEH partnerships with the private-sector would generate \$1.5 million for exemplary activities in the humanities.

I. MEANS OF VERIFYING AND VALIDATING PERFORMANCE MEASURES

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

- **Interim and final reports of grantees** will provide the most comprehensive source of information about the outcomes of NEH-supported work. From these reports the Endowment will regularly compile data about the results of activities undertaken in connection with each of our performance goals.
- To systematize the information collected from grantee reports, NEH continues to develop an **outcomes database** for its grant programs. This database is capturing information about the short- and long-term results of funded projects. At present, it links information about 6,873 humanities research projects in the Endowment's grant information database to bibliographic information about 4,809 published books that these projects produced between 1980 and 2015. As well, current and past grantees can now input data about such additional project outcomes journal articles, websites, documentary films, museum exhibitions, conferences, workshops, computer software, new buildings or equipment, and academic prizes, or about media coverage, such as a book review, newspaper article, or radio interview.
- The Endowment will conduct **site visits** as a means of documenting the progress and accomplishments of selected grantees.
- **Evaluations** of selected projects and programs will be conducted to determine whether program goals are being met.
- Information on **awards**, **prizes**, **and other forms of recognition**, such as favorable press articles, will be collected so that the agency can gain a better sense of the impact and quality of our funded projects.