



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Office of Federal/State Partnership

The Office of Federal/State Partnership brings humanities education, lifelong learning, and public humanities programming to communities across the country by providing general operating support grants to 56 states and jurisdictional humanities councils. Together, Federal/State Partnership and the councils advance public understanding of the humanities, while enhancing public awareness of, access to, and support for the humanities on a local, grassroots level.

State Humanities Councils

State humanities councils are the public humanities in action. Councils offer a wide array of thought-provoking programming that makes rich humanities ideas accessible for general public audiences, fosters discussion, and promotes civic engagement. The work they do is tailored to the resources, demographics, interests, and concerns of their state or jurisdiction.

State humanities councils are independent nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations governed by volunteer boards of directors. They operate, as designated by Congress, in each of the 50 states, in the District of Columbia, and in the jurisdictional territories. The first councils were founded in 1971; the most recent council, the Amerika Samoa Humanities Council, was founded in 1994. The councils employ more than 500 staff members and engage more than 1,000 volunteer board members.

Through council initiatives and grant-making, state councils enrich lives through the humanities—with an emphasis on the specific needs of the communities they represent.

Sample Council Programs include:

- Competitive grants
- Book festivals
- Chautauqua events
- Reading & discussion programs
- Programs for veterans
- Annual lectures and humanities award ceremonies
- Family reading programs
- Programs for teachers
- National History Day
- Clemente courses
- Speakers bureaus
- Humanities festivals
- Exhibitions

Contact information for all state councils: <https://www.neh.gov/about/state-humanities-councils>