



Appropriations Request For Fiscal Year 2022

**Submitted to Congress
May 2021**

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

FY 2022 Appropriation Request

Submitted to Congress May 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	OVERVIEW	1
II.	BUDGET TABLE	6
III.	PROGRAMS	8
	A More Perfect Union.....	8
	Education Programs.....	12
	Federal/State Partnership	20
	Preservation and Access	28
	Public Programs	36
	Research Programs.....	44
	Digital Humanities	52
	Challenge Programs.....	58
	Treasury Matching Funds	63
IV.	PERFORMANCE PLAN	66
V.	ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET	86
VI.	NEH ORGANIZATION CHART	93

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

FY 2022 Budget Request to Congress

“Democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens.”
(*National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965*)

OVERVIEW

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) request for FY 2022 is \$177,550,000:

- \$122,926,000 for NEH’s grant programs in support of projects in the humanities, including \$54,376,000 in awards to NEH’s partners in each of the 56 states and jurisdictions;
- \$6,224,000 for a special initiative, *A More Perfect Union*, which builds on NEH’s 56-year investment in projects that catalog, preserve, explore, and promote American history;
- \$15,600,000 in federal matching funds, including funding for the NEH Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants program to help stimulate and match nonfederal donations in support of humanities institutions and organizations; and
- \$32,800,000 for salaries and expenses needed to operate the agency in an efficient and effective manner.

NEH serves our republic by providing vital support for projects and programs in all areas of the humanities, including history, philosophy, literature and languages, archaeology, political theory, comparative religion, and other areas. Its support reaches every state and territory, and the direct beneficiaries of its funding include libraries, museums, historic houses, community colleges, universities, K-12 teachers, as well as other humanities professionals and organizations. Since its inception, NEH has awarded more than almost \$6 billion in grants that have helped build the nation’s cultural capital.

Yet today, perhaps more than any other time in our history, NEH is poised to make a difference by helping all of us to better our understanding of the challenges of the day – from addressing systemic racism in our nation, to confronting the climate emergency, to strengthening our constitutional democracy. Deeply rooted in humanities research, NEH-supported projects bring the past into sharper focus, thereby bringing about, as our founding legislation affirms, “a better analysis of the present and a better view of the future.”

Enhanced Programmatic Priorities in FY 2022

In FY 2022, NEH will continue the core work of its existing grant programs while also infusing the priorities of the Biden-Harris Administration into them. The Administration's priorities for NEH fall into five categories: advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities; confronting the climate emergency; restoring America's global standing; responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis; and strengthening our democracy. Each of NEH's grant-making divisions and offices will address these new priorities in ways that are best suited to the characteristics of, and grant opportunities provided by, their funding programs. Division- and office-specific programmatic emphases are described in detail in the program-related sections of this budget.

Special Initiative: *A More Perfect Union*

In FY 2022, NEH will expand the scope of *A More Perfect Union*, a special initiative that NEH first launched in FY 2019. This initiative is designed to demonstrate and enhance the critical role that the humanities play in our nation, while also supporting projects that will help Americans commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026. The initiative builds on NEH's investment over the past six decades in projects that catalog, preserve, explain, and promote American history and civic engagement.

NEH's *A More Perfect Union* initiative encourages projects that explore, reflect on, and tell the stories of our quest for a more just, inclusive, and sustainable society throughout our history. NEH especially welcomes projects that bring the perspective of the humanities to questions of racial justice, gender equality, the evolution of the American landscape, as well as America's place in the world. Projects that strengthen Americans' knowledge of our principles of constitutional governance and democracy are strongly encouraged, as are projects that address the experiences of Native Americans and other underrepresented communities. In addition, NEH welcomes projects that develop innovative approaches to sustaining the nation's humanities infrastructure and preserving its historical record.

For a fuller discussion of the *A More Perfect Union* initiative, including plans to broaden its focus in FY 2022, please see pages 8-11 of this budget request.

Core Programs of NEH

Highlighted below are NEH's current programmatic offerings and emphases, which NEH proposes to continue in FY 2022. The goals, accomplishments, and plans for these programs are described in detail in the individual division, office, and program sections of this budget submission.

- Preserve and increase access to cultural heritage resources. In FY 2022, the agency's Preservation and Access grant programs will continue to focus on projects that preserve and reformat the intellectual content of historically significant books and periodicals; preserve and provide access to important archival materials and library special collections; and create

humanities research tools and reference works such as dictionaries, bibliographies, and encyclopedias.

- Support research and scholarship that expand our knowledge and understanding in the humanities. NEH's FY 2022 budget request will provide critical support for advanced humanities research and scholarship in the United States, leading to the publication of articles and books in the humanities. Funding will allow NEH to make hundreds of awards to individual scholars, as well as grants to teams of scholars engaged in collaborative projects, field work, and scholarly editions that enrich our knowledge of the people, ideas, and events that make up the record of civilization.
- Strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education. In FY 2022, NEH will continue its support for teacher and faculty professional development, the creation or expansion of higher education humanities curricula, and the agency's veterans' initiative. These programs foster a deep engagement with the disciplines of the humanities and help participants acquire knowledge that is crucial for an educated citizenry. The ultimate beneficiaries of these programs are the hundreds of thousands of American students who annually are taught by reinvigorated and intellectually engaged instructors.
- Provide opportunities for Americans to engage in lifelong learning in the humanities. In FY 2022, NEH will provide support for public humanities projects that will enable millions of Americans to engage deeply with significant works, ideas, and events through the lens of the humanities. NEH supports a wide range of public humanities projects that reach large and diverse audiences. These projects make use of a variety of formats including educational programming for television and radio, documentary films, museum exhibitions, and historic sites, as well as for websites, virtual games, and other digital media.
- Support for the programs and activities of the state and jurisdictional humanities councils. NEH's work in FY 2022 will be complemented and extended by the programs and projects of the NEH-affiliated humanities councils in the states and U.S. territories. With their strong networks of cultural and educational institutions within their states and jurisdictions, the councils are able to reach citizens in diverse and remote settings that NEH's national programs may not be able to reach. Every council has a distinctive programmatic mix that is tailored to the needs and interests of the citizens of that state or jurisdiction.
- Provide national leadership in spurring innovation and best practices in the use of the digital humanities. In the humanities, as in the sciences, digital technology has changed the way scholars perform their work. While NEH supports digital projects in all of its major grant programs, it is through its Office of Digital Humanities that NEH fosters the development of a wide variety of innovative digital humanities projects.
- Strengthen the institutional base of the humanities. The NEH Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants matching program in FY 2022 will continue to assist educational and cultural institutions—such as colleges, universities, museums, public libraries, historical

societies, and state humanities councils—in developing non-federal sources of support for their humanities programs.

- Stimulate third-party contributions to humanities projects. Encouraging private-sector support for cultural activities is an important goal of the agency. NEH requests FY 2022 funding for its Treasury funds account, which will be used to match nonfederal contributions to individual projects in the humanities. NEH Treasury matching grants, which match nonfederal donations on a one-to-one basis, have proven to be an effective mechanism for leveraging the contributions of businesses, foundations, and individuals on behalf of the humanities. From the establishment of the agency in 1965 through FY 2020, NEH matching grants for discrete humanities projects have stimulated nearly \$460,000,000 in third-party donations.
- Expand outreach to underserved communities. In FY 2022, NEH will continue to ensure that the humanities reach all Americans through its programming for historically underserved communities. These programs include fellowships or educational programming for faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Hispanic-serving Institutions, as well as community colleges. NEH also supports the documentation and preservation of endangered languages worldwide and programs for U.S. veterans. NEH will also expand its communications and outreach efforts to reach underserved communities, including the development of Spanish language resources.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

FY 2022 Appropriation Request

(\$ in thousands)

	<u>FY 2020</u>	<u>FY 2021</u>	<u>FY 2022</u>
	<u>Approp.</u>	<u>Approp.</u>	<u>Request</u>
<i>A More Perfect Union</i>	4,172	\$5,724	\$6,174
Education Programs	12,250	13,000	13,500
Federal/State Partnership	50,028	51,576	54,376
Preservation and Access	19,000	19,000	19,500
Public Programs	13,500	13,500	14,000
Research Programs	14,500	14,500	15,000
Digital Humanities	4,600	5,000	5,500
<u>Program Development</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>1,100</u>
Subtotal	118,550	122,800	129,150
 Challenge Programs	 12,500	 13,000	 13,600
<u>Treasury Matching Funds</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Subtotal	10,900	15,000	15,600
 <u>Administration</u>	 <u>29,200</u>	 <u>29,700</u>	 <u>32,800</u>
Total	\$162,250	\$167,500	\$177,550

A MORE PERFECT UNION

FY 2022 Request: \$6,174,000

NEH's special initiative, *A More Perfect Union*, is designed to demonstrate and enhance the critical role the humanities play in our nation, while also supporting projects that will help Americans commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026.

A More Perfect Union builds on NEH's 56-year investment in projects that catalog, preserve, explain, and promote American history. The letters, memos, and telegrams of 10 presidents and leading American figures are available in edited volumes and online databases. Authoritative editions of American literature fill bookshelves, along with Pulitzer-Prize winning histories and biographies made possible through NEH support. *Chronicling America*, a partnership with the Library of Congress, provides access to almost 18 million pages from 156,720 newspapers from 48 states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands in its free online database. A team of historians assembled the records of 12 million enslaved Africans into a public database, changing our understanding of the slave trade in the process. NEH-supported films on topics ranging from Prohibition to the Vietnam War to the quest to land on the moon are available on PBS and streaming platforms. Exhibitions, historic sites, and humanities discussion programs provide ways for people to engage with American history in a variety of formats. Cutting-edge platforms offer American history-based games and interactive experiences grounded in the latest scholarship.

In FY 2021, *A More Perfect Union* built on this legacy by supporting a diverse range of projects through NEH's existing grantmaking divisions. A special encouragement to submit initiative-related proposals was included in the notice of funding opportunity for all NEH programs. Also, some programs, such as Scholarly Editions and Translations and Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions, offered additional funds to support initiative-related projects, while such programs as Short Documentaries and Humanities Discussions were redesigned for initiative-related projects only.

NEH also continued targeted efforts to support projects that make American history accessible, secure our nation's historical record for the future, and help create informed citizens. These projects include:

- A partnership with the National Museum of African American History and Culture to support the History and Access Consortium through a five-year pilot project that will strengthen the archives and museums of five Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The archives contain many yet-to-be told stories about the historical and cultural contributions of African Americans who attended Clark Atlanta University, Florida A&M University, Jackson State University, Texas Southern University, and Tuskegee University. The project will secure the historical legacy of these HBCUs, while enhancing scholarly and public access to their cultural collections through an open-source digital platform, a national traveling exhibition, and catalogue. The project also provides professional development for a new generation of museum and archival professionals.

- A partnership with the Smithsonian American Art Museum to support research, educational programs, and digital resources for the East Baltimore Documentary Survey Project. During the nation's bicentennial, more than 70 cities were photographed to create a historical record, including Baltimore. In advance of America's Semiquincentennial, the East Baltimore photographs are being used for a pilot project for a larger effort to explore the histories of the documented cities 50 years later. Research for the Baltimore project uncovered 1,000 transparencies of the original photographs, along with a series of oral histories done with East Baltimore residents from 1975-1980. The exhibition, "Welcome Home: A Portrait of East Baltimore: 1975-1980," is tentatively scheduled to open in July 2021 at the Smithsonian American Art Museum.
- The continuation of a three-year cooperative agreement with the Foundation for the Advancement in Conservation to examine the state of conservation in the United States, establish a forward-looking vision for the preservation of the nation's cultural heritage, and identify future priorities. This project will help preservation professionals harness technological developments and new methodologies to address environmental and structural challenges that endanger our nation's historical record.
- A cooperative agreement with iCivics to assess the state of civic education and knowledge of American history in K-12 schools. The multi-year project, supported by NEH and the U.S. Department of Education, released its Educating for American Democracy report and roadmap in March 2021. The roadmap, the result of a collaboration across ideological lines of more than 300 historians, political scientists, K-12 educators, local and state administrators, and education experts, provides tools that can be used by any school district in the country to enhance the teaching of American history and civics in the classroom.
- Additional funding to the state and jurisdictional humanities councils to enhance civic education at the local level and provide Americans of all backgrounds the opportunity to reflect on our shared American history and ideals. The state and jurisdictional humanities councils are uniquely positioned to create and deliver high-quality programs grounded in the humanities at a grassroots level. Programming will begin in the summer of 2021.
- The continuation of a three-year program with National History Day to highlight diverse perspectives on the American Revolution, the early American Republic, and the efforts to create a more perfect union throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. Each year more than a half a million middle- and high-school students create history-focused projects as part of a national competition. "Communication in History: The Key to Understanding" served as the contest theme for 2021. Companion materials were also developed for EDSITEment, NEH's portal for teachers seeking high-quality humanities resources for the classroom.

We are proud of the work that has been done despite the challenges of the pandemic. All of our grantees and partners responded to the challenging conditions with fortitude and creativity, allowing the projects to continue and, in many cases, complete their work.

In FY 2022, *A More Perfect Union* will be shifting its focus to projects that bring humanities perspective to bear on broad questions raised by the COVID-19 pandemic, our ongoing national

reckoning on racial justice, and the recent challenges posed to the very fabric of our democracy. Events of the past year have reinforced the need for the humanities to help the American public make sense of the country's origins and its history. Indeed, NEH's authorizing legislation charges the agency to demonstrate "the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life." To that end, the language of the initiative has been updated to reflect the Administration's goals and to address questions vital to our current conditions, while continuing to lay the groundwork for the Semiquincentennial. The new guiding language for the initiative reads as follows:

"The American story depends not on any one of us, not on some of us, but on all of us. On 'We the People' who seek a more perfect Union." —President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. Inaugural Address, January 20, 2021

The task of building a more perfect union, rooted in the ideal of human equality, falls to every generation of Americans, ours no less than our predecessors'. The basic goals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness endure over time, even as the challenges change: from founding a nation out of colonies; to dismantling the institution of slavery; to prevailing through times of economic depression and war; to advancing civil rights for all; to strengthening our democratic institutions; to building a more inclusive and sustainable society.

NEH's *A More Perfect Union* initiative encourages projects that explore, reflect on, and tell the stories of our quest for a more just, inclusive, and sustainable society throughout our history. NEH especially welcomes projects that bring the perspective of the humanities to questions of racial justice, gender equality, the evolution of the American landscape, as well as America's place in the world. Projects that strengthen Americans' knowledge of our principles of constitutional governance and democracy are strongly encouraged, as are projects that address the experiences of Native Americans and other underrepresented communities. In addition, NEH welcomes projects that develop innovative approaches to sustaining the nation's humanities infrastructure and preserving its historical record.

A More Perfect Union calls on scholars, teachers, filmmakers, museums, libraries, state councils, and other individuals and institutions engaged in the humanities to develop projects that address one or more of these themes. To illustrate NEH's approaches to these areas, consider the following:

- **Impact of climate change on our history**

NEH has a long history of funding projects that help protect important documents, artifacts, and buildings against the ravages of time. Technologies and methodologies developed through NEH grants have also provided archivists and curators with new tools for preserving the past and making historic collections accessible to the future. *A More Perfect Union* will continue to build on this work by supporting projects aimed at ensuring the survival of our historical records in communities across the country. The initiative will also invite projects that consider how the environment and its evolution influenced our nation's history.

- **Racial and gender equity**

The fight for racial and gender equity is integral to the history of the United States and NEH has long prioritized making this history accessible to the public. NEH’s support of the Frederick Douglass Papers and the Freedmen and Southern Society Project has transformed our understanding of the Civil War and Reconstruction. The NEH-supported Papers of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton also revealed the challenges faced by the suffrage movement and its blind spots to the rights of African American women. NEH-supported films, including *The Vote*, which tells the story of the fight for women’s suffrage, and *Freedom Riders*, which follows the harrowing effort to desegregate interstate bus travel, brought key moments in the struggle for equality to life. *A More Perfect Union* will continue to look for opportunities to cultivate scholarship, enhance classroom learning, and foster public engagement with the history of racial and gender equity in our country. There are many stories yet to be told—and familiar stories in need of fresh eyes.

- **Civic education**

For more than five decades, NEH has invested in civic education by supporting films, document collections, books, humanities-based games, and more. The recent work done by iCivics’s Educating for American Democracy project underscores the need for additional resources to help teachers in the classroom and beyond. There is also a pressing need to provide adults with opportunities to refresh their civics knowledge and engage with American history. Being an informed citizen is an ongoing project and *A More Perfect Union* intends to continue to fund innovative projects that help the American people understand the Constitution, its history, and its meaning to their daily lives.

Finally, NEH will continue to work with the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission on plans for 2026. The legislation establishing the Commission states that the NEH Chairperson shall “cooperate with the Commission, especially in the encouragement and coordination of scholarly works and artistic expressions focusing on the history, culture, and political thought of the period predating the United States Semiquincentennial.” We were pleased to have our role as an ex-officio member of the Commission made official and look forward to continuing to collaborate with its members.

DIVISION OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS

FY 2022 Request: \$13,500,000

Program Categories

- Summer Institutes for School Teachers and for College and University Teachers
- Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshops
- Dialogues on the Experience of War
- Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges
- Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities
- Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities
- Humanities Connections
- EDSITEment
- Cooperative Agreements and Special Projects

Program Goals and Accomplishments

Through its Division of Education Programs, the National Endowment for the Humanities offers humanities programming for teacher and faculty professional development; for veterans returning to academic life; and for the creation or expansion of higher education humanities curricula. The Education Division also maintains an award-winning website for K-12 educators and home-schooling parents that makes available hundreds of classroom-ready resources in the humanities. In addition, through Cooperative Agreements and Special Projects, the Division supports a variety of projects targeted at advancing the teaching and learning of civics and history at the K-12 level, and at fostering the integration of the humanities into postsecondary STEM programs. These programs, which are undergirded by rigorous humanities scholarship, foster a deep engagement with the disciplines of the humanities and help participants acquire knowledge that is crucial for an educated citizenry.

Summer Institutes

For more than five decades, NEH Summer Institutes have been one of the nation's premier forms of professional development in the humanities. Each NEH Summer Institute engages 25 to 36 participants in an intensive program of study with teams of humanities scholars who present a range of perspectives on a given theme. By studying subjects such as history, literature, religion, philosophy, world languages, and civics, educators deepen their knowledge of the subjects they teach and develop effective ways of bringing this understanding to their students.

Over the past year, restrictions on travel and in-person gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic forced a number of changes in our Institutes program. In some cases the projects were postponed to the summer of 2022, and in other cases projects elected to experiment with virtual programming for the summer of 2021.

In FY 2021, many summer institutes will focus on civic engagement or the history, culture, and literature of historically underserved communities. For example, K-12 literature teachers may

apply for NEH-supported institutes on topics such as the writings of Frederick Douglass or the visual and literary cultures of the Islamic world. History and social studies teachers will be able to choose from such topics as women and colonization in early America; the First Amendment in 21st-century America; and abolition, Reconstruction, and the civil rights movement. Other projects for K-12 educators will focus on Harlem's education movements; communities on the Texas borderlands; the history of migration; and disability in history, literature, and the media. College-level faculty will be able to study, among other topics, the writings of Zora Neale Hurston; the visual culture of the Civil War and its aftermath; the New Deal; the role of radio in the history of decolonization; cartography and the mapping of nature across the Americas; and the concept of atrocity from the perspective of victims, using the Holocaust era as a case study.

Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshops

The Landmarks of American History and Culture program supports summer workshops that educate K-12 teachers from across the United States in the use of historical and cultural sites so that they may better teach important themes and topics in American history, civics, and culture. Landmarks workshops are held at or near presidential residences and libraries; colonial-era settlements and missions; historic forts and battlefields; industrial centers; and sites associated with notable writers, architects, and artists. Workshops involve leading scholars and help participants develop new teaching resources. Projects accommodate 36 teachers at one-week sessions, which are offered twice during the summer.

In FY 2020, Landmarks workshops were postponed because of pandemic restrictions placed on travel, on visitation at historic sites, or on the project directors' home institutions. In summer 2021, 11 of these projects will be joined by five projects funded in the most recent fiscal year. All but one will be held online.

Among a wide selection of opportunities, a number of this year's Landmarks workshops will also examine familiar and less-well-known landmarks of America's history. K-12 educators will be able to choose workshops on such topics as Mesa Verde National Park and Pueblo Indian history; slavery in the colonial North; the history of Mobile, Alabama's Africatown; Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the Northwest; and school desegregation in Virginia.

Dialogues on the Experience of War

In 2016, NEH created a new grant program, Dialogues on the Experience of War. This program supports the study and discussion of important humanities sources about war, in the belief that these sources can help U.S. military veterans and others think more deeply about the issues raised by war and military service. Projects are mainly designed to reach military veterans; however, projects involving discussion groups that integrate veterans with civilians, men and women in active service, and military families are welcome. Project teams are expected to include humanities scholars, military veterans, and individuals with relevant experience.

The Dialogues program promotes discussions of questions about the nature of duty, heroism, suffering, loyalty, and patriotism. Awards support the recruitment and training of discussion leaders, followed by the convening of at least two discussion programs. Applications come from a wide array of institutions, including universities, two- and four-year colleges, library systems,

museums, theater companies, state humanities councils, and veteran-serving non-profit organizations.

Among this program's noteworthy awards was a recent grant to Indiana University in support of a discussion series for veterans and civilians on the concepts of war and justice, using the Spanish American War and the Vietnam War as points of comparison. Veterans and civilians in the Indianapolis area will use historical documents, fiction, and film to ground their discussion of project themes. Another grant was awarded to National University in La Jolla, California, in support of discussion groups for veterans, active-duty military personnel, and civilians. The groups will use epic poetry, narrative non-fiction, memoir, and history to illuminate themes such as trauma, loyalty, heroism, and homecoming. These themes will be explored in the context of the Trojan War, the Vietnam War, and the Iraq War.

Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges

Established in 2016, the Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges program supports institutional needs in humanities programming at the nation's two-year institutions, which collectively educate 40 percent of America's post-secondary students (over half of whom identify as other-than-white). Grants in this program give institutions a wide berth in developing programs and initiatives that are likely to work well within their particular communities and organizational structures. Grant support is available to enhance existing humanities programs or courses, or to develop new ones. New courses are often developed in association with areas of more practical study, such as business, law, economics, technology, and nursing. The grants can also support collaborative projects between the grantee and a nearby college, university, or K-12 school district.

Within the considerable variety of funded topics, we note two important clusters: projects that engage deeply with the community and region, and projects that integrate the humanities across the curriculum, especially in career development fields. For example, Capital Community College in Hartford, Connecticut, received an award to explore Hartford's African American history by creating a digital archive of materials related to the Talcott Street Church, on whose grounds the college now stands. This grant is also helping college faculty and local high school teachers incorporate these materials into their courses. Another example is a grant recently awarded to Trocaire College in Buffalo, New York. Grant funds are being used to develop an applied ethics minor, which would be especially suited to the nearly 50 percent of the college's students who study in healthcare and technology fields.

Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities

In 2003, in response to Executive Orders from the White House that were directed to all federal agencies, the Division established the Humanities Initiatives program umbrella to extend the reach of its grant opportunities to three types of traditionally underserved institutions: Hispanic Serving Institutions, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and Tribal Colleges and Universities. Grants made under these three Humanities Initiatives programs may be used to enhance the humanities content of the institutions' existing programs or develop new programs, such as native language programs or summer bridge programs for high school students. The funded projects may build ties among faculty at several institutions or take advantage of

underused humanities resources in the surrounding community. The projects may also use grant funds to build curricular ties between the humanities and the professions, such as medicine, law, business, or economics.

Awards have been made for a range of topics, using a variety of approaches. For example, William Paterson University—a Hispanic Serving Institution in Wayne, New Jersey—will create a new minor program in data storytelling that will integrate humanistic perspectives and methods into applied data science. Students will learn to analyze and interpret data; understand the data’s cultural, political, and ethical implications; and use data to communicate ideas and create new knowledge. Southern University at New Orleans, an HBCU in Louisiana, will create course modules to train students in oral history methods. Students will collect and interpret oral histories of early residents of Pontchartrain Park, the first all-Black suburb in New Orleans. The histories will be integrated into courses dealing with issues of residential segregation and integration, the impact of Hurricane Katrina, and gentrification. When completed, the histories will be archived at the Amistad Research Center. Nebraska Indian Community College, a Tribal College with three branch campuses, will develop curriculum materials focusing on Omaha tribal culture, using digital resources wherever appropriate. Working with the Berlin Museum of Ethnology, the college will create digital images of artifacts collected by 19th-century Omaha tribal member and anthropologist Francis La Flesche; create a new course on La Flesche and the associated collection; incorporate the digital materials into existing courses; and develop educational programs for the surrounding community.

Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities

Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities, implemented in 2020, is designed to meet the needs of institutions that are ineligible for funding under the Humanities Initiatives programs described in the two preceding sections. As the earlier programs matured, the Division became increasingly aware that the Initiatives grant offerings could be enhanced by creating greater access for institutions whose needs have gone unaddressed, such as predominantly Black institutions, community colleges transitioning to four-year degree programs, and a broad array of technical colleges and universities that serve students from a variety of backgrounds and ethnic and racial groups.

Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities, like the other Humanities Initiatives programs, is open and flexible in design, encouraging institutions to consider how they might create curricula, programs, or faculty development opportunities that meet their particular needs. The first competition for this new program received 81 applications from a range of institutions, including large research universities, liberal arts colleges, and teaching-focused state colleges. St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New York, received an award from the program’s first competition. Their grant will support the development of several new courses for first-year students at the college. These courses will make use of Rochester’s rich history, including its historic sites and landscapes, to examine such issues as race and segregation, poverty, and the relationship of humans to place. Northeastern Oklahoma State in Tahlequah received an award to develop an online, interactive map and database to document the history of the surrounding region—a region that was the center of a 19th-century “Cherokee renaissance.” Participating faculty will work together to develop teaching materials related to the interactive map

Humanities Connections

In 2017, NEH launched a program to support curricular innovations that address current challenges for the humanities in institutions of higher education. This program, called Humanities Connections, encourages projects that promote: (1) a substantive and purposeful integration of the subject matter, perspectives, and pedagogical approaches of two or more disciplines; (2) collaboration between faculty from two or more separate departments or schools at one or more institutions; (3) experiential learning as an intrinsic part of the institution's curricular plan; and (4) long-term institutional support for the proposed curriculum innovations. The Division consulted extensively with the field to have a better understanding of programming that would best meet the needs of prospective applicants.

Applicants to Humanities Connections may seek funding for either a planning grant (one year) or an implementation grant (up to three years). Awards, examples of which are described below, draw from a range of fields, with medical humanities, humanities and technology, and the environmental humanities being particularly prominent among them.

The University of Wisconsin at Eau Claire received a Humanities Connections Planning Grant to develop the framework for a health humanities certificate program that draws on the expertise of faculty in the humanities, sciences, and healthcare. Project personnel will collaborate with local organizations to create internship opportunities for students enrolled in the program. Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, Illinois, received a Humanities Connections Implementation Grant to create a general education pathway for underserved, at-risk students that will introduce them to the ways in which diverse disciplines approach the design and communication of scholarly research. Student teams, led by faculty and a community partner, will conduct research on various topics, including the impact of climate change on local communities.

EDSITEment

EDSITEment is a nationally recognized website for K-12 humanities teachers. This Division-supported website, which averages 200,000 unique users each month, offers lesson plans, multimedia resources, and digital learning tools for teaching history, civics, literature, arts, language, and culture. EDSITEment has remained a trusted source for high quality materials by public, private, and home school educators since its launch in 1997. As part of NEH's *A More Perfect Union* initiative, the site houses special collections of resources and digital materials focusing on the Revolutionary War, the Declaration of Independence, and the U.S. Constitution. EDSITEment is part of a network of partnerships, including National History Day and the Civics Renewal Network, which offer assistance to teachers seeking to enhance their students' understanding of the foundations of the American democratic system.

Cooperative Agreements and Special Projects

Cooperative Agreements and Special Projects support education-related activities that fall outside the Division's regular programming categories.

The Division has entered into three cooperative agreements that support innovative approaches to teaching and learning in the humanities:

1. iCivics, Inc. This cooperative agreement, which is a component of NEH’s *A More Perfect Union* initiative, arose out of a 2019 interagency agreement between NEH and the Department of Education. The two agencies provide joint funding to iCivics in support of the project titled Educating for American Democracy. This three-year project is designed to address the poor state of civics and history education in the U.S., with special attention to underserved communities. The project has three objectives: evaluating the current state of history and civics curricula and resources; creating a Roadmap for Excellence in history and civics education; and discussing and sharing the Roadmap. The project encourages learners to grasp the value of American democracy and promises to equip participating students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities they will need to help sustain a thriving republic.
2. National History Day. A three-year cooperative agreement between NEH and National History Day, Inc. (NHD), and implemented in 2020 as part of NEH’s *A More Perfect Union* initiative, extends and expands NEH’s ongoing partnership with National History Day. The Division’s support of NHD helps make possible the organization’s annual “History Day” competition; a “Day on the Hill” for participating students to interact with their Congressional representatives; outreach to teachers through workshops and webinars; and an “Ask the NEH Expert” video series. The most recent iteration of this long-running cooperative agreement introduces several new activities in response to the *A More Perfect Union* initiative: an article in each year’s theme book that emphasizes *A More Perfect Union* topics; resources to help students and teachers better understand our nation’s founding, such as a new lesson and activity book related to the American Revolution and the early Republic; and a live-streamed, day-long teacher workshop featuring discussions by leading historians as well as illustrations of hands-on pedagogical strategies.
3. Teagle Foundation. A five-year cooperative agreement with the Teagle Foundation for “The ‘Cornerstone’ Approach to Reinvigorating General Education,” implemented in 2020, is designed to revitalize the role of the humanities in undergraduate education. The current agreement was adapted from a successful foundation-supported project at Purdue University in 2017—a project that attracted 40 percent of Purdue’s incoming first-year class and helped reverse the decline in credit hours in the university’s College of Liberal Arts. The agreement has adopted two key curricular elements of the Purdue project: (1) using foundational humanities texts to explore enduring human questions in gateway courses, and (2) creating thematically organized general education pathways that link the humanities to students’ professional aspirations. An important goal of this agreement is to attract a wide variety of participating institutions—including state and regional universities, small liberal arts colleges, and minority-serving institutions—that will replicate the program by adapting it for their own needs.

The Division has initiated two Special Projects that provide support for innovative approaches to teaching and learning in the humanities:

1. Association of American Medical Colleges. The association’s Division-supported project, “The Fundamental Role of the Humanities and Arts in Medical Education,” seeks to create curricular resources and faculty professional development opportunities to help integrate the humanities and arts into education in the medical professions. NEH funding is also supporting the maintenance of a digital resource collection for educators in health professions.

2. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. In 2019, NEH awarded the National Academies a grant to disseminate the findings and recommendations of an earlier NEH-supported report, “Branches from the Same Tree: The Integration of the Humanities and Arts with Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in Higher Education.” In April 2019, the Academies held a national convening to review, extend, and disseminate their findings. This convening was followed by the publication of “Proceedings,” which summarized practices and strategies that could be used for campus-based town hall discussions of the topics discussed at the national convening. Between April 2019 and September 2020, the National Academies held over 50 town hall meetings at campuses across the country to disseminate the findings of the report (which was also made freely available on the organization’s website). By August of 2020, over 10,000 copies of the full text of the report had been distributed or downloaded, reaching readers in 50 states and 124 countries. This places the project within the top one percent of all products published by the National Academies Press.

Program Plans for FY 2022

In addition to sustaining the core work of the grant programs described above, the Division of Education Programs will seek to broaden its reach and impact in ways that are responsive to the Administration’s priorities. Among the programmatic changes being considered for FY 2022 is an expansion of the Division’s Humanities Initiatives programs that aim to advance equity in education. This effort would focus on two areas: (1) creating a smaller grant program for institutions that lack the capacity to manage the size and scope of current Humanities Initiatives awards (mostly Tribal Colleges, as well as under-resourced HBCUs and community colleges); and (2) offering underserved institutions more generous funding than is currently available under the Humanities Initiative program.

The Division will also explore a program for civics education at both the K-12 and post-secondary levels, and another program for undergraduates, with a particular focus on students from underserved communities. This latter program would mirror successful efforts in the sciences by fostering, through mentoring and special research opportunities, the intellectual development of students considering a major in the humanities.

Finally, the Division expects to assist in the Administration’s efforts to enhance America’s global standing by exploring a program that would help to revitalize the teaching and learning of world languages and culture, which have declined markedly in the past two decades. Such programming will provide American students with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge that is essential to the development of a globally informed citizenry.

FEDERAL/STATE PARTNERSHIP

FY 2022 Request: \$54,376,000

The Office of Federal/State Partnership serves as NEH's liaison with the state and jurisdictional humanities councils. The councils, which represent all 50 states and the six jurisdictions (American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands), are nonprofit organizations run by volunteer boards. Approximately 40 percent of NEH's annual appropriation of grant funds is awarded to the humanities councils through the General Operating Support Grants program. The amount awarded to each council is determined using a legislated funding formula. The Office of Federal/State Partnership administers this grant program, monitors council activity, and provides network-wide communication channels and capacity-building resources.

The state and jurisdictional humanities councils were established to fulfill the requirement in the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended, that NEH support humanities programs "in each of the several states." The councils play a critical role in advancing NEH's mission to deepen knowledge and understanding of the humanities and to increase public awareness of, access to, and support for the humanities throughout the United States. Through a mix of regrants and council-sponsored programs, the councils support a wide-array of humanities activities that are tailored to the cultural resources, demographics, interests, and needs of the state or jurisdiction. In order to expand reach and welcome new and diverse audiences, the humanities councils partner with schools, libraries, historical societies, museums, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, community colleges, public media, businesses, social service organizations, and state and local governments.

The councils employ more than 500 staff members and engage approximately 1,000 volunteer board members. In accordance with the councils' federally legislated requirements, every NEH dollar a council receives must be matched by local contributions of cash, goods, or services. On average, however, councils actually leverage more than four dollars for every federal dollar awarded by NEH.

Council programs and regrants reach nearly every congressional district and provide critical support to organizations in more than 5,300 communities across the nation. The councils work with thousands of local partners to strengthen humanities programs and promote the relevance of the humanities in public life. The councils serve as cultural leaders in their state or jurisdiction, making use of their partnership with NEH to forge strategic partnerships, develop support for the humanities, and build the capacity of the cultural sectors they serve.

The Office of Federal/State Partnership encourages the state and jurisdictional humanities councils to support programs that make humanities ideas accessible to the public, foster community discussions of important humanities topics, and deepen public understanding of American history and our nation's core principles of constitutional governance and democracy. The office also encourages councils to serve as models of excellent nonprofit management and exercise responsible stewardship of all funds entrusted to them.

NEH's authorizing legislation requires that all state and jurisdictional councils submit a work plan for consideration by the National Council on the Humanities and for approval by the NEH Chairman. The work plan provides a concise overview of the council's programs and operations for the upcoming funding period.

Each council also participates in a five-year self-assessment process that is designed to analyze their present work and to develop strategies for strengthening future programs and operations. This self-study provides the council with the opportunity to define its role as a cultural leader in its state or jurisdiction; evaluate how effectively it is supporting and advancing the humanities; identify new and underserved audiences; and consider how effectively it makes use of the state and local resources that are at its disposal.

As part of each council's five-year assessment, the Office of Federal/State Partnership coordinates an on-site (or virtual) review and engages external consultants to evaluate the quality of the council's programming, operations, and governance. The evaluators then prepare a report that includes constructive feedback and recommendations that support the shared mission of the council and NEH. These "Self-Assessment and Site Visit Reports" are shared with the NEH Chairman's Office and the National Council on the Humanities; their observations are then shared with the councils, along with the site review report itself. The Office of Federal/State Partnership strongly encourages the councils to implement the recommendations of the consultants and NEH staff when conducting strategic planning.

The Office of Federal/State Partnership's oversight responsibilities are informed by the councils' self-assessments and by the Office's compliance monitoring activities. The Office analyzes trends, identifies areas in need of strengthening, and offers webinars, convenings, professional and nonprofit leadership development resources that councils might find helpful. The Office encourages the councils to develop professional expertise in evaluation techniques, which can be helpful for guiding the development of programs and strengthening the councils' fundraising activity. The Office also helps build "communities of practice" so that councils can share lessons learned from their current programs and operations.

Humanities Council Reach and Activity

At NEH's request, state and jurisdictional humanities councils recently reported on the breadth and reach of council activity. From these data, NEH learned that the councils sponsor a wide variety of events, reach broad and diverse audiences, and regularly engage scholars in their work. Collectively, the state and jurisdictional councils reported sponsoring more than 31,000 events and projects that reached 271 million people. These events and projects ranged by type and topic. All councils reported sponsoring discussion-based events, and almost all reported sponsoring events in such varied formats as exhibitions, festivals, and digital- and preservation-related projects. Councils also reported on the reach of their programs within the state or jurisdiction served. Digital-related projects and events sponsored by the councils reached almost 21 million people, and media-related projects and events reached over 83 million people. Councils engaged more than 26,000 scholars in these events, helping make humanities research more widely accessible to the general public.

Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities

State and jurisdictional humanities councils create opportunities to convene humanities-informed discussions—in person and online—that focus on contemporary issues. These in-depth explorations of community issues offer historical, social, and philosophical context for the discussions and promote thoughtful, informed civic reflection. Council-led discussion programs occur in many spaces, such as public libraries, community centers, churches, and other local venues where people live and work. In order to respond to the concerns and needs of traditionally underserved communities, the councils invite input from and involvement by the communities they seek to serve. The Maine Humanities Council, for example, openly encourages suggestions for its *The Discussion Project* from groups such as people of color, people who identify as LGBTQ+, people who live in rural areas, people with disabilities, people who identify as immigrants or refugees, and people whose first language is not English. Recent discussion topics have included “Legally Racist: Race and Real Estate”; “Crossing Over: Works by Contemporary American Indian Writers”; and “Mental Health through Historic Writings.” Several councils work to attract the harder-to-reach younger demographic by hosting scholar-led programs in restaurants, cafes, and bars on contemporary topics such as consumerism, political polarization, demographic changes, immigration, and environmental ethics. Facilitators of these discussion programs encourage story sharing and welcomes a diversity of perspectives. These discussion programs seek to strengthen communities by bridging cultural divides.

With their strong networks of cultural and educational institutions, state and jurisdictional humanities councils are well positioned to elevate the voices of diverse groups and cultures within communities. For example, the humanities councils in Guam, the Northern Marianas, and American Samoa play key roles in bringing people together to negotiate ways to preserve and share traditional languages, cultures, and histories. The Minnesota Humanities Center (MHC) explores “absent narratives” across many of the council’s programs. This broad approach amplifies voices and stories that have been missing from public discourse in Minnesota. MHC regularly collaborates with indigenous communities to produce programs and develop resources, such as *Minnesota Native American Lives*, a series of biographies written for third- through fifth-graders that highlights the lives of inspirational American Indian leaders; *Learning from Place – Bdote*, which introduces participants to the history and community of the Dakota people by bringing them to culturally significant sites; and the *Why Treaties Matter: Self-Government in the Dakota and Ojibwe Nations* traveling exhibition. The Alaska Humanities Forum supports two programs that help build understanding between urban centers and traditional Alaska Native villages: *Take Wing Tengluni* that helps rural Alaska Native students adapt to urban and post-secondary cultures while maintaining their traditional culture and values; and *Creating Cultural Competence (C3)*, which provides cross-cultural immersion for new-to-rural-Alaska educators, helping them build relationships in the communities in which they will be teaching.

The state and jurisdictional humanities councils have also worked to address issues of equity through their programming and grants. While councils have always sought to reach a broad, statewide audience, they have become more thoughtful and deliberate in working to understand which communities they are not reaching, what internal and external barriers exist, and what community-level connections or partnerships they need to pursue in order to increase access to their grants and programs. The Rhode Island Council for the Humanities, for example, developed an evaluation toolkit to support small nonprofit grantees in underserved communities as they build their capacity to evaluate and report on the impact of their grant-funded programs. The New Jersey Council for the Humanities (NJCH) uses its grants program as an opportunity to address issues of equity and access in the state by building the capacity of smaller cultural

organizations to seek and then administer grants. New-to-NJCH organizations now make up 50 percent of the annual applicant pool—a testament to the efforts of council staff to reach new and underserved communities.

In 2017 and 2018, Humanities Kansas offered programming that examined Latino immigration to Kansas. The programming included an app-based collection of walking and driving tours (*Walk with Me/Camino Conmigo*) highlighting Latino cultural sites in four Kansas cities, with resources available in both Spanish and English. Other humanities councils offer programming for people who are incarcerated across the state. For example, the Mississippi Humanities Council’s *Prison-to-College Pipeline* as well as its *Prison Writes Initiative* offer current inmates opportunities for self-development while also supporting their re-integration into society.

Many state and jurisdictional humanities councils are addressing issues of diversity, access, equity, and inclusion through their internal policies and priorities. Councils are writing diversity statements, hiring consultants to guide them in this work, and building staff capacity and expertise. In 2017, Oregon Humanities produced an “Equity and Inclusion Lens Handbook” to guide its organizational work. As an outgrowth of this work, the council has assigned top priority in its most recent strategic plan to building a more inclusive and equitable organizational culture. Many other councils have used the handbook as a model for their own work.

Confronting the Climate Emergency

Across the nation, state and jurisdictional humanities councils have developed public humanities programs that provide historical, social, and philosophical context for climate issues. Councils bring together humanities scholars (most notably environmental historians), scientists, and community members to explore central humanistic questions posed by the climate crisis. With alacrity, urgency, and creativity, councils are developing and presenting environmental humanities programs that increase public appreciation of our nation’s wild spaces and other natural environments—whether urban, suburban, or rural. Councils have led community discussions focused on the effects of the climate crisis on individuals, communities, and cultural heritage resources.

Between 2016 and 2021, 24 humanities councils have partnered with the Smithsonian Institution’s “Museum on Main Street” to bring the traveling exhibition, *Water/Ways*, to over 140 small museums, libraries, and cultural institutions across the country. To date, nearly 500,000 people have visited the exhibit or participated in related public programs that highlight how human creativity and resourcefulness have forged new ways to protect water resources and renew respect for the natural environment. In 2021, North Carolina Humanities launched a two-year initiative, *Watershed Moments*, designed to explore cultural and historical relationships with the environment. Anchored by humanities scholarship, these programs examine significant environmental issues affecting North Carolina. Recently, a panel of historians, writers, and journalists discussed their experiences of reporting on natural disasters and environmental crises in North Carolina, and exploring how the public receives information and builds narratives about environmental disasters. Over the course of the next two years, the council will host an array of *Watershed Moments* programs, including the *Water/Ways* traveling exhibition, a statewide reading initiative, film screenings and related discussion programs, and a series of panel discussions. In Utah, historian and director of the American West Center Gregory Smoak

authored a scholarly publication, “Utah Water Ways,” to accompany Utah Humanities’ tour of the Smithsonian’s traveling exhibition.

Indiana Humanities’ award-winning *Next Indiana Campfires* program pairs natural history and science with literature to [spark conversations](#) about Indiana’s environmental issues, the importance of wild spaces, and humans’ relation to the environment. Often set in outdoor, natural environments, *Campfires*’ scientists describe the natural history of the place and humanists provide a selection of related texts and poems. Together, this humanist/scientist pair prompts participants, as they hike or kayak, to consider a broad array of humanities ideas. Indiana Humanities has engaged Hoosiers through outdoor activities, has sponsored [the creation of original films](#) about Indiana waterways, and has [published an anthology](#) of Indiana environmental writing. In 2018, Michigan Humanities made 18 awards through their NEH-funded grant program, Third Coast Conversations, to support locally led discussion programs focused on the cultural, social, historical, and environmental factors that connect Michigan’s people to water. Alaska Humanities Forum, along with partner organizations, designed the *Alaska Salmon Fellows* program to facilitate conversations about the history and contemporary impacts of salmon policy on Alaska’s industrial, environmental, and cultural sectors. In March 2021, Wisconsin Humanities led a collaborative program on issues of water justice and climate change that brought together scientists, humanists, journalists, community leaders, and policy makers. The discussions on the impacts of climate change were informed by a range of humanities perspectives. The theme of Nevada Humanities’s Nevada Reads 2021 is “Cultivating Environmental Literacy.” Programming includes online book clubs, outdoor adventures, and virtual workshops.

In the wake of natural disasters—a string of hurricanes in Louisiana in 2020, wildfires in California in 2018, and the damage caused by the severe winter weather in Texas and Oklahoma in February 2021—councils received NEH Chairman’s Emergency Grants along with various forms of technical assistance. This aid supported a variety of disaster mitigation and recovery efforts, which are particularly helpful for smaller archives and museums whose collections are put at risk by storm damage. Many councils are taking steps of their own to develop disaster preparedness plans in anticipation of the impacts of climate change. In 2020, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities (LEH) published the comprehensive report, *Resilience, Culture, and Place Identity: Research and Recommendations on the Roles of Humanities Organizations in Emergencies and Disasters*. This report summarizes a yearlong research effort undertaken by LEH to better understand the role humanities organizations can play in supporting the long-term resilience of the communities, individuals, and organizations they support.

Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Economic Crisis

Of the \$75 million in supplemental funding NEH received as part of the \$2.2 trillion Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, approximately 40 percent, or \$30 million, was distributed directly to the 56 states and jurisdictions to support humanities programming and retain jobs at local cultural institutions. Although some councils used a small fraction of the funds to cover administrative costs, most re-granted the full amount of CARES Act funding they received. Early data indicate that the councils made nearly 4,500 re-grants to humanities and cultural organizations in need, which represents only a fraction of the number of applications received and funding requested. Additionally, 26 councils reported on early jobs data, with

respondents reporting that almost 6,000 jobs were preserved and an additional 650 jobs were created through CARES Act funding.

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic were immediately felt throughout the community of humanities councils, as organizations were forced to cancel programs and events and drastically change the way they interacted with their constituents. With in-person activities suspended and many people sheltering in place, councils nimbly adapted to their new circumstances by compiling resources, providing podcasts and radio programs, and streaming documentaries. Councils quickly modified existing programs—such as community conversations, reading and discussion programs, Speakers Bureaus, and lectures—for a virtual audience. In the first few months of the pandemic, several councils created programs to connect people and communities despite social distancing. Particularly noteworthy examples include Oregon Humanities (Connect in Place), Idaho Humanities Council (Dear Pen Friend), Humanities Washington (Cabin Fever Questions), Humanities Montana (Gather Round), Humanities New York (Conversations on your Couch), and Delaware Humanities (Distant Discussions). Facilitated by scholars, experts, and other thought leaders, these programs provided online avenues for people to discuss the pandemic, as well as other topics. The programs helped participants navigate today’s troubling times by examining what people have done in the past when confronted with circumstances they can only partially control.

As part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, NEH received \$135 million in supplemental funding to assist humanities organizations and other cultural institutions affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Of this amount, \$51.6 million will be awarded to the state and jurisdictional humanities councils in support of the pandemic-related needs of local humanities organizations and programs around the country. This cultural relief funding will support a wide range of humanities initiatives within each state and jurisdiction.

Promoting International, Cross-cultural Understanding

State and jurisdictional humanities councils also promote international programs and engagements that champion the nation’s excellence in the humanities, which aligns with the Administration’s priority of restoring America’s global standing. For example, NEH invited the councils to participate in *Night of Ideas 2021*, an international humanities festival that was live-streamed on January 28, 2021. A partnership with Cultural Services of the Embassy of France in the United States, *Night of Ideas* is a series of cultural events that provide a lively arena for talks and debates, reading programs, screening and discussion programs, and other humanities-related events. *Night of Ideas 2021* featured thinkers streamed in from more than 75 countries from around the world. This content, recorded or subtitled in English, brought “virtual” viewers to several major cities where the host institution holds outposts: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C. Included among the project’s partner organizations in America are the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Hirshhorn Museum, and Columbia University. This year’s theme, “Closing the Distance” (“Proches,” in French), directly addresses our shared sense of isolation and imagines new means of fostering community and togetherness. Among the state humanities councils participating in *Night of Ideas 2021*—either on the evening of the main event or in the weeks following the event—are California Humanities, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, Minnesota Humanities Center, Humanities New York, North Dakota Humanities, Humanities

Texas, and Vermont Humanities.

Strengthening our Democracy

State and jurisdictional humanities councils are highly responsive to their local communities' desire to grapple with the ideals of democracy, to explore the nation's founding and its complex history, and to understand the core principles of constitutional government and the rights and responsibilities of members of a democracy. The councils produce rich, humanities-based programs that further civic education. The Alabama Humanities Alliance, for example, sponsors *Stony the Road We Trod*, an exemplary summer institute for K-12 teachers on the civil rights movement. Similarly, the Idaho Humanities Council is sponsoring a weeklong summer institute for teachers, titled "Get Up, Stand Up: Resistance Through Popular Music and Poetry," that will explore the history of protest in America. And throughout the year, Humanities Texas holds teacher institutes that offer K-12 teachers the opportunity to work with leading scholars on topics at the heart of the state's social studies and language arts curricula.

Many state and jurisdictional humanities councils participate in *National History Day*, an NEH-supported academic program that reaches half a million middle and high school students. As a part of this program, students engage with primary sources, hone their analytical skills, and develop their own exhibitions, thesis papers, performances, documentaries, and websites on themes of democracy and citizenship throughout United States history. Seven councils—those in Alabama, Alaska, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Nebraska, and New Mexico—sponsor their state's *National History Day* contest while many other councils actively partner in their state or jurisdiction's *National History Day* program.

State and jurisdictional humanities councils support various programs that send humanities professionals, scholars, and living history actors throughout the state or jurisdiction to speak with people of all ages on a variety of humanities topics. Annually, Humanities Nebraska's *Speakers Bureau* and *Chautauqua* programs reach over 32,000 people. In 2021, the council's *Fifties in Focus Chautauqua* will highlight television, rock and roll, the space race, the Korean War, and McCarthyism. Since 1997, Illinois Humanities has invited Illinois writers, storytellers, historians, folklorists, musicians, and living history actors, among others, to share their expertise and enthusiasm with audiences across the state through the council's *Road Scholars Speakers Bureau*. In 2021, the *Bureau* is featuring twenty-eight speakers and forty-four programs, with nine programs available in Spanish and two in Mandarin. The topics will include "Anti-Slavery Activism on the Frontier," ["Songs of the Civil Rights Movement,"](#) and ["Native Americans in Media."](#)

The popularity of council-produced podcasts has skyrocketed during the pandemic. These podcasts inspire listeners with stories about the country's history and its constitutional principles. *Amended*, New York Humanities' award-winning podcast, features stories from the 1800's to the present day. These stories document the quest for women's full equality that has been as diverse, complex, and unfinished as the nation itself. *Vote Worth*, a podcast series produced by Kentucky Humanities, centered on election topics and included a high school study guide. The goal of this series was to encourage in-depth conversations, additional research, and an appreciation of America's democratic process.

Supporting NEH's A More Perfect Union Initiative

The humanities councils are uniquely positioned to advance the goals of the agency's special initiative, *A More Perfect Union: Exploring America's Story and Commemorating its 250th Anniversary*. This initiative encourages projects that explore, reflect on, and tell the stories of our quest for a more just, inclusive, and sustainable society throughout our history.

Civic education and American history programs have long been and will continue to be central to the councils' mission. NEH's collaborative relationship with the councils will help extend the initiative's reach and raise its visibility in communities throughout the United States.

Through a noncompetitive process, each state council will be offered \$50,000 to implement programs aligned with the initiative's goals, with a particular focus on strengthening Americans' knowledge of our nation's principles of constitutional governance, deepening public understanding of American history, and addressing the experiences of Native Americans and other under-represented communities.

Councils will collaborate with libraries, community colleges, museums, tribal communities, and other organizations to develop *A More Perfect Union* programming that reflects the cultural resources, history, traditions, and interests of the state or jurisdiction. Councils will support many different program formats—such as reading and discussion programs, exhibitions, teacher workshops, and convenings—that will provide a wide variety of entry points for audiences to engage with humanities ideas and to explore our shared American experience. Council programs will encourage a wide range of perspectives so that people from all walks of life will feel welcome to attend programs and will see themselves reflected in the programs' content.

The supplemental awards will be issued in fiscal year 2021 and the councils will have a full year to implement their state-specific programs. As these programs get underway, the Office of Federal/State Partnership will collect quantitative and qualitative data so that it can share *A More Perfect Union's* stories of reach and impact among all of the councils.

PRESERVATION AND ACCESS

FY 2022 Request: \$19,500,000

Programs/Grant Categories

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

Program Goals and Accomplishments

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

Good stewardship of cultural resources requires equal attention to preservation and access. The long-term care and availability of primary resources is essential to research, education, and appreciation of the humanities. The Division of Preservation and Access fulfills its mission of preserving the nation's cultural heritage and making it accessible through the following core programs:

Humanities Collections and Reference Resources

The Division of Preservation and Access provides grants for projects that preserve and create access to collections that, because of their intellectual content or value as cultural artifacts, are considered highly significant to the humanities. Humanities Collections and Reference Resources implementation grants of up to \$350,000 support the digitization of collections to enhance their accessibility. This program also offers funding for the creation of new reference works. Grants can be used for reformatting humanities collections; arranging and describing archival and manuscript collections; and cataloging collections of printed works, photographs, artworks, historical artifacts, recorded sound, moving images, and other materials important for humanities research and education. The majority of these projects put their collections online, thus enhancing access for both American and international audiences.

The program's subcategory, Humanities Collections and Reference Resources Foundations, supports formative work such as planning, assessment, and pilot activities through awards of up to \$60,000. Drawing on collaborations between humanities scholars and technical specialists, such projects can help cultural institutions prepare for the establishment of intellectual control of collections, develop plans and priorities for digitizing collections, solidify collaborative frameworks and strategic plans for complex digital reference resources, or produce preliminary versions of online collections or resources. For example, the Division recently awarded a grant to West Virginia University to plan for a multi-institutional online portal to aggregate the personal papers of former members of the United States Congress, thereby strengthening Americans' knowledge of constitutional governance and democracy. With the overarching goal of making these rich archival sources easier to discover and use, the planning project will bring together technical and subject experts to prioritize material for inclusion, test platforms, and build a pilot site with sample materials from eight collections. The Foundations category also encourages partnerships between smaller and larger organizations. A recent award was made to Marygrove Conservancy in support of a collection documenting the Contemporary American Authors Lecture Series, which focuses on Black writers and poets from 1989 to the present. Access to this collection would advance our understanding of the contributions of African Americans to literature. The work will be done in partnership with the Detroit Historical Society, which is contributing staff time and expertise and assisting with access to the digitized collection.

Several recent Humanities Collections and Reference Resources awards will not only democratize access to images and information about significant primary sources, but they may also serve as models for preservation and access work at a time when travel and gathering restrictions caused by the coronavirus pandemic have underscored the critical nature of sharing humanities resources online. One award to Drexel University will digitize approximately 25,000 artifacts from the collection of the now-closed Philadelphia History Museum. Through online access, Drexel will support research into this collection, which represents 350 years of history in the city. At Northern Arizona University, an award supports the digitization of 400 rare and unique moving images documenting the human and natural history of the Colorado Plateau and the American Southwest. The university library has led regional efforts to develop best practices for working with tribal archives. Such efforts exemplify the ways in which Division-supported work can help advance equity for indigenous communities.

National Digital Newspaper Program

Newspapers chronicle the daily life of our citizens in towns and cities across the country, and it is the stories of those towns and cities that together help to make up the history of our nation. These newspapers provide invaluable resources for documenting the civic, legal, historical, and cultural life of every region. For over 40 years, the Division has committed itself to preserving the content of historically important American newspapers—first through microfilm and now through digitization and online access. Beginning in 1980, NEH support has enabled organizations and institutions in 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico to locate, catalog, and microfilm their historic newspaper holdings and to create a centralized bibliographic record of all newspaper titles published since 1690.

With digital technology, we can enable researchers and the general public to search this vast storehouse of newspaper content. Toward this end, NEH and the Library of Congress signed a

memorandum of understanding in 2004, renewed in 2009, 2014, and 2019, establishing a partnership to create the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP). Under the terms of this partnership, over a period of approximately 20 years NEH will provide grants to an institution or organization in each state and territory to digitize titles published between 1690 and 1963 and to prepare fully searchable files that the Library of Congress will maintain permanently online. Thus far, more than 17 million pages of historic U.S. newspapers have been digitized through this program, with many millions more to follow. The selected pages, along with title essays and a directory of all newspapers published in the U.S. from 1690 to the present, are publicly accessible online through the *Chronicling America* website (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>).

The National Digital Newspaper Program is a complex undertaking that is being implemented in phases. To date, the Division has provided support for projects in all but two states. Each participating state is contributing approximately 300,000 pages of digitized newspapers. Initially, the eligible content was limited to newspapers published between 1836 and 1922, and to newspapers written in English. In recent years, the program has expanded to accept content published between 1690 and 1963 and in multiple languages, including French, German, Italian, Spanish, Danish, Hungarian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, and Swedish. The expansion of the project to these languages is providing welcome access to the nation's vibrant ethnic and immigrant press. Moving forward, the program hopes to support the inclusion of more newspapers from underrepresented communities, as well as the development of digital asset and content management of historical newspapers at more local levels.

States that have completed their initial digitization projects may choose to compete for additional funding to increase the range and diversity of content and communities represented in their state's section of *Chronicling America*. The Historic Maryland Newspaper Project, for example, has received a fifth round of funding, having already contributed 400,000 pages of digitized newspapers. With this supplemental funding, the project is contributing newspapers that help document the histories of underserved communities in the state, and that also expand our knowledge of the early years of the nation's democracy. Many of the additional newspaper titles represent ethnically diverse populations, with a focus on Jewish-, Polish-, and Italian-American communities. One of the earlier titles, the *Maryland Gazette*—which was published from 1727 to the 1810s—offers a unique window into the Revolutionary period from a non-New England perspective.

Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections

Libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations across the country hold vast collections of books, manuscripts, photographs, sound recordings, moving images, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, historical objects, and art. These collections facilitate research, strengthen teaching, and provide opportunities for lifelong learning in the humanities. The challenge of preserving such large and diverse holdings for current and future generations is enormous. This program supports sustainable measures that mitigate deterioration, prolong the useful life of collections, and strengthen institutional resilience in the face of disasters caused by human or natural activity. Ongoing conservation research in the United States and abroad demonstrates the value of preventive conservation, which encompasses the management of environmental humidity, temperature, light, and pollutants in collection spaces; the provision of protective storage; and the safeguarding of collections from theft, fire, floods, and other disasters.

Museums, libraries, and archives are increasingly aware of their environmental impact and seeking to reduce it, while ensuring that collections are well cared for and available for use. This program provides funding to help institutions confront the climate emergency in ways that are also cost effective. The sustainable preservation strategies that award recipients pursue are based on an understanding of the materials in the collections, the performance of the building systems, the nature of the local climate, the economic costs, and the impact on the environment.

Planning grants of up to \$50,000 allow institutions to gather interdisciplinary teams of professionals to explore cost-effective and environmentally sensitive strategies for the protection of their humanities collections. With NEH support, a planning team at the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture is developing plans to retrofit current storage areas for the Archives of Moving Images collection, which includes approximately 4,000 film titles and 2,000 videotapes representing the history and culture of Puerto Rico from 1898 to the present. Members of the team specialize in audiovisual preservation, sustainability in preservation environments, and the architecture of historic buildings. Together they are advising the Institute on needed improvements to the repository's environmental conditions, taking into consideration the island's unique environment and vulnerabilities to natural disasters.

The Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections program also offers larger awards of up to \$350,000 to implement preventive conservation measures, including the improvement of environmental conditions and storage of collections, and the installation of security and fire protection systems. The Glessner House Museum, a National Historic Landmark in Chicago, is using a recent implementation award to advance its goals of addressing the climate crisis and reducing pollution by completing the installation of an energy-efficient and environmentally sustainable geothermal power system.

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions

Smaller cultural repositories constitute the large majority of collecting institutions in the United States. These organizations often lack the resources to address the preservation needs of their collections. NEH's Preservation Assistance Grants provide small and mid-sized libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations with awards of up to \$10,000 for preservation assessments; on-site consultation with preservation professionals on specific issues such as emergency preparedness; education of staff and volunteers through online and in-person workshops; and the purchase of preservation supplies and equipment. A higher award of \$15,000 is available to support preservation activities in institutions that are involved in planning activities to commemorate the 250th anniversary of American independence in 2026.

These relatively small awards have an outsized impact on the recipients, allowing organizations to build institutional capacity through training and improved collections care. Furthermore, these grants help smaller organizations prioritize preservation work amid the ongoing COVID-19 and economic crises, which have greatly affected this sector of the cultural heritage field.

In the twenty years since the program began, NEH has awarded nearly 2,200 grants to institutions in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Each year, approximately 25 percent of Preservation Assistance Grants represent a first award from NEH, strong evidence that this grant program reaches institutions not previously served by NEH.

A significant number of previous award recipients in this funding category have also gone on to complete successful projects through other NEH funding programs.

Examples of the benefits of this grant program abound. The Wiregrass Museum of Art in Dothan, Alabama, recently received its first NEH award: a Preservation Assistance Grant to purchase preservation storage supplies and environmental monitoring equipment, which will assist the museum in attaining its long-term goal of national accreditation. Another first-time award recipient, the Jefferson County Public Library in Madison, Indiana, will hire a consultant to assess preservation needs and advise the library on proper storage of its monographs, microfilm, maps, and archival collections. Appropriate storage is a key method of preventive conservation, promoting the resilience of collections with minimal impact on the environment. Finally, the Noah Webster Museum in West Hartford, Connecticut, received a Preservation Assistance Grant to create a digitization plan to enhance access to the collections for educators and students. The museum's varied holdings comprise books, archives, and artifacts dating from 1777–1845.

Dynamic Language Infrastructure - Documenting Endangered Languages

NEH supports the creation of tools—such as bilingual dictionaries, grammars, and text collections—that document languages threatened with extinction. Of the 6,000 to 7,000 languages currently spoken around the globe, at least 3,000 are endangered, including hundreds of Native American languages. These lesser-known languages constitute an irreplaceable linguistic treasure for scholars seeking to understand the nature of language or to capture unique local knowledge of the cultures and natural systems of the region in which a particular language is spoken. To address this issue, in 2005 NEH and the National Science Foundation established a joint special initiative that is now known as Dynamic Language Infrastructure – Documenting Endangered Languages. Grants of up to \$450,000 support fieldwork and other activities relevant to recording, documenting, and archiving endangered languages, including the preparation of lexicons, grammars, text samples, audio recordings, and databases.

In documentation projects involving endangered languages, academic linguists typically work closely with native speakers, many of whom are interested in learning more about their own cultural heritage and are eager to pass on information about their language to younger generations. This work helps promote equity for these indigenous language communities. A recent NEH award to the University of California, Berkeley, supports the cataloging, preservation, and creation of online access to documentary materials related to Uto-Aztecan and Yuman language families, which are native to the Southwestern United States and Northwestern Mexico. These sound recordings and archival materials will be available online as part of the California Language Archive. The project staff is engaging with communities that speak these languages to promote collaborative curation and community-based metadata creation.

Preservation and Access Education and Training

The Division of Preservation and Access views the education and training of the stewards of humanities collections—e.g., archivists, librarians, curators, conservators, preservation specialists, collections managers, and digital technologists—as central to its mission. The Division's Education and Training program focuses on delivering knowledge and skills to cultural heritage professionals in both formal education and continuing education settings. The

program enables these professionals to familiarize themselves with new developments in the preservation field, such as collaborative curation and disaster planning and emergency response.

In the past year, the Education and Training program has expanded opportunities for training-related partnerships between academic and nonacademic institutions, and for the training of emerging professionals in the preservation field. Projects focusing on diversifying the workforce, through training in culturally appropriate practices for underrepresented communities, are particularly encouraged. This expansion will help promote racial equity in preservation and access fields. For example, a recent grant to the University of Hawai'i at Manoa is developing a six-week summer institute to support 20 early- to mid-career Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders who are working in museum and heritage centers throughout the Pacific.

The Division also awards grants to preservation field services organizations that operate on a statewide or regional basis. These grants help the staff of small and regional cultural institutions obtain the knowledge and skills needed to serve as effective stewards of humanities collections. Collectively, the grants reach thousands of small and medium-sized cultural heritage institutions across the country. Among the services offered are preservation surveys, workshops and seminars, disaster assistance, and information services. An award made this year to the Utah Division of Arts and Museums is assisting in the creation of a statewide Community Preservation Program, which will deliver online and in-person trainings on a wide variety of preservation topics, including culturally appropriate practices.

For more than two decades, NEH has helped museums, libraries, archives, and historical organizations improve their ability to plan for and respond to disasters. Inadequate planning for emergencies remains a serious problem for the nation's cultural institutions, especially as the frequency and intensity of natural disasters increases with climate change. At present, three-quarters of cultural repositories in the United States lack disaster or emergency plans and the trained staff to carry them out. The Division helps to integrate emergency management into all aspects of a collecting institution's operations in several ways. For instance, a recent Education and Training award to the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation is helping to establish new response networks in Chicago and Charleston, and grant funds are also helping the Foundation develop resources for the ongoing training of volunteers in 32 existing networks nationwide.

Preservation and Access Research and Development

The Division's Research and Development program address major challenges in preserving or providing access to humanities collections and resources. Funded projects formulate new ways to preserve materials of critical importance to the nation's cultural heritage—from fragile artifacts, manuscripts, and analog recordings to digital assets subject to technological obsolescence—as well as to develop advanced modes of organizing, searching, and using such materials. Research and Development grants can help in a variety of ways: by devising innovative ways to protect and slow the deterioration of humanities collections through the use of sustainable preservation strategies; by developing technical standards, best practices, and tools for preserving humanities materials that are “born digital”; and by ensuring that collections of recorded sound and moving images will remain accessible to future generations.

Interdisciplinary collaboration is a hallmark of the Research and Development program, which encourages collaborations between cultural heritage professionals and specialists in preservation and other technical or scientific fields. Tier I grants of up to \$75,000 support planning and preliminary work leading to large-scale research and development projects, as well as stand-alone basic research projects, such as case studies, experiments, and the development of software tools. Tier II awards of up to \$350,000 lead to the development of national standards, best practices, methodologies, and work processes for preserving and creating access to humanities collections.

Several recently funded projects are addressing the climate crisis as it affects cultural heritage collections and the organizations that steward them. An award to the Rochester Institute of Technology, for example, will support the development of a diagnostic methodology for monitoring the level of pollutants in the environment, which will inform institutions that implement energy-efficient preservation strategies. Whether resulting from dense urban environments, wildfires, or other circumstances, pollutants are pervasive across geographic regions and among all types of cultural heritage organizations. The Division's grant to the Institute, and other grants like it, are helping to mitigate the impact of pollutants on the collections of the nation's cultural repositories.

The preservation of audiovisual resources continues to be a priority of the Division, as these materials are particularly susceptible to environmentally driven deterioration. One such audiovisual medium is the digital videotape, which has been used by many small and mid-sized heritage organizations to record oral histories, news broadcasts, home movies, and performances. An award to Moving Image Preservation of Puget Sound is supporting the creation of open-source software and training documentation for the preservation of such videotapes.

Finally, several of the Division's Research and Development awards have investigated methods for improving accessibility to humanities collections for persons with disabilities, thereby advancing equity for these communities. This year, an award to the University of Hawaii, Honolulu, will enable the University to work in partnership with the American Council of the Blind and the Helen Keller National Center to improve methods for audio description of heritage materials, which is the primary mode of access for millions of people with blindness or vision impairment.

Program Plans for FY 2022

In addition to sustaining the core work of the grant programs described above, the Division of Preservation and Access will seek to broaden its reach and impact in ways that are responsive to the Administration's priorities. We will devote particular attention to the needs of small and mid-sized cultural heritage institutions, especially those representing historically underserved communities.

The Division's efforts to expand its program offerings will be guided by the following considerations:

- The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic crisis have adversely affected cultural institutions in significant and potentially long-lasting ways. It is estimated that one-third of U.S. museums may close in the coming years, and libraries and archives are facing steep

budget cuts as well. To help ameliorate these problems, the Division will devote additional resources to help ensure these institutions' continuing viability as stewards of their important collections. (These additional resources will extend the reach of those already being made available under NEH's American Rescue Plan programs.)

- Through two of the Division's programs—Humanities Collections and Reference Resources, and the National Digital Newspaper Program—we will continue to expand the availability of primary sources in the humanities to global audiences. Similarly, through the Division's Research and Development grants, scientific advances in conservation and preservation science will contribute to the worldwide preservation of humanities collections.
- In response to the ongoing climate crisis, the Division will expand its support for the development and implementation of environmentally sensitive methods for preserving the nation's collections of culturally significant materials. And similarly, we will continue to encourage emergency preparedness among cultural heritage institutions and the professionals they employ.
- The Division's principal outreach program – Preservation Assistance Grants – seeks to assist smaller cultural organizations, among them minority-serving institutions. The Division will continue to evaluate, and improve where necessary, this program's reach to historically underrepresented communities. In recent years, several such award recipients have successfully competed in our larger grant programs, a trend the Division hopes to see continue in FY 2022 and beyond.
- The Division will expand its efforts to make preservation-training opportunities available to staff members employed by diverse and traditionally underrepresented organizations. In doing so, the Division will ensure that such training programs are sensitive to the practices and beliefs of the communities being served by these professionals.

DIVISION OF PUBLIC PROGRAMS

FY 2022 Request: \$14,000,000

Major Grant Categories

- Public Humanities Projects
- Media Projects
- Short Documentaries
- Digital Projects for the Public
- NEH on the Road

Program Goals and Accomplishments

The Division of Public Programs is where the work of the agency meets the American public. Through our support of museum exhibitions, documentary films, podcasts, historic sites, library discussion programs, and online games, we reach tens of millions of Americans every year and in every state and territory. The leveraging effects of an NEH grant enable public-serving institutions to raise significant additional funding and to create projects of incredibly broad reach. The projects the Division supports marry humanities scholarship with imaginative formats to engage public audiences of all ages and circumstances in serious questions about history, culture, and American democracy.

This past year the Division undertook the lion's share of work associated with NEH's CARES Act grants. The \$40.3 million in CARES Act grants awarded by the agency helped support the ongoing work of more than 300 cultural institutions across the country. These grants allowed cultural organizations to retain staff; preserve and curate humanities collections; advance humanities research; and continue the organizations' core operations. Similarly, the upcoming American Rescue Plan grants will contribute significantly to the work of vulnerable cultural institutions across the country.

Public Humanities Projects

The Division is a major source of support for substantive humanities programs in the nation's historical and cultural institutions, such as museums, libraries, archives, historic sites, and community centers. Division-supported projects include exhibitions of artistic, cultural, and historical artifacts; the interpretation of significant American historic sites; reading and film discussion series; and other lifelong learning activities.

Each year, large and small cultural institutions from across the country engage millions of Americans in the exploration of significant humanities ideas presented in NEH-supported programming. In 2020, 160 such projects were open to public audiences. Although the COVID-19 pandemic forced the closure of historic sites and museums, cultural institutions developed innovative approaches to providing humanities content digitally, in many cases resulting in an expanded audience.

Other Division-supported programs were able to continue operations with modifications to accommodate social distancing. Plimoth Plantation (recently renamed Plimoth Patuxet Museum)

was able to use its spacious outdoor campus to conduct socially distanced interpretative programs. This organization received both planning and implementation grants from NEH to develop an interpretive program that tells the story of the transformation of seventeenth-century New England and the diversity of Native American and European cultures that influenced the region. Recently installed outdoor signage, coupled with the shift of living history presentations to outdoor venues, enabled visitors to continue to learn about the risks, conflicts, and collaborations involved in the forging of new relationships and government systems during the colonial era.

Many Division-funded projects encourage civic awareness by deepening participants' engagement with national, regional, or local heritage. Discussion programs that engage audiences in dialogue around a heritage-related topic are particularly impactful in their ability to connect audiences to their communities. The COVID-19 pandemic led to the cancellation of most of these in-person discussion programs; however, several projects were successfully carried out using virtual meeting platforms. The International Storytelling Center's Division-supported series, *Freedom Stories: Unearthing the Black Heritage of Appalachia*, engaged scholars and community experts in tracing the development of the distinctive culture of African Americans in the region. Similarly, the Library of America's discussion program, *Lift Every Voice*, has brought to light the long and rich tradition of African American poetry. After publishing a landmark anthology chronicling 250 years of poetic works, the project will launch a national series of live events (online due to the COVID-19 pandemic) in 2021. This project, like many others funded by the Division, seeks to deepen Americans' appreciation of our country's diverse past and cultural achievements.

Thomas Jefferson's Monticello is making use of an NEH grant to tackle the history and legacy of slavery in the early Republic. The Division-supported exhibition, *Paradox of Liberty: Slavery at Jefferson's Monticello*, uses Monticello, the home and plantation of Thomas Jefferson, as a lens through which visitors can explore the lives of enslaved families and their descendants. The exhibition traveled to African American museums in Dallas, Detroit, and Richmond. Focusing on six multigenerational families and containing more than 300 objects and artifacts, *Paradox of Liberty* presents Monticello as a microcosm of the American story as it unfolded in the earliest days of our country. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Monticello turned the content of the exhibition into a digital destination, making virtual tours available for the use of museums, schools, libraries, and other institutions.

On a more local scale, the American Jewish Historical Society in New York City launched *From Sitting Room to Soap Box*, a two-part exhibition with accompanying neighborhood tours, website, and educational resources. The exhibition, which opened in December 2019, featured an immersive reproduction of immigrant poet Emma Lazarus' parlor. Visitors are invited to engage in the 19th-century political issues Lazarus tackled from her living room, and to consider how the meaning of American identity has evolved since she wrote her poem, *New Colossus*, for the Statue of Liberty. The pandemic forced the museum to cancel public programming in Union Square, where Americans have for decades made speeches from atop soapboxes, carried picket signs, and marched in protest over social issues. Instead, museum staff posted the exhibition's content on its website and developed a series of online programs inviting participant interaction with an actress portraying Emma Lazarus. The expansion of the project's audience through online engagement was remarkable—two thirds of those attending these highly successful programs had never visited the museum in person.

NEH-supported projects can play an important role in enhancing Americans' understanding of the histories and cultures of the nation's marginalized populations. Awards for both planning and implementation helped the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City to develop the exhibition *Spiro and the Art of the Mississippian World*, which opened in February 2021. This traveling exhibition tells the story of Spiro Mounds, one of the premier cultural and ceremonial metropolises of ancient North America. Similarly, the Mississippi Museum of Art opened *New Symphony of Time*, a permanent exhibition that explores how ancestry, migration, nature, and struggles for justice shaped a unique Mississippi identity.

Many Division-supported projects in museums and libraries have made a significant impact on underserved communities' access to the humanities—for example, discussion programs for incarcerated teens; family reading programs that help break the cycle of illiteracy by encouraging parents and children to read together; and museum exhibits that involve senior citizens in cross-generational dialogues. NEH support enables museums, libraries, and cultural organizations to reach underserved groups and to engage them in thoughtful consideration of humanities ideas. The New York Botanical Garden's exhibition *Brazilian Modern: The Living Art of Roberto Burle Marx*, for example, was accompanied by workshops for teachers in the Bronx focused on teaching literacy through poems. For both the *Brazilian Modern* project and another NEH-funded exhibition exploring the central role of plants in the art of Mexican painter Frida Kahlo, the Garden committed to extensive outreach to underserved students in 49 local New York schools.

In furtherance of its efforts to expand access to the humanities among underserved audiences, the Division recently made an award to the American Library Association to develop its *Great Stories Club*, which will introduce at-risk teenagers to literature at over 200 libraries. Another example is a grant to the Maine Humanities Council in support of *2020: Bicentennial Vision for Maine Past, Present, and Future*, a two-year initiative that is providing opportunities for a broad and diverse group of residents to reflect on Maine's past and to begin to chart a course for its future. Many pressing public policy issues facing Maine today will be addressed as part of this comprehensive and wide-ranging project. Following the onset of the pandemic, the various components of the project have migrated online, which has had the beneficial (if unintended) effect of further broadening the reach of these programs.

Media Projects

The Division supports a wide variety of media projects that convey excellent humanities scholarship to millions of public television viewers and radio listeners. Media projects supported by the NEH are expected to be captivating, widely available, and thoughtful in their presentation. NEH makes a unique contribution to the genre by fostering close collaboration between media producers and scholars, who work side-by-side to create programs that deepen Americans' understanding of the humanities.

In 2020, all NEH-funded media projects were made accessible to people at home over broadcast and digital media. In addition, several NEH grantees helped to overcome the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic by presenting a range of online programs, thereby providing entertaining and informative programming to the American public during an especially challenging time.

The Division has funded a number of high-profile films that have tackled the issues of racism and prejudice in America. Stanley Nelson's award-winning *Freedom Riders*, *Freedom Summer*, and his upcoming four-hour film on the slave trade, provide viewers with opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of the legacy of slavery and of the historical antecedents of the contemporary racial problems that continue to plague the nation. Similarly, the Division has provided grant support for PBS station WETA's *Asian Americans*, a five-hour film series that is designed to engage the American public in explorations of the evolving identity of, and prejudice experienced by, the nation's fastest-growing racial group, Asian Americans. The series premiered on PBS in primetime on May 11, 2020, and reached 98 percent of American households via broadcast and online streaming. The Center for Asian American Media and WETA hosted a digital town hall using Facebook Live, which explored how lessons from Asian American history can help us understand the experience of Asian Americans in the time of COVID-19. In addition, the initiative included an extensive communication and engagement campaign. PBS stations from across the country created short films about local Asian American history and communities, which further expanded the reach of the project.

Films supported by the Division also commemorate important events in American history, and in doing so help to deepen our citizens' understanding of the founding principles of our nation and to strengthen their commitment to American democracy. In July 2020, PBS's *American Experience* series broadcast *The Vote*, a two-part, four-hour historical documentary about the final phase of the struggle to secure voting rights for women in the United States. In connection with this project, *American Experience* worked with local stations and organizations to collaborate on initiatives related to the centennial of the 19th Amendment. The grantee also reached out to 100 colleges and universities with opportunities to screen and discuss *The Vote* on their campuses, including creative virtual programming designed to circumvent the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic. These events took place virtually over social platforms, ultimately engaging almost 28,000 people. This public engagement campaign exemplifies the way that, even during the COVID-19 pandemic, NEH-funded films can engage public audiences well beyond their initial broadcast.

The two episodes of *The Vote* combined to attract 3.9 million viewers at the time of the broadcast premiere. Press attention to *The Vote* was extensive. The *Boston Globe*, for example, described the series as "extraordinary." The *Wall Street Journal* praised the film as "quite beautiful." Such praise is not unusual, as NEH-supported documentaries are often the subject of thoughtful articles and essays in popular and influential magazines and newspapers. These testimonials help reinforce in the public's mind the importance of substantive humanities films to the nation's cultural life.

Division-funded films explore international as well as domestic subjects. *Who Will Write Our History* is a documentary based on the contents of the Oyneg Shabes Archive, a project conceived by the historian Emanuel Ringelblum, who recognized the need to document the experiences of Warsaw's Jews during the early 1940s. In January 2020, the Discovery Channel aired *Who Will Write Our History* on its national cable network. The film remains available to the channel's cable subscribers and is also widely available over popular streaming services. The January 2020 broadcast followed an extensive outreach campaign, including a global screening event for 2019's International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. This event included 355 screenings in 55 countries. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum was among the project's many international partners.

Short Documentaries

In addition to providing grant support for feature-length documentaries, the Division funds short films that use new formats and techniques to expand the audience for humanities films. An example is *Unladylike 2020*, comprising 26 short films and a one-hour documentary. The films use creative animation techniques to present biographies of diverse and little-known women from the turn of the 20th century. Subjects include the aviator Bessie Coleman and the swimmer Gertrude Ederle. Several of the short films aired on PBS in honor of the centennial of women's suffrage. All films remain available to the public through the project's website.

Seeking to replicate the success of short films such as *Unladylike 2020*, NEH initiated a new grant program in 2019 to encourage the production of short documentary films in the humanities. The first Short Documentaries grants, including films on rural churches and poetry in America, were awarded in 2020 and are currently in production. We expect these films to attract diverse audiences through a variety of distribution vehicles, including broadcast and online streaming.

Public radio and podcasts are popular formats for audiences to engage with rich humanities content. Division-supported radio programs explore the lives of important individuals, historical events, and ideas. Recent projects include *Radio Diaries*, an independent production that airs on NPR's *All Things Considered*, that examines "extraordinary stories of ordinary life." The program is especially creative in its use of archival audio and its choice of historical topics, including the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921 and the life of Nelson Mandela. *Radio Diaries* also received a CARES Act grant to document the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on different communities across the country.

Digital Projects for the Public

One of the Division's key priorities is to provide national leadership to our grantees as they move into the digital age. The Digital Projects for the Public program fosters the use of a wide array of digital technologies, including mobile applications, websites, digital games, and augmented and virtual reality experiences. An outstanding way to reach younger audiences, these projects also appeal to older audiences searching for new and innovative ways to explore the humanities in topics as varied as the ratification of the Constitution, the Civil War, Native American cultures, religious landmarks, art, and architecture.

Digital games, for example, offer a unique opportunity for users to gain valuable humanities insights through interactive play. An especially prominent example is "Walden, a game," from the Game Innovation Lab at the University of Southern California. Based on the writing of Henry David Thoreau, the game allows players to walk in the virtual footsteps of Thoreau, read excerpts from his personal journals and public writings, and experience the physical and visual details of his 1845 experiment in self-reliance. Unlike traditional video games, this game is structured and paced to prompt contemplation, offering players multiple opportunities to reflect on Thoreau's experiences and cultural impact. The game, which is used widely by both public and educational audiences, was awarded the prestigious Game of the Year award at the Games for Change festival.

This grant program also encourages applications for the use of digital technologies to support broader engagement with humanities content at historic sites. Reconstruction 360, from South Carolina ETV, is a web and on-site mobile application that immerses users in the Reconstruction period in South Carolina. Using re-enactments filmed with 360-degree video, users encounter composite characters based on historical documents and explore themes of Black freedom and historical agency, the establishment of the franchise, and the role of Reconstruction-era laws and institutions in the creation of the modern South. Similarly, Kent State University's May 4th Augmented Reality Experience allows visitors to the Kent State campus to use their smart phone or tablet to see the campus as it looked on the day of the 1970 shooting as well as the days leading up to it. A narrated audio tour of significant locations around the campus prompts visitors to view archival images and videos taken at the time of the shooting.

Games such as "Mission US" by WNET and "Race to Ratify" by iCivics offer formal and informal educational opportunities by providing interactive ways of learning about US history. With gameplay centered on events as varied as the American Revolution, the Civil Rights movement, and westward expansion, "Mission US" asks players to take on the roles of characters central to important historical events. iCivics' "Race to Ratify" asks players to assume the part of a journalist attempting to make sense of the debates between the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists regarding the composition and ratification of the Constitution. Each of these games has reached thousands of educators and millions of unique players.

NEH on the Road

NEH on the Road circulates scaled-down versions of previously funded exhibitions to small and mid-sized museums throughout the country. The program extends the life of larger NEH-funded exhibitions by several years and brings excellent humanities projects to rural and underserved regions of the nation. Mid-America Arts Alliance (MAAA) works with the originating museum to re-design and fabricate a smaller traveling exhibit, to acquire low-security artifacts, and to produce educational programming and marketing materials. For the duration of each exhibit's tour—usually three to four years—MAAA manages marketing, booking, and shipping of each exhibit.

The Division's cooperative agreement with MAAA supports an ongoing roster of traveling exhibitions through June 2021. MAAA also provides support to each host site by issuing small grants for local public programming and associated scholarly activities. The Division is particularly interested in reaching museums that have annual operating budgets of between \$250,000 and \$1,000,000 and are located in communities of fewer than 300,000 people.

In 2019, six exhibitions traveled to 28 small museum and library venues. The exhibitions included *For All the World to See: Visual Culture and the Struggle for Civil Rights*, which was developed by the Center for Art, Design and Visual Culture at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. This exhibition explores the role of visual culture and media in shaping the movement for racial justice.

In 2020, seven exhibitions traveled to 18 museum and library venues. (Due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, 13 venues were forced to cancel their scheduled exhibitions; in many cases, however, the host organizations were able to reschedule the exhibitions for a later date.) New in 2020, *Away from Home: American Indian Boarding School Stories*—developed by the

Heard Museum—uses oral histories, artifacts, and photographs to examine the experience of Native American children at government-run boarding schools.

Small museums use these exhibitions to broaden their interpretive programs, forge new partnerships, expand their audience, and strengthen ties with their boards and communities. Public programs related to NEH on the Road exhibitions promote reflection about significant humanities ideas, and connect audiences across generational, geographic and cultural boundaries.

Program Plans for FY 2022

In addition to sustaining the core work of the grant programs described above, the Division of Public Programs will seek to broaden its reach and impact in ways that are responsive to the Administration's priorities, including advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities. Among the programmatic changes being planned for FY 2022 is a widening of the scope the Public Humanities Projects grants through an aggressive outreach campaign to encourage a more diverse array of applicants. The theme of advancing racial equity has particular local resonance with museums, state humanities councils, humanities centers, and historic sites. An increase in funding for this type of content will help encourage these institutions to cultivate new programs and new formats designed to attract audiences that are more diverse.

A second programmatic goal for FY 2022 is to encourage more filmmakers and radio producers from African American, Latino, and Asian American backgrounds to apply for funding. In focusing on increasing access to funding for underserved communities in the Media Projects program, the Division will pursue a number of collaborations with community media groups to provide more in-depth training and workshops for filmmakers and radio producers of color. These workshops, along with other forms of outreach, should help diversify the program's applicant pool as well as the types of projects that ultimately get funded.

Finally, in our NEH on the Road program, we will introduce new training opportunities to help develop the capacity of cultural institutions that have been underserved by this program in the past. The cooperative agreement supporting NEH on the Road expires in June 2021. In crafting the new Request for Proposals (RFP) for the next iteration of this program, the Division will make a special effort to ensure that the organization selected to run the program has the capacity to engage in extensive outreach to, and training for, previously underserved cultural organizations. Similarly, the RFP will encourage the selection of exhibitions that focus on themes and topics that will appeal to these organizations.

DIVISION OF RESEARCH PROGRAMS

FY 2022 Request: \$15,000,000

Program Categories

Programs Supporting Individual Research

Fellowships
Public Scholars
Summer Stipends
Awards for Faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities

Programs Supporting Scholarly Collaboration

Scholarly Editions and Translations
Collaborative Research
Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions
Archaeological and Ethnographic Field Research

Programs with Strategic Partners

Documenting Endangered Languages (with the National Science Foundation)
Advanced Social Science Research on Japan (with the Japan-US Friendship Commission)

Program Goals and Accomplishments

Developing knowledge and advancing understanding in the humanities are core strategic goals of NEH and are at the heart of the Division of Research Programs. The Research Division seeks to attain these goals through its investment in the work of individual scholars; in long-term, complex projects carried out by teams of scholars or at research centers worldwide; and in work with strategic partners.

The nature of humanities research is incremental, focused, and ongoing. While this scholarly work can sometimes seem distant from everyday life, humanities research provides the context for almost every important discussion in the public forum. As an example, during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, many in the reading public turned to an NEH-supported researcher for a reliable history of how pandemics develop and spread (Billy Smith, *Ship of Death*) and how the last pandemic influenced American literary and cultural life (Elizabeth Outka, *Viral Modernism: The Influenza Pandemic and Interwar Literature*). Similarly, following the attacks on the Twin Towers on September 11th, the public and policy makers discovered that a humanities scholar had literally “written the book” on the Taliban (David Edwards, *Before Taliban*). And in a landmark Supreme Court decision that legalized gay marriage nationwide, Justice Anthony Kennedy cited Nancy Cott’s NEH-supported book, *Public Vows: A History of Marriage and the Nation* in the Court’s majority opinion. NEH Research awards made to Smith, Outka, Edwards, Cott, and thousands of other humanities researchers have enabled Americans to deepen their knowledge, participate in discussions that affect everyday life, and become better citizens.

Awards made through the Division of Research Programs support projects in all areas of the humanities. These includes traditional disciplines such as history, philosophy, literature, classics, religion, and archaeology, as well as more recent cross-disciplinary approaches such as intersectionality and environmental humanities.

Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities

The Division's long engagement with understanding civil rights, racial justice, and institutional discrimination supports the Administration's priorities for advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities. Projects in race and ethnic studies have constructively drawn on traditional archival research to uncover new perspectives on race in America. For example, Jeffrey Stewart, a professor of Black Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, received fellowship support to write *The New Negro: The Life of Alain Locke*. Locke, a prominent Black intellectual from Philadelphia, became the driving force behind the Harlem Renaissance, and Stewart received the 2019 Pulitzer Prize in biography for this work. Candacy Taylor, an independent scholar living in New York City, received an award from NEH to research and write *The Overground Railroad: The Green Book and the Roots of Black Travel in America*. Using travel as her frame of reference, Taylor documents Blacks' struggles for equality in 21st-century America. W. Caleb McDaniel, professor of history at Rice University, received support to write *Sweet Taste of Liberty: A True Story of Slavery and Restitution in America*, which examined how a former slave used the U.S. court system in the 19th century to win restitution for her time as a slave. McDaniel received the 2020 Pulitzer Prize in history for his NEH-supported work.

Confronting the Climate Emergency

Consistent with the Administration's interest in confronting the climate emergency, Research grantees are also using creative approaches to demonstrate how the humanities have an important role to play in discussions of climate change and environmental justice. For example, independent scholar Sarah Dry received NEH support for *Waters of the World: The Story of the Scientists Who Unraveled the Mysteries of Our Oceans, Atmosphere, and Ice Sheets and Made the Planet Whole*. Drawing on the history of science, earth sciences, and biography, Dry tells the stories of the scientists who have studied our hydrosphere, atmosphere, and cryosphere; in doing so, she helps us to appreciate the earth as an interconnected system and humanizes the scientists behind most climate-change research. Mary Alice Haddad, John E. Andrus Professor of Government at Wesleyan University, used NEH funding to publish *Effective Advocacy: Lessons from East Asian Environmentalists*. Using her background in comparative politics and environmental sciences, Haddad seeks to explain how and why the environmental movement in Asia developed differently from that in the United States and Europe.

Restoring America's Global Standing and Strengthening Our Democracy

American humanities scholars are among the most innovative and productive in the world, and, consistent with the President's agenda, they support America's global standing through their engagement with ideas and their collaborations with scholars around the world. Teams of NEH-supported researchers lead the way in advancing the core principles of democracy. For example, the Research division continues to support teams of scholars in their efforts to document and

make easily accessible the words of U.S. Presidents (such as Thomas Jefferson and Dwight D. Eisenhower), prominent public figures (such as Frederick Douglass and Eleanor Roosevelt), and literary intellectuals (such as Emily Dickinson and Willa Cather). These teams extend beyond our borders, bringing American scholars together with foreign scholars to work on projects such as the papers of Giuseppe Verdi and of philosopher Soren Kierkegaard. The teams often work in NEH-funded U.S. research center around the world, including sites in India, China, and the Middle East.

Programs Supporting Individual Research

The primary building block of the humanities in America is the individual scholar, and awards to individual researchers have been a priority for NEH since the agency's inception. Today, the support of individual scholars is met through four programs: Fellowships, Summer Stipends, Public Scholars, and Awards for Faculty at Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.

Fellowships and Summer Stipends Program

The NEH Fellowships and Summer Stipends programs support individual scholars pursuing advanced humanities research, providing recipients time to conduct research leading to publication. Offering stipends between two and 12 months, both programs reach a wide range of scholars in diverse settings, from colleges and universities to research institutes to independent scholars without teaching appointments. In collaboration with the Mellon Foundation, the NEH Fellowships program has also engaged in a special initiative to encourage digital publication formats in addition to print publications. Products of both programs are intended for both scholarly and general audiences.

NEH grantees produce award-winning scholarship that shapes popular and academic engagement concerning vital public topics, including the COVID-19 pandemic, social justice, America's civic principles, and economic and environmental challenges. For example, John Eicher (Pennsylvania State University, Altoona) crafted a history of the influenza epidemic of 1918-1920, providing useful context for understanding the COVID-19 pandemic. Bobby J. Smith II (University of Illinois) investigated the importance of food-related politics in the civil rights movement of the 1960s. Jon Schaff (Northern State University) probed the foundations of America's civil order by comparing the political philosophies of Jefferson, Hamilton, and Lincoln. And archaeologist Heather Wholey (West Chester University) engaged concerns about environmental sustainability by studying threats to cultural heritage along the shores of Delaware Bay due to the rising sea level.

Public Scholars

The Division of Research Programs is committed to bringing the insights of the humanities to the American public and to international audiences. The Public Scholars program supports nonfiction books in the humanities that hold strong appeal for curious general readers, regardless of their familiarity with recent scholarship. This program democratizes knowledge by bringing the humanities out of the academy and to the general reading public.

The program is intended to spur non-academic writers to deepen their research, while also encouraging academic writers to broaden their audience. Journalist Kevin Sack, for example, was recently awarded a grant in support of his book-in-progress on the history of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal church in Charleston, South Carolina. The book, which he expects to publish with Penguin/Random House, will show the role of the Black church in resisting oppression through 200 years of American history. Historian Elizabeth Fenn at the University of Colorado, Boulder, won NEH support to write *Sacagawea's World: Window on the American West*, which will use the events of one Native American woman's life to narrate a new history of the Northern Plains, Northern Rockies, and Pacific Northwest. Matthew Delmont of Dartmouth College received an award for *Half American: The Epic Story of African Americans Fighting World War II at Home and Abroad*, due to be published by Viking. His book will be based on extensive research in African-American newspapers and will give equal weight to the fight against Nazism abroad and the struggle against white supremacy at home.

Awards for Faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities

In response to several Presidential Executive Orders, NEH supports communities that are underserved by the humanities by providing research opportunities for faculty and staff members at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), and Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs). The Awards for Faculty program provides flexible grants designed to serve the unique needs of faculty and staff at these institutions; in particular, the program allows recipients, many of whom have demanding teaching, mentoring, and service responsibilities, to maintain and develop their credentials as scholars. The program supports a variety of humanities research efforts that lead not only to publication, but also to revised undergraduate course offerings or institutional or community goals. Awards have supported work on a wide variety of topics by scholars from a range of institutions. In FY 2020, for example, Mary Barr, an assistant professor of sociology at Kentucky State University, received an award to conduct research on the history of the North Shore Summer Project, a 1965 collaboration between civil rights groups and women's organizations in Chicago's northern suburbs who were working to address housing discrimination in those communities. David Overstreet, a former adjunct professor of anthropology and senior archaeologist at the College of Menominee Nation, received an award to write an archaeological monograph describing the prehistory of the Menominee nation of northern Wisconsin. And Amir Abraham Moosavi, an assistant professor of comparative literature at Rutgers University, Newark, was awarded a grant to research and write a book about Arabic and Persian literature pertaining to the Iran-Iraq War.

Programs Supporting Scholarly Collaboration

Modern scholarly endeavors increasingly require the collaboration of multiple researchers working across a wide range of specialties, or scholars working together in research centers and archives. The Research Division nurtures such collaborative efforts through four programs: Scholarly Editions and Translations, Collaborative Research, Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions, and Archaeological and Ethnographic Field Research grants.

Scholarly Editions and Translations

Scholarly Editions and Translations grants support collaborative teams editing and translating foundational humanities texts that are vital to civic education and to a broader knowledge of the country's history and its constitutional principles. Scholarly editions projects involve literary, musical, philosophical, and historical materials. Nearly half of NEH-funded projects are in the fields of U.S. history and literature. Many of these works are published in print editions, but increasingly they are available in digital formats as well, which enables greater access by the scholars as well as the general public. Recent grants have supported editions of the papers of major political figures such as George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Martin Luther King Jr.; the works of philosophers Thomas Aquinas and Karl Barth; inventor Thomas Edison; and literary figures Mark Twain and African-American author Charles W. Chesnutt. Other teams of researchers are preparing editions of documents important to the nation's history. For example, NEH has supported "The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution and the Adoption of the Bill of Rights" project at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, which is collecting and publishing the documentary record of the debate over the ratification of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The Freedman and Southern Society Project at the University of Maryland, College Park, publishes the documentary history of the experiences of four million African-American freedmen after the Civil War. These records provide an incomparable record of liberation and the persistent search for lasting equality.

Collaborative Research

Collaborative Research grants support teams pursuing a range of projects: international collaborations, scholarly conferences, multi-authored publications, and scholarly digital projects. Whether team members work within one field or across disciplines, within one institution or across multiple institutions, within the humanities or in tandem with the social or natural sciences, Collaborative Research awardees harness multiple perspectives and areas of expertise to deepen our understanding of the humanities. For example, the Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) received a grant to develop a digital archive and print publication on the history of the Mississippi Lunatic Asylum, the site of the largest institutional burial ground in the United States. Building on the work of archaeologists, this interdisciplinary team of historians, ethicists, anthropologists, and literary and legal scholars at UMMC, Millsaps College, and Jackson State University is conducting archival and oral history research that will shed new light on the history of mental illness and disability, institutionalized care, and health care inequities. This work will inform current efforts seeking justice for the disabled and people of color in this region.

Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions

Grants awarded under the NEH Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions program support residential fellowships at major U.S. research centers located at home and abroad, as well as fellowships awarded under the auspices of U.S. organizations that facilitate international research. The program recognizes that intellectual exchange and collaboration are vital to advance research in the humanities. NEH funding provides American scholars with opportunities to conduct research in U.S.-based research centers as well as in China, India, Turkey, Greece, Israel, and other parts of the world where support and access might otherwise be difficult if not impossible. NEH supports institutions as varied as the Newberry Library in Chicago, Illinois; the American Center of Oriental Research in Amman, Jordan; and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in New York City. These partnerships expand

the access of American scholars across the globe to important research collections and scholarly communities, and advance American cultural diplomacy goals in many key regions.

Archaeological and Ethnographic Field Research Program

In this initial year of this new grant program, Archaeological and Ethnographic Field Research awards are supporting scholars conducting empirical field research to answer significant questions in the humanities. Archaeology and ethnography are important methodologies that provide observational and experiential data on human history and culture. Most fieldwork of this nature is supported by science and social science funders, which disadvantages humanities scholars in archaeological and ethnographic disciplines and diminishes the influence of humanistic thought on our understanding of human behavior in the past and present. The Research Division launched the Archaeological and Ethnographic Field Research program to help redress this imbalance. Awards made in the program cover both domestic and international field research.

Programs with Strategic Partners

NEH's system of peer review is widely respected for its fairness and rigor, and it therefore comes as no surprise that other government agencies have sought NEH's expertise to help them deliver large-scale peer review for individual scholars. With nearly 50 years of experience in evaluating scholarship, NEH has entered into two strategic partnerships that further extend the agency's mission to support individual research.

NEH/National Science Foundation: Dynamic Language Infrastructure - Documenting Endangered Languages Fellowships

Since 2005, NEH has collaborated with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to fund documentation of the thousands of rapidly disappearing languages all over the world. The Dynamic Language Infrastructure - Documenting Endangered Languages (DLI-DEL) Fellowships program provides awards to individual scholars in the field of linguistics, linguistic anthropology, or sociolinguistics who seek to record and archive endangered languages before they become extinct. Native American languages are an important cluster in this program; one third of the 100 awards made to date have focused on Native American languages. Among the endangered languages studied were Pomoan, spoken by the Pomo tribe in Northern California; Tlingit, spoken in southeast Alaska; a Dilzhe'e variant of Western Apache; and Wyandot, a Northern Iroquois language.

Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission: Fellowships for Advanced Social Science Research on Japan

NEH administers the Fellowships for Advanced Social Science Research on Japan program under an inter-agency agreement with the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission, which is the primary funder. The program's goals are to promote the study of Japan in the United States, to encourage U.S.-Japanese scholarly exchange, and to support the next generation of Japan scholars in the United States. Awards support individual scholars conducting research on modern Japanese society and political economy, Japan's international relations, and U.S.-Japan relations. For example, Dennis Frost of Kalamazoo College won an award to support his

research into the history of disability and sports in Japan. The resulting book will show how events such as the Paralympics have affected disability-related policies and perceptions both in and beyond the sports arena.

Program Plans for FY 2022

In addition to sustaining the core work of the grant programs described above, the Division of Research Programs will seek to broaden its reach and impact in ways that are responsive to the Administration's priorities. Moving forward, the Division intends to focus on the following programmatic emphases:

- The global crisis precipitated by the COVID-19 pandemic provides us with the unanticipated opportunity to confront ongoing social, environmental, and economic issues using the analytical and research skills of the humanities. Our various fellowship programs have long provided job opportunities for recent PhDs, but in this time of academic budget shortfalls and besieged humanities departments, we will do more to encourage un- or underemployed junior scholars to apply for our programs.
- The Division will continue to expand and improve its programs to serve underrepresented communities in the humanities. Recent changes to our Awards for Faculty program have allowed for more flexibility and have broadened the definition of what qualifies as research in HBCUs, HSIs, and TCUs in order to respect the heavy teaching and mentoring responsibilities of their faculties. However, the application guidelines for some of our other programs, such as Summer Stipends and Collaborative Research, also need to be reviewed and updated so that they better serve these humanities scholars and institutions.
- The Division will continue to support all areas of humanistic inquiry but will do more to engage with 21st century subjects such as post-humanism, intersectionality, and environmental humanities. Our Collaborative Research program is ripe for such multi-disciplinary analytical approaches, while our Public Scholars program could help the public to better understand, from a humanities perspective, such topics as the quest for racial equality, the societal aspects of climate change, and the principles of constitutional governance
- The Research Division is also building international collaborations and bringing the humanities to international audiences, both through our existing fellowship programs abroad and through new initiatives. For example, the recent addition of international planning grants to our Collaborative Research program, and the already successful U.S.-Japan fellowship program, have encouraged cultural foundations and foreign ministries to contact us about potential collaboration and co-funding opportunities. We hope to expand these efforts over the coming years as part of our commitment to advancing American humanities research at home and abroad.

OFFICE OF DIGITAL HUMANITIES

FY 2022 Request: \$5,500,000

Program Categories

- Digital Humanities Advancement Grants
- Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities
- NEH/AHRC New Directions in Digital Scholarship in Cultural Institutions
- Fellowships Open Book Program

Program Goals and Accomplishments

In 2006, the National Endowment for the Humanities established an Office of Digital Humanities (ODH) to foster the development of world-class, leading-edge research and education in the emerging field of digital humanities. As our world becomes increasingly digital, computationally intensive research methods become critically important to the humanities, as well as many other disciplines. Since the advent of the internet, we have seen the creation of vast databases of digital books, newspapers, photographs, music, and other materials. These and other research resources are the traditional materials studied by humanities scholars. But now that we have access to literally millions of pages of materials in digital form, how does this change the very nature of humanities research? How does the immense scale of these materials, together with the availability of large-scale computing, change the research paradigm? These are among the important and fundamental questions being addressed by the Office of Digital Humanities.

In the years since the creation of ODH the field has grown enormously, with many universities creating new jobs and hiring new faculty, librarians, and technologists to work on digital humanities projects. In 2013, for example, Arizona State University established an Institute of Humanities Research Nexus Laboratory for Digital Humanities and Transdisciplinary Informatics, and Northeastern University in Massachusetts launched the NULab, the university's center for Digital Humanities and Computational Social Science. Both of these laboratories specialize in digital humanities research and employ staffs from both the humanities and computing fields.

NEH's leadership role in the field of the digital humanities has been widely acknowledged in the humanities community and has helped set the pace for research funders around the world. In the book *Debates in the Digital Humanities*, which describes the rapid growth of digital humanities research, University of Maryland Professor Matthew Kirschenbaum acknowledges the leadership role taken by NEH in building the field, saying "that the major federal granting agency for scholarship in the humanities, taking its cues directly from a small but active and influential group of scholars, had devoted scarce resources to launching a number of new grant opportunities ... around an endeavor termed 'digital humanities' was doubtless the tipping point for the branding of DH, at least in the United States."

NEH's leadership has had enormous influence internationally as well as domestically. ODH has worked collaboratively with peer funding bodies around the world to help bring together American researchers with their colleagues from abroad. Among the numerous international

grant programs sponsored by ODH is the Digging into Data Challenge, a competition that bridged the humanities, the social sciences, and data science. This program brought together funding agencies from 11 different nations: the United States, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Portugal, the Netherlands, and Finland. Working with our international peer research agencies allowed NEH to leverage its funds in significant and long-lasting ways.

ODH has funded several important projects that investigate historical events that have contemporary relevance. One such project focused on flu pandemics, including those of 1889 and 1918. This historical work reveals how members of the public have responded to health measures in the past and how the media has influenced the nation's response to the pandemics. These valuable historical lessons can in turn inform the efforts of contemporary public health officials to manage the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Office of Digital Humanities recently awarded a grant to the Center for Constitutional Studies at Utah Valley University to help document a little-studied but important part of American history: U.S. state constitutions. The grant will fund undergraduate history students to create a digital model of archival materials that document US state constitutional conventions. This project is supportive of the current Administration's efforts to strengthen Americans' knowledge of the country's principles of constitutional governance and democracy.

NEH's Office of Digital Humanities currently administers four innovative grant programs aimed at moving the field forward:

Digital Humanities Advancement Grants

Just as astronomers need telescopes to view distant stars and chemists need mass spectrometers to analyze laboratory samples, humanities scholars in the digital age need tools, methods, and infrastructure to perform their work. The very objects that scholars study on a daily basis—books, music, newspapers, images, ancient artifacts—are increasingly available in digital form. This alters the fundamental methods of humanities scholarship. Combining aspects of the humanities with data science, ODH offers the Digital Humanities Advancement Grant (DHAG) program, which encourages applicants to experiment, build, and deploy these new methods, tools, and infrastructure for the humanities.

The DHAG program also encourages research that studies technology through the lens of the humanities. These projects take a critical look at technology and investigate social and ethical concerns such as media disinformation, bioethics, and privacy.

Some notable DHAG-funded projects include:

- A grant to the University of Maryland and Northeastern University to support the refinement of machine learning methods, to improve automatic handwritten text recognition of Persian and Arabic manuscripts, and make these sources more accessible for humanities research and teaching.
- A grant to Washington State University for technical improvements to the Mukurtu Content Management System and for the addition of two additional community hubs for

Native American and Native Alaskan communities located in southern California and Alaska. Mukurtu is a free and open-source content management system and community digital access platform built with and for Indigenous communities globally.

- A grant to the University of Minnesota to expand and refine a set of digital tools and work processes that are being used to generate and map datasets of racial covenants (“redlining”) from communities across the United States. This Mapping Prejudice project investigates the growth of racial segregation and inequality in post-World War II American urban areas through an examination of racial covenants.

Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities

This grant category encourages the sharing of best digital technology practices among humanities scholars. As is apparent in the work supported under ODH’s other grant categories, an increasing number of humanities scholars are using sophisticated technology tools and techniques. The Institutes program sponsors training workshops that allow scholars to learn about these new, advanced technologies, tools, and techniques. This funding opportunity is clearly meeting a need in the field, as most institutes report receiving far more applications to attend than there are seats available.

A scholar who attended one of these institutes wrote a letter to the project director, saying “what I learned at the NEH mini-seminar absolutely surpassed anything that I could have imagined for the utility of these new methods and technologies. I ... left completely rethinking my own research.” Another scholar wrote to say that the “institute was an amazing experience—one of the best intellectual learning situations in my whole life.”

Examples of recent awards in the Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities program include:

- A four-day summer workshop at the University of California, Berkeley, and follow-up activities for 32 participants on the ethical and legal issues associated with the mining of data from large-scale textual collections.
- A two-week-long institute hosted by George Mason University in Virginia that will teach participants how to create datasets, visualize data, and create maps, with the overarching goal of creating a cohort of military historians who are able to use digital tools and methods to examine issues at the intersection of war and society.

NEH/AHRC New Directions in Digital Scholarship in Cultural Institutions

The ODH launched this new program in FY 2020 as part of our continuing efforts to build global collaborations and bring the humanities to international audiences. This program is a partnership between NEH and the United Kingdom’s Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). The program encourages the development of research partnerships between US and U.K. libraries, museums, archives, and galleries to pursue cutting-edge work in data science, artificial intelligence, machine learning, and other technologies.

Under this program, U.S. and U.K. institutions are encouraged to develop joint research proposals and submit them to both NEH and AHRC. Both agencies jointly adjudicate each proposal through the use of a shared peer review panel. Winning proposals receive two grants: NEH makes an award to the U.S. partner and AHRC makes an award to the U.K. partner. Some notable grants from recent rounds of this competition include:

- The development of artificial intelligence capabilities, music information retrieval tools, and archival work processes to enhance access to archival jazz collections, including those held by the U.S. Institute of Jazz Studies and the Scottish Jazz Archive. The U.S.-based grant recipient, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, worked together with their U.K. partner, City, University of London, on this groundbreaking project.
- A collaborative research project on digital adoption and transformation in museums that will also produce professional development resources for the cultural heritage field. The U.S. partner is Southern University and A&M College, a Historically Black University. The U.K. partner is the University of Leicester.

Fellowships Open Book Program

ODH teamed up with NEH's Division of Research Programs in developing the Fellowships Open Book Program. The program has a simple purpose: to increase scholarly and public access to NEH-funded research in the United States and abroad.

NEH's long-standing fellowships program (housed in the Division of Research Programs) offers grants to scholars to undertake important research in the humanities. Grant recipients most often publish the results of their research in book form. But these books, typically published by university presses, seldom sell more than 200 to 300 copies and thus have a limited reach outside of academia. To help expand access to this scholarly work, the Fellowships Open Book Program provides a modest grant (\$5500) to university presses to create digital, open-access editions of these books that are free for anyone in the world to download and read. This program makes it possible for thousands of people—from scholars to teachers to students to interested members of the public—to have free access to these important scholarly works.

Some examples of recent awards in this category include:

- NEH fellow David Andrew Biggs is a professor at the University of California, Riverside. He received an NEH fellowship to conduct research for his new book, *Footprints of War: Militarized Landscapes in Vietnam*. His publisher, the University of Washington Press, received a Fellowships Open Book Program award to make the book available in a free, open access digital edition. As described by his press, "*Footprints of War* traces the long history of conflict-produced spaces in Vietnam, beginning with early modern wars and the French colonial invasion in 1885 and continuing through the collapse of the Saigon government in 1975. The result is a richly textured history of militarized landscapes that reveals the spatial logic of key battles such as the Tet Offensive."
- NEH fellow David J. Frost is a professor at Kalamazoo College. He received an NEH fellowship to conduct research for his new book, *More Than Medals: A History of the Paralympics and Disability Sports in Postwar Japan*. His publisher, Cornell University

Press, received a Fellowships Open Book Program award to make the book available in a free, open-access digital edition. Here is how his press described this important work of scholarship: “How does a small provincial city in southern Japan become the site of a world-famous wheelchair marathon that has been attracting the best international athletes since 1981? In *More Than Medals*, Dennis J. Frost answers this question and addresses the histories of individuals, institutions, and events—the 1964 Paralympics, the FESPIC Games, the Ōita International Wheelchair Marathon, the Nagano Winter Paralympics, and the 2021 Tokyo Summer Games that played important roles in the development of disability sports in Japan.”

Program Plans for FY 2022

In addition to sustaining the core work of the grant programs described above, the Office of Digital Humanities will seek to broaden its reach and impact in ways that are responsive to the Administration’s priorities. There is a great deal of interesting research being undertaken that investigates issues associated with racial equity, privacy, ethics, and disinformation in online spaces. After a year of the COVID-19 pandemic, Americans spend even more of their time living in an online world that, like a broken mirror, reflects but also distorts the facts of the “real” world. The voices of humanities scholars need to be heard in this important research.

Here are two examples of changes we are contemplating for FY 2022 in our portfolio of funding opportunities, which align with the Administration’s priorities of advancing racial equity, confronting the climate emergency, enhancing America’s global standing, and strengthening our democracy:

- A new grant program that has a thematic focus that changes each year, designed to draw out top scholars interested in tackling a topic that bridges technology and the humanities. For example, one year the topic could be the ethics of artificial intelligence; another year the topic could be about racial bias in computational algorithms; and in another year the topic could be on disinformation in online spaces and its impact on civic society.
- A greater emphasis on international grant-making, bringing American scholars together with their colleagues from around the world. NEH could possibly take a more active role with the Trans-Atlantic Platform for the Social Sciences and the Humanities, which is an international group of funders from North America, South America, and Europe. Through this partnership, NEH could co-fund international projects on climate change, pandemic response, or other topics with an international impact.

OFFICE OF CHALLENGE PROGRAMS

FY 2022 Request: \$13,600,000

Program Categories

- Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants: Capital Projects
- Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants: Digital Infrastructure

Program Goals and Accomplishments

The Office of Challenge Programs focuses on grants with long-term impact. This program is NEH's most important source of assistance for organizations to build humanities infrastructure and capacity and to sustain significant humanities activities into the future. Challenge grants achieve this by offering funds that are only released when matched with third-party donations, usually at ratios of 3:1 or higher.

Challenge grants leverage federal dollars, stimulate private philanthropy, and increase institutional buy-in. Since their inception in 1977, Challenge grants have generated over \$1.3 billion in nonfederal funds for the humanities. (Adjusted for inflation, the amount equals almost \$4 billion.) A wide array of nonprofit organizations throughout the United States—museums, libraries, colleges and universities, scholarly research organizations, tribal centers, state humanities councils, public radio and television stations, and historical societies and sites—have taken up the NEH “challenge” as a means of strengthening their capacity for excellence in the humanities.

The office's core program, *Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants*, is designed to expand and strengthen the institutional base of the humanities by enabling infrastructure development and capacity building. This core program funds two distinct types of projects—capital projects and digital infrastructure:

Capital Projects

Challenge grants in this category support the design, purchase, construction, restoration, or renovation of facilities for humanities activities. A sampling of recent grants illustrates the reach and impact of these grants:

- Christ Church in Philadelphia, founded in 1695 as part of William Penn's charter, played a significant role in the establishment of the United States. Notable members of the congregation included George Washington and Betsy Ross, along with John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and thirteen other signers of the Declaration of Independence, seven of whom are buried on the grounds. Christ Church was a center for 18th-century political debates regarding separation of church and state, and its clergy attended to the Continental Congress and the early United States Senate. The building is a National Historic Landmark and is visited annually by about 250,000 tourists. The church's brick tower and its white spire are among Philadelphia's most treasured historic sights; however, the 1754 steeple—one of the few standing wooden structures of its kind from the colonial era—was listing two feet to the right and in need of urgent repair. NEH's

offer of Challenge grant funds leveraged a significant amount of private donations that made possible the restoration of the exterior and interior of this iconic structure.

- At the Buffalo Bill Center of the West in Cody, WY, extensive and unique humanities collections—among them Annie Oakley’s competition rifle, the studio collection of Frederic Remington, a Nez Perce buffalo-hide tipi from the 1830s, and the papers of William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill)—help illustrate the history, culture, and people of the American West. In 2019, the Buffalo Bill Center welcomed 167,000 in-person visitors and attracted 25,000 more in 850 virtual events. The renovations being made possible by Challenge grant funds are crucial to the Center’s efforts to preserve its collections and to make its facilities more secure.
- An NEH Challenge grant contributed significantly to a capital campaign for the design and construction of a new 30,000-square-foot Capital Jewish Museum in Washington, DC. This museum has vast holdings documenting the material culture and history of the Jewish community in the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, and suburban Maryland. The jewel of the collection is a historic synagogue that dates to 1876, which was saved from demolition in 1969 by the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington. NEH’s \$250,000 Challenge grant leveraged critical funds to enable the relocation of the entire building to its new location at the site of the museum, as well as the construction of a community lab, flexible programming space, exhibition galleries, and collections storage space.
- In recognition of the financial challenges that often confront minority-serving institutions and community colleges, Challenge grants require a lower matching ratio—typically 1:1. For example, Tennessee’s Pellissippi State Community College received a 1:1 matching offer to assist the college in its efforts to create a new Appalachian Heritage Center on its Strawberry Plains campus. Cultural resources currently held at the college’s main campus will be transferred to the new center, including books and audiovisual materials on topics such as the Civil War, mining, recreation, farm and coal town life, bluegrass music, public health, regional literature, Appalachian folklore, and handicrafts. By enabling students, faculty, and members of the community to have access to such materials and to engage in related coursework and programs, the new facility will have a profound impact on the region.

Digital Infrastructure

Challenge grants in this category provide support for the maintenance, modernization, and sustainability of existing digital scholarly projects and platforms. Examples of the types of grants supported in this category include:

- WGBH (Boston, MA) is a radio station and leading producer of humanities programming for public media. WGBH’s Media Library and Archives (MLA) includes a huge collection of about 750,000 production assets, including film, video, audio materials, digital media, still images, and printed materials. The MLA makes these materials available to producers, scholars, researchers, educators, students, and the broader public through its website Open Vault. At this site, users can access a wide array of digital materials, including full-length interviews conducted for notable WGBH productions

such as “Vietnam: A Television History,” “Rock and Roll,” and “War and Peace in the Nuclear Age.” As part of the station’s “Leadership in the Digital Century” campaign, an NEH Challenge grant supported the development of a digital asset management system, the improvement of public access to the Open Vault website, and the digital conversion of 83,000 at risk audiovisual recordings.

- Humanities Commons is a trusted, non-profit online network where more than 17,000 scholars and other practitioners working in the humanities can post professional profiles, discuss their common interests, develop new publications, and share their work with the world. In order to expand and remain sustainable into the future, Humanities Commons needed to shift from foundation support to a membership model, and to relocate their base of operations to Michigan State University (an institution with a longstanding commitment to research and development in digital humanities). An NEH Challenge grant is supporting the build-out the university’s technical and administrative capacity to host the network and ensure its continuity.
- The Alexandria Archive Institute (AAI) is the premier American organization for digital resources serving the archaeology field. The primary product of AAI is Open Context, a service for data management, publication, and archiving that includes 139 projects, representing over 800 researchers and 1.5 million records from archaeological sites around the world. These digital pictures, notes, and geographic data points represent some of the most valuable primary sources for understanding ancient and modern world cultures. With the support of an NEH Challenge grant, AAI has been working to make these data more widely available to both scholars and the general public

Program Plans for FY 2022

In addition to sustaining the core work of the grant programs described above, the Office of Challenge Programs will seek to broaden its reach and impact in ways that are responsive to the Administration’s priorities. Listed below are examples of previously supported projects that illustrate the Office’s capacity to undertake this new work.

Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities

The Office has long supported projects that advance racial equity and support underserved communities. Here are several recent examples:

- With support from Challenge Programs, the National Trust for Historic Preservation launched its “HBCU Cultural Heritage Stewardship Initiative” in 2020. This program offers support for cultural heritage stewardship at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, where such activities have been underfunded in the past. The first round of eight grantees was announced in February 2021.
- For Native American communities, language preservation and revitalization are central to maintaining and strengthening cultural identity. Language learning boosts educational achievement and student retention rates. Such learning supports the management of community, cultural, and natural resources, and revitalizes the transmission of cultural values and knowledge. With a \$2.5 million investment from NEH, the First Nations

Development Institute is raising an equal amount of funds to run the “Native Language Immersion Initiative” over four years, featuring annual grant competitions for over 30 tribal nations and organizations conducting language immersion programs at schools and community centers.

- In recent years the state humanities councils of Louisiana and Kentucky received NEH Challenge grants for “Prime Time Family Reading,” a literacy program targeted at 3- to 10-year-old children and their parents. These families are often economically vulnerable and have low-literacy skills or possess limited English proficiency. The funded programs served over 1,000 families through weekly sessions that included a meal and book reading and discussion. The reading sessions involved parents and children together and fostered engaged listening, critical thinking, and curiosity connected to themes and values central to the humanities, such as leadership, community, justice, respect, and courage.
- Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania and St. Anselm College in New Hampshire were given Challenge grant support for programs for high school students from low-income and underrepresented communities. Slippery Rock’s flagship “[Humanities Ladder](#)” program puts university professors in the high school classroom to demystify university-level coursework in the less intense environment of high school. The active-learning approach, including campus visits and immersive cultural experiences, is designed to energize students and enable critical reflection on core principles of civic life, aesthetic appreciation, and ethical choices. St. Anselm’s offers its “Humanities After School” program as a resource to help refugee and immigrant youth (9th-12th grades) in Manchester, New Hampshire, to explore their own cultural identities and develop their academic skills. The intensive two-semester program, run in close partnership between college faculty and community leaders, strengthened students’ writing and thinking in several humanities areas.

Building on such successful past examples, the Office of Challenge Programs is exploring the possibility of a new grant opportunity in FY 2022 to create and sustain humanities programming and education in communities that are underserved. With a focus on increasing equity and racial justice through the humanities, these grants would create innovative partnerships between larger national institutions and local minority-serving organizations. The intention would be to foster greater participation, equity, and inclusion of all age groups and career stages in the United States.

Confronting the Climate Emergency

Another goal for FY 2022 is to widen the scope of the *Infrastructure and Capacity Building* program to address an area of urgent importance: Facing the challenges that climate change presents to significant humanities buildings, sites, collections, and communities. Funding would be offered to organizations and cultural sites in areas prone to flooding, hurricanes, and other natural disasters. Grant funds would support recipients’ efforts to prepare for such events by developing climate-sensitive plans to protect their facilities and materials. This funding will significantly increase the resilience of institutions with collections and sites of historical importance and will protect their legacy for future generations of Americans.

Strengthening Our Democracy

The Office of Challenge Programs has fostered the creation of numerous ventures aimed at strengthening Americans' knowledge of and commitment to the country's principles of constitutional governance and democracy. Challenge grants have funded many such programs, including an American Values and Institutions program at Duke University that focused on teaching American government through the study of the nation's founding documents, and the History School Program at the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American history, which vastly expanded free lessons for elementary, middle, and high school students on topics such as the U.S. Constitution. The Office of Challenge Programs intends to revive and expand support for such programs in FY 2022.

TREASURY MATCHING FUNDS

FY 2022 Request: \$2,000,000

NEH uses Treasury funds to match nonfederal contributions in support of humanities projects. Encouraging private-sector support for cultural activities is an important goal of the Administration and of Congress, and NEH Treasury funds and Challenge Grants (described in a separate section of this budget) have proven to be an effective means of leveraging the contributions of the nation's businesses, foundations, and individuals on behalf of the humanities.

From the establishment of the agency in 1965 through FY 2020, NEH matching grants for humanities projects have stimulated \$459 million in third-party donations. To build on that record of success, NEH is requesting an appropriation of \$2 million for NEH's Treasury funds program in FY 2022.

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

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

In recent years, NEH matching grants have supported humanities activities of every kind. Awards of Treasury matching funds have included the following:

- \$800,000 to the 56 state and jurisdictional humanities councils to provide support for projects conducted by local organizations and groups throughout the country.
- \$78,000 to the University of Virginia to support continued work on a long-term, scholarly project to edit and publish *The Papers of George Washington*.
- \$125,000 to the University of California, Berkeley to support the Mark Twain Project's preparation for simultaneous print and online publication of *The Innocents Abroad*; *Pudd'nhead Wilson*; *San Francisco Correspondence, 1865-1866*; and volume 7 of *Mark Twain's Letters*.
- \$170,000 to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation in Springfield, Illinois, to support preparation for online publication of materials from the congressional service and political campaigns of Abraham Lincoln.
- \$50,000 to Stanford University to support the preparation for publication of Volume VIII (September 1962 - December 1963) of the *Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr.*

- \$65,000 to the Newberry Library in Chicago, Illinois, to support residential fellowships to use the Library's rich research collections.
- \$125,000 to Rutgers University to support ongoing publication of *The Papers of Thomas Alva Edison*, American inventor and entrepreneur.
- \$19,000 to the University of South Carolina to support the preparation and digital publication of the papers of the Pinkneys, a family of prominent Revolutionary-era statesmen from South Carolina.
- \$50,000 to George Mason University for ongoing content development, outreach, and maintenance for "World History Commons," which is a world history platform offering peer-reviewed digital resources for students, teachers, and scholars in secondary schools and institutions of higher education.
- \$50,000 to the University of Kentucky for their "Reading the Invisible Library project," which is developing computerized techniques to recover writings from the Herculaneum library, the entire collections of which were destroyed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 BCE.
- \$50,000 to the City University of New York in support of the "Manifold in the Classroom" project, a digital publishing platform that enables the creation and publication of free educational resources in the humanities.
- \$100,000 to Futuro Media Group to support the production of 26 animated short documentary films about little-known Progressive Era women who achieved success in science, business, aviation, journalism, politics, medicine, exploration, and the arts.
- \$100,000 to the Chicago Historical Society for its project, "Modern by Design: Chicago Streamlines America," an exhibition examining the role of Chicago in popularizing mid-twentieth-century modern design and the impact of this design on American culture.
- \$100,000 to the Baltimore Museum of Art in support of "Monsters & Myths: Transatlantic Surrealism in the 1930s and 1940s," a traveling exhibition exploring the impact of war and transatlantic exchange on the art of surrealists during the 1930s and 1940s.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

FY 2020 - 2022 PERFORMANCE PLAN

This document presents the National Endowment for the Humanities' (NEH) Performance Plan for fiscal year (FY) 2022. The plan sets forth indicators of the NEH's progress in attaining the goals and objectives of the agency's current strategic plan.

Each of the plan's three sections is tied to the actual or requested amount of Congressional appropriations for specific fiscal years. Performance indicators for FY 2022 correspond to the Budget request of \$177,550,000 for NEH. FY 2021 performance data are consistent with the level of program activity that is being supported by NEH's current level of funding (exclusive of funds appropriated to NEH under the American Rescue Plan Act). For FY 2020, the figures represent actual performance data for program activity supported by NEH's appropriation for that year.

NEH has recently completed a long-term project to digitize grant records for all humanities projects that received NEH funding from the inception of the agency until its first computer system became operational in FY 1980. In all, 12,390 of these historical, paper-based records were added to the NEH's grant information database and made publicly accessible. Accordingly, every NEH grant made since the agency's first award in 1966—totaling 66,727 projects to date—is now documented in an easily accessible digital format. This database greatly enhances NEH's ability to document its grant-supported work. Members of the public can easily search this data on the NEH's website. External researchers interested in doing analysis work can download the data in machine-readable format from data.gov.

Complementing this effort, NEH has also developed the capability to collect information about products, prizes, and media coverage that result from NEH-funded projects. Current and past grantees can now input data about such project outcomes as books, journal articles, websites, documentary films, museum exhibitions, conferences, workshops, computer software, infrastructure improvements, and academic prizes. This agency database is enabling NEH to do a better job of demonstrating the reach and impact of its grants. The database has had the added benefit of enabling scholars, students, and the general public to visit NEH's website to obtain descriptive and financial information about the agency's grants, and to find links to the books, articles, films, or other products of NEH-supported projects.

As noted above, the performance plan presented in the following pages is tied to the goals and objectives of NEH's current strategic plan. In keeping with the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act—which call for all federal agencies to revise their strategic plans following a presidential transition—NEH will soon embark on an effort to update its plan. Once that work is complete, the agency's performance plan will be revised so that it conforms to the updated goals and objectives of the new strategic plan. The results of this work will be reflected in NEH's Congressional budget request for FY 2023.

	II. Table A	NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES FY 2022 PERFORMANCE PLAN
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2022 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
RESEARCH PROGRAMS \$15,000,000	A: Facilitate basic research and original scholarship in the humanities.	Support would be provided for approximately 235 individual scholars to make significant progress on important humanities research projects through fellowships and stipends.
	1) Provide support for scholarly fellowships and stipends—both for scholars affiliated with educational institutions and working independently—to devote a dominant period of time to research and writing on significant subjects in all fields of the humanities.	Support would be provided for 40 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, 35 previously awarded grants would receive ongoing support through NEH matching funds.
	2) Support collaborative research projects on significant subjects in the humanities.	Awards for 28 humanities fellowship programs at independent research institutions would support the work of 70 humanities scholars who are making significant contributions to scholarship in the humanities.
	3) Encourage international scholarly collaboration in the humanities.	Applicants would be encouraged to harness the vast potential of advanced digital technology in the conduct and dissemination of their research.
	4) Work in partnership with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support projects to record, document, and archive endangered languages worldwide, with a special emphasis on endangered Native American languages.	Six projects would be supported through the Endowment's multi-year funding partnership with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to provide awards to scholars engaged in recording and archiving key languages before they become extinct.
	5) Support humanities scholarship and related course development by faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.	Support would enable 16-18 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.
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2022 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS

EDUCATION PROGRAMS \$13,500,000	B: Strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education.	
	1) Provide professional development opportunities for teachers at all levels of the nation's educational system to renew and deepen their knowledge of the humanities.	Support for an estimated 20 NEH summer institutes will enable 250 college teachers and 250 schoolteachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of the humanities. College teachers participating in seminars and institutes during the summer of 2022 will reach approximately 43,750 students annually; schoolteacher participants will reach approximately 31,250 annually.
	The Landmarks of American History and Culture program is a place-based program at historic sites across the U.S. for K-12 educators.	Support for 14 Landmarks of American History and Culture workshops to take place in the summer of 2023 will enable approximately 1000 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of American history and culture, 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 126,000 students.
	2) Veterans & Active Service Members: Support efforts to develop humanities resources and methods in teaching and learning at institutions of higher education and nonprofit organizations	Support for an estimated 11 awards in the Dialogues on the Experience of War program, which is specifically concerned with Veterans and active service members.
	3) Strengthen efforts to enhance the availability and quality of humanities programming, curricula, resources, and teaching and learning at the nation's community colleges.	Support for an estimated seven Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges projects to enhance 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 outside the humanities.
	4) Support efforts of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic- Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities (Minority Serving Institutions) to enhance the availability and quality of humanities programming, curricula, resources, and teaching and learning.	Humanities Initiatives at Minority Serving Institutions will provide 16 grants to improve humanities programs, resources, and instruction as well as other capacity building activities.
	5) Support efforts to increase the availability and strengthen the quality of humanities programs, curricula, resources, and teaching and learning in the nation's two- and four-year colleges and universities.	Support for seven Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities projects in a program supporting two- and four-year colleges' and universities' commitment to educating students from a variety of backgrounds, ethnic, and racial groups who will pursue a range of educational and career paths.
	6) Provide support and encouragement to two- and four-year institutions of higher education for the development of curricular innovations that address current challenges in the humanities.	Support for 15 Humanities Connections Planning projects and 5 Humanities Connections Implementation projects 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.

	7) Enhance and support NEH's EDSITEment website as a means of enriching teaching and learning resources for teachers, students, and parents.	Support the development of materials and other forms of outreach in social studies, civics, and other humanities subjects to enhance NEH's <i>A More Perfect Union</i> initiative for inclusion on EDSITEment, NEH's nationally recognized website for K-12 teachers seeking rich humanities resources on the Internet.
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2022 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
PRESERVATION AND ACCESS \$19,500,000	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 34-38 projects would preserve and/or provide access to 6,000 hours of recorded sound and video collections; 2,000 linear feet of archival documents; and 800,000 pages of 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 approximately 700,000 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 five to eight projects to begin or continue work on the preparation of dictionaries, atlases, encyclopedias, and text bases 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 three 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.	Six to eight 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.
	6) Support the training of staff from the nation's cultural repositories in the appropriate procedures for preserving and enhancing access to humanities collections.	10-12 awards would be made for regional and national education programs that are providing training for approximately 4,000 people in U.S. museums, libraries, archives, and historical organizations. An additional 400,000 people will access educational materials freely distributed online.
	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 80 institutions in at least 30 states. Approximately 20-25 percent of the awards would go to first-time NEH grantees.

	8) Support incorporation of sustainable conservation measures that prolong the useful life of collections and promote institutional resilience in cultural heritage organizations.	12-15 awards would assist with planning for and implementing sustainable preventive conservation measures.
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2022 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
PUBLIC PROGRAMS \$14,000,000	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 40 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.	Approximately 20 grants for television/radio projects would draw a cumulative audience of approximately 40 million people.
	3) Support humanities projects that make creative use of new technologies to enhance the quality and reach of public humanities programming.	Approximately 25-28 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.
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2022 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
FED/STATE PARTNERSHIP \$53,476,000	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 will enable 15,000 in-person and virtual subrecipient-conducted activities.
	2) Encourage high quality council-conducted humanities programs in the various states.	Support will enable 9,000 in-person and virtual council conducted activities

	3) Encourage state humanities councils in their efforts to create and support humanities-rich websites and digital projects.	Support will enable 40 humanities councils (74%) to conduct council-led activities with the primary purpose of delivering information through humanities-rich websites and digital projects, and 45 humanities councils (83%) to conduct council-led activities with the primary purpose of facilitating audience engagement through humanities-rich websites and digital projects. Support will enable 40 humanities councils (74%) to support subrecipient-conducted activities with the primary purpose of delivering information through humanities-rich websites and digital projects, and 50 humanities councils (93%) to support subrecipient-conducted activities with the primary purpose of facilitating audience engagement through humanities-rich websites and digital projects.
	4) Support state humanities councils in ongoing collaborations with colleges and universities, museums, libraries, historical societies, and other institutions.	Support will enable 9,000 partnerships with colleges and universities, museums, libraries, historical societies, and other institutions.
	5) Recognize and encourage council activities that promote civil discussion, particularly of issues that divide Americans.	Support will enable 50 humanities councils (93%) to conduct council-led activities. Support will enable 51 humanities councils (93%) to support subrecipient-conducted activities.
PROGRAM REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2022 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
DIGITAL HUMANITIES \$5,500,000	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 33 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.
PROGRAM REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2022 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
CHA LLE NGE \$13,600,000	G: Strengthen the institutional base of the humanities in the long term through financial incentives provided by matching challenge grants.	

	1) Support infrastructure projects at humanities organizations to construct, preserve, and renovate important humanities buildings, sites, collections, and digital resources.	By FY 2027, 16 NEH Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants awarded in FY 2022 would leverage at least an estimated \$15 million of nonfederal donations to recipient institutions in support of their humanities activities.
	2) Build long-term resilience to climate change through disaster preparedness and prevention measures at humanities institutions, sites, and collections.	Possible development of Challenge Grants programming related to Climate Resilience grants.
	3) Create and sustain collaborative humanities programming to address equity and racial justice in communities that are underserved to bring about systemic change.	By FY 2025, 40 NEH Challenge Grants awarded in FY 2022 would leverage at least an estimated \$12 million of nonfederal donations to recipient organizations in support of their humanities activities.
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2022 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
TREASURY MATCHING \$2,000,000	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 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 \$1.25 million for exemplary activities in the humanities.

	II. Table A	
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2021 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
RESEARCH PROGRAMS \$14,500,000	A: Facilitate basic research and original scholarship in the humanities.	Support would be provided for approximately 235 individual scholars to make significant progress on important humanities research projects through fellowships and stipends.
	1) Provide support for scholarly fellowships and stipends —both for scholars affiliated with educational institutions and working independently—to devote a dominant period of time to research and writing on significant subjects in all fields of the humanities.	Support would be provided for 40 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, 35 previously awarded grants would receive ongoing support through NEH matching funds.
	2) Support collaborative research projects on significant subjects in the humanities.	Awards for 28 humanities fellowship programs at independent research institutions would support the work of 70 humanities scholars who are making significant contributions to scholarship in the humanities.
	3) Encourage international scholarly collaboration in the humanities.	Applicants would be encouraged to harness the vast potential of advanced digital technology in the conduct and dissemination of their research.
	4) Work in partnership with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support projects to record, document, and archive endangered languages worldwide, with a special emphasis on endangered Native American languages.	Six projects would be supported through the Endowment's multi-year funding partnership with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to provide awards to scholars engaged in recording and archiving key languages before they become extinct.
	5) Support humanities scholarship and related course development by faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.	Support would enable 16-18 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.
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2021 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS

EDUCATION PROGRAMS \$13,000,000	B: Strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education.	
	1) Provide professional development opportunities for teachers at all levels of the nation’s educational system to renew and deepen their knowledge of the humanities.	Support for an estimated 20 NEH summer institutes will enable 250 college teachers and 250 schoolteachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of the humanities. College teachers participating in seminars and institutes during the summer of 2022 will reach approximately 43,750 students annually; schoolteacher participants will reach approximately 31,250 annually.
	The Landmarks of American History and Culture program is a place-based program at historic sites across the U.S. for K-12 educators.	Support for 14 Landmarks of American History and Culture workshops to take place in the summer of 2023 will enable approximately 1000 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of American history and culture, 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 126,000 students.
	2) Veterans & Active Service Members: Support efforts to develop humanities resources and methods in teaching and learning at institutions of higher education and nonprofit organizations.	Support for an estimated 9 awards in the Dialogues on the Experience of War program, which is specifically concerned with Veterans and active service members.
	3) Strengthen efforts to enhance the availability and quality of humanities programming, curricula, resources, and teaching and learning at the nation’s community colleges.	Support for an estimated six to seven Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges projects to enhance 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 outside the humanities.
	4) Support efforts of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic- Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities (Minority Serving Institutions) to enhance the availability and quality of humanities programming, curricula, resources, and teaching and learning.	Humanities Initiatives at Minority Serving Institutions will provide 10 grants to improve humanities programs, resources, and instruction as well as other capacity building activities.
	5) Support efforts to increase the availability and strengthen the quality of humanities programs, curricula, resources, and teaching and learning in the nation’s two- and four-year colleges and universities.	Support for five Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities projects in a program supporting two- and four-year colleges’ and universities’ commitment to educating students from a variety of backgrounds, ethnic, and racial groups who will pursue a range of educational and career paths.

	6) Provide support and encouragement to two- and four-year institutions of higher education for the development of curricular innovations that address current challenges in the humanities.	Support for 18 Humanities Connections Planning projects and eight Humanities Connections Implementation projects 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.
	7) Enhance and support NEH's EDSITEment website as a means of enriching teaching and learning resources for teachers, students, and parents.	Support the development of materials and other forms of outreach in social studies, civics, and other humanities subjects to enhance NEH's <i>A More Perfect Union</i> initiative for inclusion on EDSITEment, NEH's nationally recognized website for K-12 teachers seeking rich humanities resources on the Internet.
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2021 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
PRESERVATION AND ACCESS \$19,000,000	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 30-35 projects would preserve and/or provide access to 5,000 hours of recorded sound and video collections; 3,000 linear feet of archival documents; and 700,000 pages of 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 approximately 700,000 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 six to ten projects to begin or continue work on the preparation of dictionaries, atlases, encyclopedias, and text bases 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 three 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.	Six to ten 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.
	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 awards would be made for regional and national education programs that are providing training for approximately 3,000 people in U.S. museums, libraries, archives, and historical organizations. An additional 290,700 people will access educational materials freely distributed online.
	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 65 (80) institutions in at least 30 states. Approximately 20-25 percent of the awards would go to first-time NEH grantees.
	8) Support incorporation of sustainable conservation measures that prolong the useful life of collections and promote institutional resilience in cultural heritage organizations.	12-15 awards would assist with planning for and implementing sustainable preventive conservation measures.
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2021 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
PUBLIC PROGRAMS \$13,500,000	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 40 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.	Approximately 20 grants for television/radio projects would draw a cumulative audience of approximately 40 million people.
	3) Support humanities projects that make creative use of new technologies to enhance the quality and reach of public humanities programming.	Approximately 25-28 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.
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2021 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS

FED/STATE PARTNERSHIP \$51,576,000	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 will enable 15,000 in-person and virtual subrecipient-conducted activities.
	2) Encourage high quality council-conducted humanities programs in the various states.	Support will enable 9,000 in-person and virtual council conducted activities.
	3) Encourage state humanities councils in their efforts to create and support humanities-rich websites and digital projects.	Support will enable 40 humanities councils (74%) to conduct council-led activities with the primary purpose of delivering information through humanities-rich websites and digital projects, and 45 humanities councils (83%) to conduct council-led activities with the primary purpose of facilitating audience engagement through humanities-rich websites and digital projects. Support will enable 40 humanities councils (74%) to support subrecipient-conducted activities with the primary purpose of delivering information through humanities-rich websites and digital projects, and 50 humanities councils (93%) to support subrecipient-conducted activities with the primary purpose of facilitating audience engagement through humanities-rich websites and digital projects.
	4) Support state humanities councils in ongoing collaborations with colleges and universities, museums, libraries, historical societies, and other institutions.	Support will enable 9,000 partnerships with colleges and universities, museums, libraries, historical societies, and other institutions.
	5) Recognize and encourage council activities that promote civil discussion, particularly of issues that divide Americans.	Support will enable 50 humanities councils (93%) to conduct council-led activities. Support will enable 51 humanities councils (93%) to support subrecipient-conducted activities
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2021 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
DIGITAL HUMANITIES \$5,000,000	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 33 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.

PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2021 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
CHALLENGE \$13,000,000	G: Strengthen the institutional base of the humanities in the long term 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 2026, 38 NEH Challenge Grants awarded in FY 2021 would leverage at least an expected \$54 million of nonfederal donations to recipient institutions in support of their humanities activities.
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2021 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
TREASURY MATCHING \$2,000,000	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 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 \$1.75 million for exemplary activities in the humanities.
	II. Table A	

PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2020 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
RESEARCH PROGRAMS \$14,500,000	A: Facilitate basic research and original scholarship in the humanities.	Support was provided for approximately 235 individual scholars to make significant progress on important humanities research projects through fellowships and stipends.
	1) Provide support for scholarly fellowships and stipends —both for scholars affiliated with educational institutions and working independently—to devote a dominant period of time to research and writing on significant subjects in all fields of the humanities.	Support allowed for 40 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, 35 previously awarded grants would receive ongoing support through NEH matching funds.
	2) Support collaborative research projects on significant subjects in the humanities.	Awards for 28 humanities fellowship programs at independent research institutions supported the work of 70 humanities scholars who are making significant contributions to scholarship in the humanities.
	3) Encourage international scholarly collaboration in the humanities.	Applicants were encouraged to harness the vast potential of advanced digital technology in the conduct and dissemination of their research.
	4) Work in partnership with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support projects to record, document, and archive endangered languages worldwide, with a special emphasis on endangered Native American languages.	Six projects provided further supported through the Endowment's multi-year funding partnership with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to provide awards to scholars engaged in recording and archiving key languages before they become extinct.
	5) Support humanities scholarship and related course development by faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities	Support enabled 16-18 individual scholars who teach at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, at Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and at Tribal Colleges and Universities and made significant progress on important scholarly projects in the humanities through faculty research awards.
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2020 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
EDUCATION PROGRAMS \$12,250,000	B: Strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education.	
	1) Provide professional development opportunities for teachers at all levels of the nation's educational system to renew and deepen their knowledge of the humanities.	Support was provided for 35 NEH summer seminars and institutes enabled 204/250 college teachers and 550 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of the humanities. College teachers participating in seminars and institutes during the summer of 2021 reached approximately 46,250 students annually; school teacher participants also reached approximately 68,750 annually.

	The Landmarks of American History and Culture program is a place-based program at historic sites across the U.S. for K-12 educators.	Support was provided for 14 Landmarks of American History and Culture workshops to take place in the summer of 2021 will enable approximately 1008 school teachers to revitalize their knowledge and teaching of American history and culture, 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 126,000 students.
	2) Veterans & Active Service Members: Support efforts to develop humanities resources and methods in teaching and learning at institutions of higher education and nonprofit organizations	Support was provided for an estimated nine awards in the Dialogues on the Experience of War program, which is specifically concerned with Veterans and active service members.
	3) Strengthen efforts to enhance the availability and quality of humanities programming, curricula, resources, and teaching and learning at the nation's community colleges.	Support was provided for an estimated 6/7 Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges projects to enhance 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 outside the humanities.
	4) Support efforts of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic- Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities (Minority Serving Institutions) to enhance the availability and quality of humanities programming, curricula, resources, and teaching and learning.	Humanities Initiatives at Minority Serving Institutions awarded nine grants to improve humanities programs, resources, and instruction as well as other capacity building activities.
	5) Provide support and encouragement to two- and four-year institutions of higher education for the development of curricular innovations that address current challenges in the humanities	Support was made for 14 Humanities Connections Planning projects and four Humanities Connections Implementation projects 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.

	6) Enhance and support NEH's EDSITEment website as a means of enriching teaching and learning resources for teachers, students, and parents.	Support was provided for the development of materials and other forms of outreach in social studies, civics, and other humanities subjects to enhance NEH's "A More Perfect Union" initiative for inclusion on EDSITEment, the Endowment's nationally recognized website for K-12 teachers seeking rich humanities resources on the Internet.
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2020 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
PRESERVATION AND ACCESS \$19,000,000	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.	32 projects preserved and/or provided access to 6,797 hours of recorded sound and video collections; 1668 linear feet of archival documents; and 407,854 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.	Supported projects will digitize 600,000 pages of microfilm pages of historic newspapers.
	3) Support the creation of research tools and reference works of major importance to the humanities.	Grants were made to six projects to begin or continue work on the preparation of dictionaries, atlases, encyclopedias, and text bases 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.	Four projects supported 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.	Seven projects supported 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.	Nine awards were made for state, regional, and national education programs that are providing training for 3,919 people in U.S. museums, libraries, archives, and historical organizations. An additional 290,700 people will access educational materials freely distributed online.
	7) Support incorporation of sustainable conservation measures that prolong the useful life of collections and promote institutional resilience in cultural heritage organizations.	Projects supported are assisting in preserving collections at 68 institutions in 31 states. Approximately 23% of the awards will go to first- time NEH grantees.
	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2020 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	D: Provide opportunities for American citizens of all ages and wherever located to engage in lifelong learning in the humanities.	
PUBLIC PROGRAMS \$13,500,000	1) Support efforts by museums and historical organizations to produce interpretive exhibitions and educational materials that convey significant humanities themes and topics.	41 grants supported 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.	20 grants for television/radio projects will produce 62 broadcast hours and draw a cumulative audience of approximately 45 million people.
	3) Support humanities projects that make creative use of new technologies to enhance the quality and reach of public humanities programming.	11 digital projects are producing 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 2020 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	E: Maintain and strengthen partnerships with the state humanities councils.	
FE D/ ST A T E P	1) Support state council efforts to develop locally initiated humanities programs for the people in each state.	Support enabled 15,150 in-person and virtual subrecipient-conducted activities.

	2) Encourage high quality council-conducted humanities programs in the various states.	Support enabled 9,459 in-person and virtual council conducted activities.
	3) Encourage state humanities councils in their efforts to create and support humanities-rich websites and digital projects.	Support enabled 34/54 humanities councils (63%) to conduct council-led activities with the primary purpose of delivering information through humanities-rich websites and digital projects, and 47/54 humanities council (87%) to conduct council-led activities with the primary purpose of facilitating audience engagement through humanities-rich websites and digital projects. Support enabled 35/54 (65%) humanities councils to support subrecipient-conducted activities with the primary purpose of delivering information through humanities-rich websites and digital projects, and 50/54 (93%) humanities councils to support subrecipient-conducted activities with the primary purpose of facilitating audience engagement through humanities-rich websites and digital projects.
	4) Support state humanities councils in ongoing collaborations with colleges and universities, museums, libraries, historical societies, and other institutions.	Support enabled 9,945 partnerships with colleges and universities, museums, libraries, historical societies, and other institutions.
	5) Recognize and encourage council activities that promote civil discussion, particularly of issues that divide Americans.	Support enabled 47/54 humanities councils (87%) to conduct council-led activities. Support enabled 50/54 humanities councils (93%) to support subrecipient-conducted activities.
	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	FY 2020 PLANNED PERFORMANCE LEVELS
DIVISION REQUIRED FUNDING	F: Provide a focal point for development of the digital humanities.	
DIGITAL HUMANITIES \$4,600,000	1) Provide national leadership in spurring innovation and best practices in the digital humanities.	22 Digital Humanities Advancement Grant (Level I & II) projects and eight Digital Humanities Advancement Grant (Level III) projects are setting 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.
	PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICATORS	

PROGRAM/ DIVISION/ REQUIRED FUNDING	G: Strengthen the institutional base of the humanities in the long term through financial incentives provided by matching challenge grants.	
CHALLENGE \$12,500,000	1) Encourage and support efforts of educational and cultural organizations to secure nonfederal sources of funding in support of humanities projects and programs.	35 NEH Challenge Grants awarded in FY 2020 will leverage at least an expected \$48 million of nonfederal donations to recipient institutions in support of their humanities activities.
	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.
TREASURY MATCHING \$2,000,000	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 generated more than \$2.5 million in third-party support for humanities projects.

NEH ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

FY 2022 Request: \$32,800,000

Overview

The administrative budget for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) supports staff salaries and benefits, rental of office space, agency telecommunications, building security, staff travel, contractual services, equipment, supplies, and any additional program support activities that enable the agency to achieve its legislated mission to advance high quality research, education, preservation, and public programming in the humanities. For FY 2022, NEH is requesting \$32,800,000 in administrative funds to support the agency's program request of \$144,750,000.

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

Personnel compensation and benefits account for approximately 75 percent of NEH's administrative expenses. Of the remaining 25 percent, a significant portion is taken up with fixed costs—that is, items over which NEH has no control, including annual rent payments to the General Services Administration; building security payments for the Constitution Center; and transfers to other agencies for various electronic services, such as the government-wide Grants.gov online grants application portal.

As an agency whose principal focus is grant making, there are a number of cost categories in NEH's administrative budget that are not typically included in other federal agencies' overhead. The most prominent of these is the annual cost of operating our system for evaluating grant applications. NEH receives more than 5,000 grant applications annually, resulting in the awarding of approximately 1,000 grants. All applications are reviewed and evaluated by experts outside of the agency. Nearly 1,000 scholars, teachers, museum curators, experts, and other professionals were invited to serve on 248 review panels during the past fiscal year. In prior years, the majority of such panel meetings were convened at NEH's offices in Washington, D.C. This past year, the COVID-19 pandemic led to a temporary suspension of D.C.-based panel meetings, but as the pandemic recedes we expect to resume hosting panel meetings here at NEH, albeit it on a somewhat reduced scale. Either way, the agency will continue to incur the expense of panelists' honoraria.

NEH Budget Request by Object Classification

Budget Estimates in Detail (\$ in thousands)

	FY 2020 Final	FY 2021 Estimate	FY 2022 Request
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	141	158	165
11.1 PERSONNEL COMPENSATION	15,603	17,330	18,521
12.1 BENEFITS	5,176	5,367	5,700
13.1 UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	5	135	4
SUBTOTAL PERSONNEL COMPENSATION	20,784	22,832	24,225
21.1 TRAVEL & TRANSPORTATION	184	131	305
23.1 GSA RENT	3,296	3,200	3,092
23.3 COMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES	437	180	323
24.0 PRINTING	108	106	114
25.1 OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	3,797	3,529	3,776
25.9 PANELIST CONTRACTS	432	345	430
26.0 SUPPLES	133	52	67
31.0 EQUIPMENT	378	463	468
SUBTOTAL NON-PERSONNEL COMPENSATION	8,765	8,006	8,575
TOTAL	29,549	30,838	32,800

Note: FY 22 Budget request includes a 2.7% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increase into our estimated costs for FY22. FY2021 totals exclude costs appropriated to NEH under the America Rescue Plan supplemental funding.

11.1 PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
PERSONNEL SALARY AND BENEFITS	20,784	22,832	24,225

11.1 – 13.1 PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS. Personnel compensation includes the salaries and benefits of all NEH employees, including full-time permanent, part-time permanent, temporary, and intermittent appointments (for example, the members of the National Council on the Humanities). Personnel benefits cover the costs of NEH's share of contributions toward employees' retirement, health benefits, and life insurance plans.

In FY 2022, NEH anticipates the hiring of several staff members to help plan, develop, and administer humanities initiatives that will be launched by the new administration, including initiatives focusing on racial equity, the climate emergency, and strengthening our democracy.

Cost projections for personnel compensation include a 2.7% pay raise for staff in FY 2022. In the category of unemployment compensation, costs will fall to previous years' levels. The one-

time increase in FY 2021 was associated with the departure of several appointees of the prior administration. Their unemployment benefits will expire by FY 2022.

21.1 TRAVEL & TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION	184	131	305

21.1 TRAVEL & TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS. Travel funds support local and out-of-town travel of NEH staff to make site visits to NEH's grant-supported projects, make presentations on NEH programs, conduct grant-application workshops and other outreach activities, attend conferences and training courses, and conduct other business critical to the mission of the agency. Also supported are the travel expenses of the members of the National Council on the Humanities, who come to Washington, D.C., at least three times each year to discuss NEH policies, review applications, and provide advice to the NEH Chairman concerning funding of specific projects.

Travel expenses for FY 2020 and 2021 were significantly lower than normal due to travel restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. For FY 2022, we expect expenses to return to their pre-pandemic levels, partly because of the resumption of the types of routine travel described in the previous paragraph, but also because of the agency's increased focus on outreach to underserved communities.

23.1 RENTAL PAYMENTS TO GSA	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
GSA RENT	3,296	3,200	3,092

23.1 GSA RENT. NEH occupies space in the Constitution Center in Washington, DC, which is a privately owned building that is partially leased to the General Services Administration (GSA). Rental charges for the portion of the building occupied by the NEH is determined by an Occupancy Agreement that the agency negotiates with GSA. The current Occupancy Agreement commenced in November of 2020 and will run for a period of 40 months. NEH relinquished some unused space when the new Occupancy Agreement was most recently negotiated, which enabled NEH to reduce its monthly rent charges for the duration of the Agreement.

23.3 COMMUNICATION, UTILITIES, AND MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
COMMUNICATION AND UTILITIES	437	180	323

23.3 COMMUNICATIONS, UTILITIES, AND MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES. NEH recently upgraded its telecommunications system in ways that have greatly enhanced the staff's ability to work remotely. This new system has replaced the agency's relatively cumbersome and inefficient system of call messaging units, desktop phones and instrument lines, and local Washington Interagency Telephone Services. This upgrade has had the added benefit of reducing the agency's overall costs for these services.

The projected rise in utilities costs for FY 2022—although still below the costs incurred by NEH in FY 2020—is due to a change the agency will be making in the provider of its internet services. The new contract, while more expensive than the one it replaced, will enable NEH staff to benefit from greatly improved internet speeds. This upgrade will be especially welcome, coming at a time when COVID-19 pandemic-related changes have put enormous strains on the agency’s telecommunications systems.

24.0 PRINTING AND REPRODUCTION	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
PRINTING	108	106	114

24.0 PRINTING AND REPRODUCTION. Expenses in this category cover the costs of printing *Humanities* magazine, an award-winning, quarterly periodical; posters; program brochures; and other miscellaneous printing and reproduction costs. Although costs in this category have gone down in recent years as more of NEH’s publications appear in digital form, NEH nonetheless anticipates a slight increase in 2022 to cover a small increase in contract-supported printing costs.

25.1 OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	3,797	3,529	3,776

25.1 OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES. NEH engages the services of a variety of contractors in support of its programs and operations. Services in this category include (1) support, maintenance, and improvement of information technology systems; (2) annual contract support for the agency’s accounting system; (3) employee training; (4) security personnel costs at the Constitution Center; (6) contracts for temporary personnel assistance; and (7) interagency transfers in support of Grants.gov and other shared-service providers.

Specific cost considerations in this category of expenses include:

- In FY 2022, NEH will complete work on a major upgrade to its accounting system. The system currently used by the agency has become increasingly difficult to maintain by NEH’s small accounting office. Consequently, NEH has decided to move from its current agency-hosted system to a shared-services provider. The costs of this transition will be substantial, including data migration and staff training.
- Federal Protective Services has informed NEH that a new fee structure for tenant agencies could lead to an increase in the cost of this service in FY 2022.
- In FY 2022, NEH will incur costs to bring the agency into full compliance with the federal mandate to implement a program of Enterprise Risk Management. NEH will devote both staff and contractual support to this effort in FY 2022.
- In FY 2022, the agency’s automated payroll system, WebTA, will need to be replaced with a new system that is fully compliant with the requirements of the Office of Personnel Management.

- Even after the COVID-19 pandemic recedes, agencies will be expected to maintain a full suite of digital services to accommodate employees working remotely. For FY 2022, contractual support for these services will cover the costs of Microsoft Teams licenses, Azure cloud hosting, Symantec maintenance, SKYPE for business, and similar IT services.

25.9 PANELIST CONTRACTS	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
PANELIST CONTRACTS	432	345	430

25.9 PANELIST CONTRACTS. Panelist contracts cover travel expenses, per diems, and honoraria for panelists who serve on NEH’s application review panels. These panelists represent a wide range of disciplinary, institutional, and regional backgrounds. Panelist contracts are expected to return to previous years’ cost levels for FY 2022 year, partly as a consequence of NEH’s decision to resume DC-based panel meetings for certain key grant programs, and also because we are expecting that more panels will need to be convened to review grant proposals for the new funding programs that will be initiated in FY 2022.

26.0 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
SUPPLIES AND MATERIAL	133	52	67

26.0 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS. NEH anticipates the cost of expendable supplies required to perform daily activities will increase in FY 2022 as staff return to the workspace from their current COVID-19 pandemic telework status. In addition to routine supplies such as toner cartridges and copy paper, NEH anticipates expending funds on a mix of personal safety products and hygiene-related products.

31.0 EQUIPMENT	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
EQUIPMENT	378	463	468

31.0 EQUIPMENT. All equipment, furniture and office machines having a useful life in excess of one year are categorized under miscellaneous equipment. As NEH returns to an in-office work environment, the agency will need to purchase a modest amount of equipment for new and returning employees and contractors. NEH also expects the renewal costs of licenses and IT subscription contracts to increase as the agency continues to invest in its network security.

BUDGET ADDENDUM

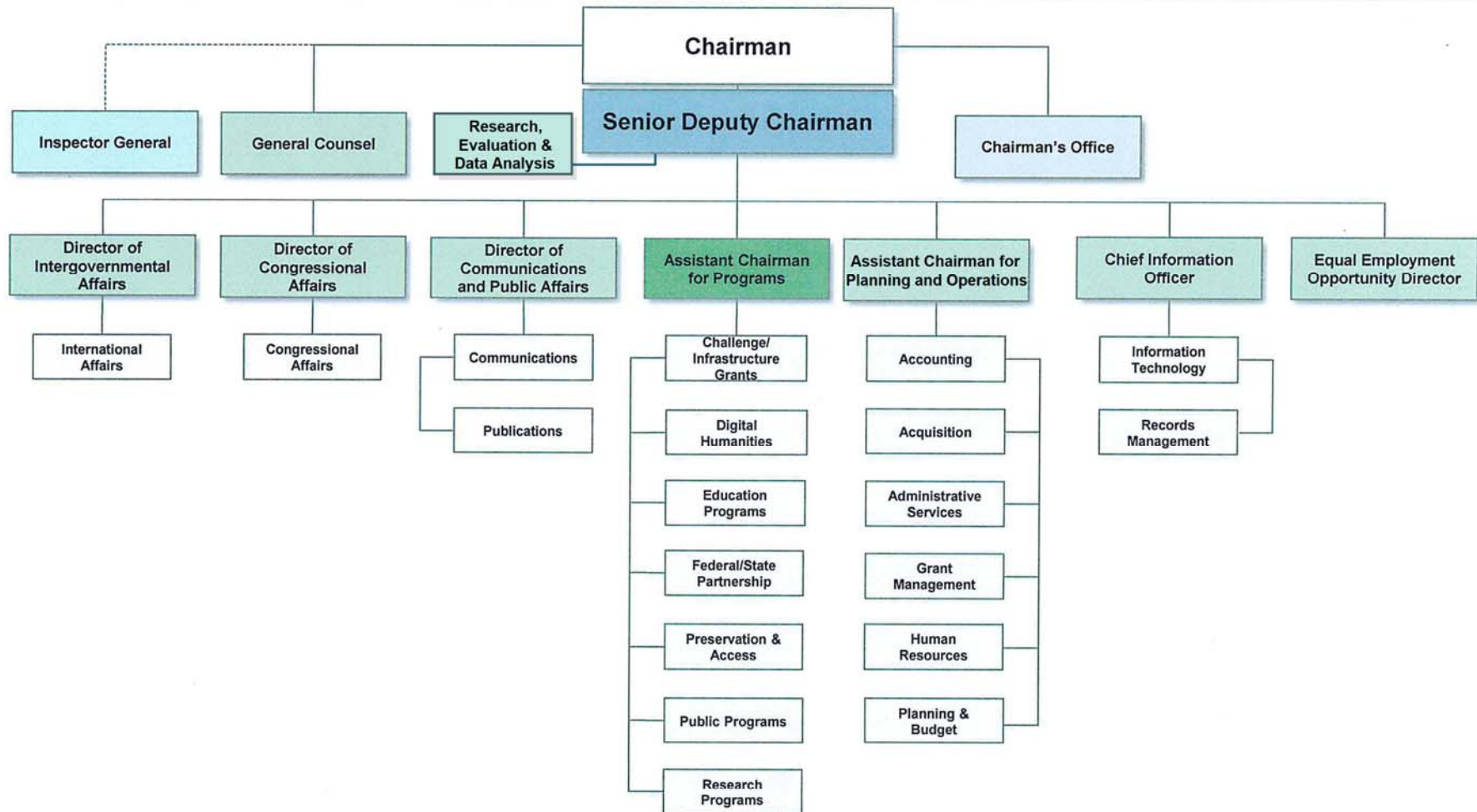
NEH Inspector General Budget Request

The budget for the operations of NEH's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is subsumed within the agency's general administrative budget. In accordance with Section 6(f) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended by the IG Reform Act of 2008, NEH is estimating an aggregate budget for the OIG of \$823,454, which will support all staff salaries and allow for full administrative and legal support of this office, including:

- Staff salaries and benefits totaling \$765,000 to support a staff of 4 full-time equivalent employees;
- A travel budget of \$10,000, which will allow for audit and investigative support and attendance at all appropriate IG conferences, workshops, and training seminars;
- Estimated IT expenses of \$5,000;
- A training budget of \$10,500 to allow for staff certification as mandated by the IG Act and government auditing standards;
- Independent legal services, as currently being provided by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax and Administration (TIGTA) via a Memorandum of Understanding on a reimbursable basis not to exceed \$20,000 during the fiscal year;
- Investigative services (to be secured via a Memorandum of Understanding with another Inspector General on a reimbursable basis not to exceed \$10,000 during the fiscal year); and
- \$2,954 in continued support from the OIG for the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE).



National Endowment for the Humanities



Updated 05/2021