



# **Fiscal Year 2023**

## **Congressional Justification**

**March 2022**

## OVERVIEW

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) serves the American public by promoting advanced research, deeply informed teaching in schools and colleges, lifelong learning, and the preservation of cultural collections. NEH is the only federal agency dedicated to funding the humanities, which include history, philosophy, literature, language, ethics, archaeology, political theory, jurisprudence, comparative religion, and the humanistic social sciences.

NEH supports the fundamental building blocks of American civil society, helping us to examine the human condition, understand our cultural heritage, foster mutual respect for diverse beliefs and cultures, develop media and information literacy, and promote civics education. Since its founding in 1965, NEH has awarded nearly \$6 billion in grants to support museums, historic sites, colleges, universities, K–12 teaching, libraries, public television and radio stations, research institutions, and independent scholars nationwide – providing a critical lifeline to the nation’s cultural and educational sectors and sustaining the United States’ role as a global leader in the humanities.

Now—as our nation continues to grapple with the effects of COVID-19, the persistent scourge of systemic racism, the ongoing effects of climate change, and existential threats to our democracy—the humanities are more vital than ever. NEH-supported projects bring the past into sharper focus, thereby bringing about, as the agency’s founding legislation affirms, “a better analysis of the present and a better view of the future.”

The NEH Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 budget request is \$200.680 million. This funding includes:

- \$77.750M for NEH’s grant programs in support of projects in the humanities and \$63M in awards to NEH’s partners in each of the 56 states and jurisdictions.
- \$6.950M for “A More Perfect Union,” which builds on NEH’s 57-year investment in projects that catalog, preserve, explore, and promote American history and uses the lessons of history to address today’s challenges.
- \$17.300M 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 as well as new incentives to garner applicants from underserved communities.<sup>1</sup>
- \$35.680M for salaries and expenses needed to operate the agency in an efficient and effective manner, including \$0.814M to create an Office of Research and Analysis to analyze the effectiveness of NEH programs and policies, and whether, and to what extent, they advance equity and support for underserved communities; \$0.838M million to create an Office of Outreach that will increase the agency’s engagement with underserved communities and institutions; \$0.356M to establish a Chief Diversity Officer office to advise the agency on matters of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) across its programs, operations, and policies; and \$0.390M to implement President Biden’s May 12, 2021, Executive Order on Improving the Nation’s Cybersecurity (14028).

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<sup>1</sup> See President Biden’s January 20, 2021, Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities (13985) for the Administration’s definition of “underserved communities.”

## ***Enhanced Programmatic and Administrative Priorities in FY 2023***

In FY 2023, NEH will continue the core work of its existing grant programs while launching new programs, offices, and policies that advance equity, increase engagement with underserved communities, and confront the climate crisis. The following are examples of NEH's proposals for FY 2023, which are described more fully in subsequent sections:

### *Advancing Equity and Support for Underserved Communities*

- A streamlined program especially designed for underserved educational institutions, such as Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and community colleges, which have traditionally had less success in applying for federal funds.
- Increased support for public programs that expand the American people's understanding of their history, of untold stories of historically underserved groups, and of efforts to build a more just and sustainable society.
- New incentives for individual scholars and research programs that better attract applicants from underserved institutions, such as HBCUs, HSIs, TCUs, and community colleges, and reduce systemic barriers to equitable program delivery.
- Continued partnership with the 56 state and jurisdictional humanities councils to broaden access to the humanities to underserved communities.
- An oral history project modeled after the New Deal's Federal Writers' Project that will capture the stories of the aging generation of Americans who participated in the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s.
- The creation of an NEH Office of Research and Analysis focused on building a robust data collection system to analyze the effectiveness of NEH programs and policies and to what extent they advance equity and support for underserved communities.
- The creation of an NEH Office of Outreach focused on increasing the agency's engagement with underserved communities and institutions, such as Tribal Nations, HBCUs, HSIs, TCUs, veterans, community colleges, and others.
- The establishment of a Chief Diversity Officer position and support staff to advise the NEH Chair and agency on all matters of DEIA across its programs, operations, outreach and communications, human capital, and evaluation efforts.
- Increased recruitment and retention efforts focused on building a customer-focused and results-oriented workforce that draws from the full diversity of the nation and promotes DEIA.
- Enhanced agency branding, website, and social media tools to broaden access to the humanities for all Americans.

## *Confronting the Climate Crisis*

- A climate resiliency program focused on documenting historical and cultural resources endangered by wildfires, drought, hurricanes, rising sea levels, and other climate change impacts, with a particular emphasis on addressing the disproportionate risks associated with disadvantaged communities, as outlined in the Administration’s Justice40 initiative.
- Support for a geographic information system (GIS)-based tool and associated educational materials that will allow NEH and the cultural preservation community to anticipate climate events and changes on cultural heritage sites and humanities collections nationwide.
- An environmental infrastructure program that addresses the challenges climate change poses for humanities organizations, historic sites, and cultural collections by supporting efforts to develop climate action plans and to install environmentally resilient systems.
- Special encouragements for humanities research into the cultural and historical roots of the climate crisis and its impact on human language, culture, and society in the Fellowship and Public Scholars programs as well as new incentives in the Collaborative Research program for convening projects that invite scientists involved in climate change research to take part in any proposed conferences on humanities engagement with the climate crisis.
- Continued partnership with the 56 state and jurisdictional humanities councils to develop capacity building measures to help safeguard educational and cultural institutions from future economic, climate, or public health-related crises.

## *Core Programs of NEH*

Listed below are NEH’s current programmatic emphases and offerings, which NEH will continue in FY 2023. The goals, accomplishments, and plans for these programs are described in detail in the individual division, office, and program sections of this budget submission.

- Strengthen the institutional base of the humanities. The NEH Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants matching program in FY 2023 will continue to assist educational and cultural institutions—such as colleges, universities, museums, public libraries, historical societies, and state humanities councils—in developing nonfederal sources of support for their humanities programs.
- Provide national leadership in spurring innovation and encouraging 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. NEH fosters the development of a wide variety of innovative digital humanities projects, including interdisciplinary research that explores the ethical uses of cutting-edge technology or how technology can be leveraged for advanced R&D projects in the humanities.
- Strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities in elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education. The FY 2023 budget continues NEH’s support for professional development of teachers and faculty, the creation or expansion of higher education humanities curricula, innovation in K–12 teaching, 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.

- Support humanities programs and activities at the local level through NEH's partnership with the state and jurisdictional humanities councils. NEH's work in FY 2023 will be complemented and extended by the programs and projects of the NEH-affiliated humanities councils in all 56 states and jurisdictions. With their grassroots networks of cultural and educational institutions, the councils serve communities in diverse and remote settings that NEH's national programs may not be able to reach. Each council tailors its programming and grantmaking to the resources, needs, and interests of the state or jurisdiction. In FY 2021, with NEH funding, humanities councils and their subrecipients produced over 348,000 activities and resources that were accessed more than 294 million times.
- Preserve and increase access to cultural heritage resources. In FY 2023, the agency's Preservation and Access grant programs will continue to focus on projects that preserve and create intellectual access to collections and cultural heritage resources, including projects to digitize collections such as historical United States newspapers, create databases, spatial tools, and reference resources, and extend the life of collections through preventative conservation activities such as assessments, rehousing, and emergency preparedness.
- Provide opportunities for Americans to engage in lifelong learning in the humanities. In FY 2023, 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 research and scholarship that expand our knowledge and understanding in the humanities. NEH's FY 2023 budget request provides critical support for advanced humanities research programs that fund priority areas, encourage partnerships and international collaborations, and empower early career scholars. Funding will allow NEH to make hundreds of awards to individual scholars, as well as larger grants to teams of experts engaged in collaborative research, field-based projects, and scholarly editions that enrich our knowledge of the people, ideas, and events that make up the record of human societies.
- Stimulate third-party contributions to humanities projects. NEH's budget request for FY 2023 includes the 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. NEH also leverages a 1:1 cost share at the state and jurisdictional level.

**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES**

FY 2023 Budget Request

(\$ in thousands)

	<b>FY 2021 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2023 President's Budget</b>	<b>Delta from FY 2021</b>
"A More Perfect Union"	\$5,724	\$6,950	\$1,226
Challenge Programs	\$13,000	\$15,300	\$2,300
Digital Humanities	\$5,000	\$6,050	\$1,050
Education Programs	\$13,000	\$14,800	\$1,800
Federal/State Partnership	\$51,576	\$63,000	\$11,424
Preservation and Access	\$19,000	\$22,000	\$3,000
Public Programs	\$13,500	\$15,400	\$1,900
Research Programs	\$14,500	\$17,000	\$2,500
Program Development	\$500	\$2,500	\$2,000
<b><i>Subtotal</i></b>	<b><i>\$135,800</i></b>	<b><i>\$163,000</i></b>	<b><i>\$27,200</i></b>
Treasury Matching Funds	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
<b><i>Subtotal</i></b>	<b><i>\$2,000</i></b>	<b><i>\$2,000</i></b>	<b><i>\$0</i></b>
Administration	\$29,700	\$35,680	\$5,980
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$167,500</i></b>	<b><i>\$200,680</i></b>	<b><i>\$33,180</i></b>

*Note:* A full-year 2022 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2022 (Division A of P.L. 117-43, as amended). The amount for 2022 at the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution was \$167.5M.

## A MORE PERFECT UNION

	<b>FY 2021 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2023 President's Budget</b>	<b>Delta from FY 2021</b>
"A More Perfect Union"	\$5,724	\$6,950	\$1,226

*Note: Dollars are in thousands.*

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 signing of the Declaration of Independence in 2026.

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. As such, "A More Perfect Union" encourages projects that explore, reflect on, and tell the stories of our quest for a more just, inclusive, and sustainable society throughout our history.

"A More Perfect Union" builds on NEH's six-decade investment in projects that catalog, preserve, explain, and promote American history. As a result of NEH support, the letters, memos, and telegrams of ten presidents and other 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 between NEH and the Library of Congress, provides access to more than 18 million pages from 156,720 newspapers from 49 states, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands in its free online database. A team of historians, supported through NEH funding, 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.

NEH has continued its 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:

- The continuation of a partnership with the National Museum of African American History and Culture to support the History and Access Consortium that will strengthen the archives and museums of five 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 institutions, while enhancing scholarly and public access to their cultural collections through an open-source digital platform, a national traveling exhibition, and a catalogue. The project also provides professional development opportunities for a new generation of museum and archival professionals.

- The launch of the *Making History at 250: The Field Guide for the Semiquincentennial* by the American Association for State and Local History. Created with NEH support, the guide will help scholars, educators, historians, and museum professionals across the country prepare for the upcoming anniversary by thinking carefully and critically about how to commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in their communities.
- Additional funding to the 56 state and jurisdictional humanities councils to enhance civics education at the local level and provide Americans of all backgrounds with the opportunity to reflect on our shared American history and ideals. High-quality programs grounded in the humanities are being offered in all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In FY 2021, the councils received \$50,000 each to implement programs that focused 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. Programs reflected the needs of each state or jurisdiction and offered multiple opportunities for Americans to engage with ideas that are essential to both the history and the future of our country.
- The continuation of a three-year agreement with National History Day, Inc. to highlight diverse perspectives on the American Revolution, the early American Republic, and the efforts to create a more perfect union throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Each year more than a half a million middle and high school students create history-focused projects as part of a national competition. "Disagreement, Debate, Decision in History" served as the contest theme for 2022, while "Frontiers in History: Ideas, Boundaries & Beyond" will be the focus of the 2023 competition. Companion materials were also developed for EDSITEment, NEH's web portal for teachers seeking high-quality humanities resources for the classroom.

Many of these projects began before or during the COVID-19 pandemic. All the initiative's grantees and partners have responded to the difficult conditions with fortitude and creativity, allowing the projects to continue and, in many cases, complete their work.

### ***Major Program Plans for FY 2023***

In FY 2023, "A More Perfect Union" will embark on projects that could act as cornerstones for the 2026 commemoration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. They reflect the initiative's mission to amplify the panorama of the American experience.

#### *Civil Rights Oral History Project – Up to \$2.0M*

During President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's administration, the Federal Writers' Project, which was part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), embarked on a program to interview formerly enslaved individuals in 17 states. The Federal Writers' Project conducted more than 2,300 interviews and collected thousands of pages of supporting documents. The resulting corpus, known as the Slave Narrative Collection and housed at the Library of Congress, became an invaluable resource for historians, folklorists, linguists, and other scholars who wanted to write the history of the enslaved and their experiences with Reconstruction and Jim Crow.

Historians have long called for a “new WPA” – this time focused on the generation that fought for civil rights. Each year, as we say farewell to the women and men who fought to desegregate lunch counters, buses, schools, and neighborhoods, and who worked to pass the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the nation loses their knowledge, their memories, and their eyewitness testimonies. There is also a particular urgency to capture the voices of African American women, who were vital to organizing and outreach efforts, but whose work in the movement has long been overlooked. However, the country is rapidly approaching the point when the civil rights generation will be lost to history, its decline accelerated by the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NEH thus proposes to fund the collection of oral histories of the generation who fought for civil rights. This project will draw on the expertise of historians, community stewards, and participants of the civil rights movement to identify and conduct interviews with appropriate subjects, with a long-term goal of assisting with making these recordings and transcripts available to scholars, teachers, students, and the public. The envisioned result would be an archive that documents the post-World War II fight for civil rights and preserves the voices of the women and men who fought for equality for generations to come.

#### *Cultural Heritage Mapping Project - Up to \$0.5M*

To address the ongoing impact of climate change on history, NEH will invest up to \$0.5M to support a GIS-based tool and associated educational materials that will allow the cultural preservation community to anticipate climate events and changes on humanities collections and sites. This initiative builds upon ongoing agency efforts in preventive conservation and climate resilience and aims to strengthen the nation's humanities infrastructure, preserve the historical record, and build a more sustainable society.

The development of a mapping tool and associated educational materials is a priority recommendation of preservation and climate experts on the steering committee of the NEH-supported “Held in Trust” (HIT) initiative working to assess America’s future preservation needs, and would be informed by the ongoing data collection efforts of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Interior, and the Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative, as well as other government and private sector partners. In a November 2021 field-wide assessment, the HIT steering committee noted that while existing mapping tools have seen improvements in data reliability and user interfaces, current models are of limited use to communities and organizations seeking to proactively protect cultural sites and collections and are often reactionary or focused on one geographic area/hazard type. This assessment is in alignment with the findings of a working group hosted by Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF), a partnership of federal agencies and national service organizations that is cosponsored by FEMA and the Smithsonian Institution and has been monitoring and engaging with state and national level efforts to develop datasets of cultural sites and locations, primarily for use in the immediate aftermath of a natural disaster.

The proposed interactive map would address these needs by offering a coordinated, forward-looking tool to anticipate hazards including natural disasters, sea level rise, drought, and extreme temperature fluctuations. The tool would be accompanied by the development of “A Guide to Climate Action Plans for Heritage Resilience” and associated training through in-person workshops, and online webinars. The identification of location-specific risks will inform ongoing programmatic work in NEH’s Division of Preservation and Access, including providing targeted support to under resourced communities and collections at high risk of loss because of climate change. The climate action guide and mapping tool would also immediately support the work of the state and jurisdictional humanities councils in their own disaster response and mitigation

efforts; complement new adaptive reuse and risk planning grants in Challenge Programs; inform grantmaking and project plans for at-risk institutions proposing exhibitions through Public Programs; and guide research agendas and proposals submitted to the Archeological and Ethnographic program areas.

*Funding for “A More Perfect Union” projects through NEH grant lines*

Since the launch of “A More Perfect Union,” scholars, teachers, filmmakers, museums, libraries, state and jurisdictional humanities councils, and other individuals and institutions engaged in the humanities have answered the agency’s call to develop projects that address the goals of the initiative. For FY 2023, we will continue to look to invest in projects that can amplify the following three areas:

- **Impact of the climate crisis 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. It will also invite projects that consider how the environment, and its evolution influenced our nation’s history.
- **Racial and gender equity.** The struggle 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.
- **Civics education.** NEH has invested in civics education by supporting films, document collections, books, humanities-based games, and more. The recent work done by the NEH-supported iCivics’ 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 funding innovative projects that help the American people understand the Constitution, its history, and its meaning in their daily lives.

*NEH and the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission*

Finally, NEH will continue its work as an ex officio member of the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission (USSC). America250 is a multiyear effort to commemorate the semiquincentennial, or 250th anniversary, of the United States. The purpose of the USSC and the nonprofit

America250 Foundation is to catalyze a more perfect union by designing and leading the most comprehensive and inclusive commemoration in our country's history. America250 represents a coalition of public and private partners all working to create initiatives and programs that honor our first 250 years and inspire Americans to imagine our next 250. The commemoration period began in 2020, culminates on July 4, 2026, and officially concludes in 2027.

In August 2021, NEH and other federal agencies signed a memorandum of understanding with USSC "to cooperate with the Commission in planning, encouraging, developing, and coordinating appropriate commemorative activities." NEH will continue to collaborate with other federal agencies on plans for 2026.

## OFFICE OF CHALLENGE PROGRAMS

	<b>FY 2021 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2023 President's Budget</b>	<b>Delta from FY 2021</b>
Challenge Programs	\$13,000	\$15,300	\$2,300

*Note: Dollars are in thousands.*

### ***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 seeking to build humanities infrastructure and capacity and to sustain significant humanities activities into the future. Challenge grants offer federal funds that are only released when matched with nonfederal third-party donations, usually at ratios of 3:1 or higher. Challenge grants provide NEH with the opportunity to stimulate private philanthropy, while also increasing institutional commitment by the recipient organizations.

Since their inception in 1977, Challenge grants have generated over \$1.3B in nonfederal funds for the humanities. (Adjusted for inflation, the amount equals almost \$4B.) 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, historical societies, and historic 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 this funding:

- 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 13 other signers of the Declaration of Independence – seven of whom are buried on the grounds. Christ Church was a center for eighteenth-century political debates regarding the separation of church and state, and its clergy attended 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 sites; 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 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, Wyoming, 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, D.C. 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 \$0.250M 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 of 1:1 for these applicants. 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, 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, resources, and platforms. Examples of the types of grants supported in this category include:

- Radio station WGBH in Boston is a leading producer of humanities programming for public media. WGBH’s Media Library and Archives (MLA) includes a collection of about 750,000 production assets, including film, video, audio materials, digital media, still images, and printed materials. The MLA makes these collections 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, nonprofit online network where 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. 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 of 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 more than 800 researchers and 1.5 million records from archaeological sites around the world. These digital pictures, notes, and geographic data 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 public.

### ***Program Plans for FY 2023***

While sustaining its core mission, the Office of Challenge Programs seeks to broaden its reach and impact in three ways that are responsive to the Administration's priority of confronting the climate crisis:

1. Recast the capital projects category of Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants program to focus on climate-friendly adaptive reuse of existing structures. (Approximately ten awards between \$0.2M and \$1.0M; total \$6.0M)

Repurpose or renovate buildings to use fewer natural resources, preserve cultural heritage, and revitalize neighborhoods. Adaptive reuse engages communities and expands their access to humanities collections and programming in the long term. Grants would support activities such as structural assessments, community surveys, and other planning activities, as well as completion of architectural design, purchase and installation of systems and equipment, and construction.

2. Develop cooperative agreements that will build and support local networks of small and mid-sized organizations in collaborative efforts to use humanistic approaches (programming, collections, buildings) to mitigate adverse climate impacts in underserved neighborhoods. (Approximately 3–5 awards, between \$0.3M and \$0.750M; total \$3.3M)

While climate change is a scientific fact, the communication and education tools to convey its sources, dangers, and mitigation, lie squarely in the humanities and involve, for example, historical perspective, critical thinking, and consideration of locally determined cultural aspects and concerns. Organizations of all sizes—but particularly small and under-resourced institutions—may not have the capacity to respond to their organizational and community needs independently. NEH-supported networks could develop inclusive,

long-term, and resilient relationships to explore shared risks and responses to the changing climate.

Such networks would improve the capacity of smaller organizations to develop shared resources, engage in training, or bring on consultants. Once established, efforts would focus both on organizational preparedness and resiliency, as well as community outreach and engagement. By centering the humanities as an important part of the climate discussion, these organizations can become trusted community resources and partners for other NEH efforts.

3. The Challenge Office proposes a new program for FY 2023 to address a targeted area of urgent importance, *Climate-Smart Humanities Infrastructure*. (Approximately 15–20 awards, between \$0.1M and \$1.0M; total \$6.0M)

To tackle the challenges that climate change presents to significant humanities buildings, sites, collections, and communities, funding would be offered to humanities organizations and cultural sites to resist damage from flooding, wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters. Activities would encompass, for example, inclusion of performance standards and energy efficient building techniques, capturing information about institutional carbon footprints, and building modifications to mitigate the impact of climate change.

*Climate-Smart Humanities Infrastructure* grant funds would support recipients' efforts to prepare for such events by developing climate-sensitive plans and install systems to protect their buildings. Shorter planning grants for up to \$0.1M at a 1:1 match ratio would support strategic planning and the collaborative efforts that are required to develop climate-smart infrastructure projects. Planning grants could include working with outside consultants, performing initial benchmarking and carbon footprint assessments, and training in the development of climate action plans. Five-year implementation grants for up to \$1.0M at a 1:4 matching ratio would enable humanities organizations to build and/or install systems and features into their facilities that will protect them and what they house in the long-term. *Climate-Smart Humanities Infrastructure* funding will significantly increase the resilience of the built environment of cultural institutions and sites of historical importance and will protect their legacy for future generations of Americans.

## OFFICE OF DIGITAL HUMANITIES

	<b>FY 2021 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2023 President's Budget</b>	<b>Delta from FY 2021</b>
Digital Humanities	\$5,000	\$6,050	\$1,050

*Note: Dollars are in thousands.*

### ***Program Categories***

- Digital Humanities Advancement Grants
- Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities
- Fellowships Open Book Program

### ***Program Goals and Accomplishments***

In 2006, NEH 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 fundamental questions being addressed by ODH.

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, noting that NEH devoting "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 [Digital Humanities], at least in the United States."

And indeed, 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 laboratories specialize in digital humanities research and employ staffs from both the humanities and computing fields.

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, 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 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.

Another such ODH-supported project will help document a little-studied but important part of American history: U.S. state constitutions. This grant to the Center for Constitutional Studies at Utah Valley University will support undergraduate history students in their efforts to create a digital model of archival materials that document U.S. state constitutional conventions. This project supports the current Administration's efforts to strengthen Americans' knowledge of the country's principles of constitutional governance and democracy.

NEH's ODH currently administers three 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 related infrastructure to perform their work. The very objects that scholars study daily—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 to 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 digital 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.

### *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 (\$6,000) 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 Dennis 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 2023***

In addition to sustaining the core work of the grant programs described above, the ODH will seek to broaden its reach and impact in ways that are responsive to the Administration’s priorities of advancing racial equity, confronting the climate emergency, enhancing America’s global standing, and strengthening our democracy. ODH proposes to do so by developing the following new grant lines and partnerships:

- A new grant program that focuses on technology and its potential negative consequences, designed to draw out top scholars interested in tackling a topic that bridges technology and the humanities. For example, topics could include the ethics of artificial intelligence; racial bias in computational algorithms; or how climate change is discussed in the media.
- A greater emphasis on international grant-making, bringing American scholars together with their colleagues from around the world. NEH would 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.

## DIVISION OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS

	<b>FY 2021 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2023 President's Budget</b>	<b>Delta from FY 2021</b>
Education Programs	\$13,000	\$14,800	\$1,800

*Note: Dollars are in thousands.*

### ***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, NEH offers humanities programming that serves a variety of educational needs, including programs for teacher and faculty professional development; for veterans returning to academic life; and for the creation of higher education humanities curricula. The Education Division also maintains EDSITEment ([EDSITEment.neh.gov/](https://edsitement.neh.gov/)), an award-winning website for K–12 educators and homeschooling parents that makes freely available hundreds of classroom-ready resources in the humanities. In addition, through cooperative agreements and special projects, the Division supports projects that enhance the teaching and learning of civics and history at the K–12 level and that foster the integration of the humanities into postsecondary STEM programs. These programs, undergirded by rigorous humanities scholarship, cultivate a deep engagement with humanities disciplines and help participants acquire knowledge that is crucial for an educated, engaged citizenry.

#### *Summer Institutes*

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

The Institutes program offers an intensive residential experience that brings scholars and master teachers together with participants from all over the country. Over the past two years, the program has adapted to pandemic-related restrictions on travel and in-person gatherings by offering the additional options of an entirely online Institute experience or a hybrid online/residential model. These expanded options, now a permanent part of the Institutes program, have had the welcome effect of providing broader access to educators, including those for whom travel is not possible.

Upcoming Institutes will feature topics on the history, culture, and literature of historically underserved communities. For example, teachers from kindergarten through high school will attend NEH-supported institutes on topics such as disability and identity in literature, history, and visual media, while high school teachers will choose to study the texts and images dealing with the history of genocide. Middle and high school teachers will also choose from such topics as abolitionism and the Underground Railroad and LGBTQ+ histories of the United States. Other projects for K–12 educators focus on ancestral Pueblo communities in the Mesa Verde region and the search for “Founding Black Mothers.” College-level faculty will study, among other topics, Transcendentalism and social reform, Mormonism in the Mexican borderlands, and the Vietnam War through the eyes of veterans, the Vietnamese, and refugees.

### *Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshops*

The Landmarks of American History and Culture program supports summer workshops that introduce K–12 teachers from across the United States to teaching important themes and topics in American history, culture, and civics by using historical and cultural sites. 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. As with the Institutes program, Landmarks workshops have adapted to the pandemic, using virtual platforms or a hybrid model.

Upcoming Landmarks workshops will cover a variety of areas that connect topics important to the contemporary K–12 classroom to specific historic sites across the country. Prominent are several that will focus on issues pertaining to race and ethnicity: for example, the civil rights movement as seen through Atlanta landmarks, the incarceration of Japanese Americans at a camp in Heart Mountain, Wyoming, and the intersection of cultures in the Arizona-Sonora borderlands.

### *Dialogues on the Experience of War*

In 2016, NEH created the Dialogues on the Experience of War grant program. 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 topics such as 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 nonprofit organizations.

Among this program’s noteworthy awards is a recent grant to New York University, which will work with veterans who have been previously incarcerated to explore the dual challenges of reintegration after war and after prison. Veterans who have served time in prison are particularly vulnerable to homelessness, poverty, and physical and mental deterioration. An award to Virginia’s Longwood University focuses on the neglected narrative of the African American

experience of war. The project will explore the experiences of Black combat veterans in three historically distinct conflicts: the American Civil War, Vietnam, and the Global War on Terror. Themes for the project include civil rights and patriotism, the role of race in war, homecoming, and the experiences of Black women in war.

To maintain the relevance of this program to the needs of the Nation's veterans, the Division has launched a review of the program to identify ways to improve the experience of participants, particularly in consideration of recent research that has been conducted in the field of veteran studies. In undertaking this review, the Division is also looking for ways to enhance the methods NEH and the awardees use for evaluating the impact of these projects.

### *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 postsecondary students (over half of whom identify as other-than-white). Grants in this program give institutions a wide scope in developing programs and initiatives that are likely to work well within their 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 cooperation with representatives of professional fields of 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.

Recently funded projects reflect creative engagement with the country's increasingly diverse population. Faculty at Chemeketa Community College in Oregon are working to improve student outcomes through culturally relevant public speaking courses. Students at Helena College in Montana will learn about the region's history by producing films about pandemics, the environment, and people of color. Trocaire College, a Catholic-related institution in Buffalo, New York, is developing an applied ethics minor to complement students' evolving careers.

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

In response to a series of Executive Orders issued in the early 2000s, the Division established the Humanities Initiatives program to extend the reach of its grant opportunities to three types of traditionally underserved institutions: HSIs, HBCUs, and TCUs. 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.

NEH awards in this program have supported projects that explore a range of topics and that use a variety of approaches. An interdisciplinary group of faculty at Hampton University in Virginia is developing a digital archive focused on a prominent member of the HBCU's dance faculty. The public humanities lab at Florida Atlantic University, an HSI, is creating a new program in Miami Studies that will help students better understand their city and develop valuable career skills. A collaboration between faculty at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in San Antonio and people living with HIV will train students in allied health fields in the history of HIV health

advocacy. Anthropology faculty at Nebraska Indian Community College are integrating into its Native Studies classes materials created by Francis La Flesche, the first Native American anthropologist. The project will broaden student and community knowledge of Omaha culture as well as the work of La Flesche and will also provide intergenerational learning opportunities for the surrounding community.

### *Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities*

Created in FY 2021, Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities meets the needs of a broad array of institutions, including HBCUs, predominantly Black institutions, community colleges transitioning to four-year degree programs, as well as technical colleges and universities and liberal arts institutions.

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 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. Tufts University is strengthening civics education in marginalized communities by teaching history and government classes as part of its prison initiative for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people. Northeastern Oklahoma State in Tahlequah received an award to develop an online, interactive map and database to document the history of the surrounding region, which was the center of a nineteenth century “Cherokee renaissance.” Participating faculty will work together to develop teaching materials related to the interactive map.

### *Humanities Connections*

In 2017, NEH launched Humanities Connections to support curricular innovations that address current challenges for the humanities in institutions of higher education. This program 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.

Applicants to Humanities Connections may seek funding for either a planning grant (one year) or an implementation grant (up to three years). Recently funded projects have focused on a range of fields, with medical humanities, humanities and technology, and the environmental humanities being particularly prominent among them.

The most recent round of this program’s awards includes several projects for underserved and at-risk communities. NEH awarded Juniata College in Pennsylvania a Humanities Connections Planning Grant to begin developing a new Rural Poverty Studies program, designed to help students understand structural poverty and its impact on rural communities. 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. Under the auspices of this NEH grant, 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 ([EDSITEment.neh.gov/](https://edsitement.neh.gov/)) is a nationally recognized website for K–12 humanities teachers. Since its launch in 1997, this website has remained a trusted source of high-quality educational materials for public, private, and homeschool educators. Averaging 200,000 unique users each month, EDSITEment offers an expansive suite of lesson plans, multimedia resources, and digital learning tools for teaching history, literature, arts, language, and culture. And by partnering with several other organizations dedicated to K–12 humanities education, including National History Day, the Smithsonian Learning Lab, and the Civics Renewal Network, EDSITEment has expanded its reach and visibility.

EDSITEment’s notable strengths in history and social studies serve teachers who seek to deepen students’ understanding of the history and culture of America and America’s constitutional democracy. The site currently holds 164 resources on American history, including many that focus on the history of American democracy. Over the next two years, more than 50 new curricular resources are expected to be added to the site. Among examples of these newly added resources are several that will feature educational resources on Constitutional amendments, the Great Depression, Japanese internment during World War II, and the roles of African Americans and Native Americans in colonial New England.

## *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 entered into three cooperative agreements in FY 2019 and FY 2020 that support innovative approaches to teaching and learning in the humanities:

1. **iCivics, Inc.** This cooperative agreement, which forms part 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 provided joint funding to iCivics in support of the project titled “Educating for American Democracy.” This two-year project is designed to address the poor state of civics and history education in the United States, with special attention to underserved communities. The project has three objectives: (1) evaluating the current state of history and civics curricula and resources; (2) creating a Roadmap for Excellence in history and civics education; and (3) 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.** In 2020, NEH entered into a three-year cooperative agreement with National History Day, Inc. (NHD) as part of its “A More Perfect Union” initiative. 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, daylong 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 aims to revitalize the role of the humanities in undergraduate education. The project emphasizes: (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 cooperative 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 adapt this approach to general education on their campuses to fit their own needs.

The Division initiated a Special Project in FY 2019 that provides support for innovative approaches to teaching and learning in the humanities:

- **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.

### ***Program Plans for FY 2023***

In addition to sustaining the core work of the grant programs described above, the Division of Education Programs will seek in FY 2023 to significantly expand its support for underserved institutions, including TCUs, HBCUs, HSIs, and community colleges. Many underserved institutions find the federal grant process difficult to negotiate and the awards too large and cumbersome to administer. As a result, many modestly sized, less-well-endowed post-secondary institutions, and the nonprofit organizations that support them, their faculty, and students, choose not to apply for federal support.

To address these challenges, the Education Division proposes to initiate a new program that would encourage small but high-need institutions and the organizations that support them to apply for well-defined, short-term projects that address issues central to their institutional or organizational goals. Examples of such projects might include a speakers' series or symposium to enhance humanities faculty professional development; a community outreach project that would strengthen the institution's or organization's humanities mission; or a consultation project to support the development of one phase of a longer-range curricular or organizational humanities initiative. Prospective grantees would include the nation's 32 Tribal Colleges, less well-endowed HBCUs, small HSIs, smaller community colleges and other two- and four-year schools of modest size with underserved populations, as well as the consortia and organizations with small budgets that support them, their faculty, or students.

Importantly, the proposed program would offer a streamlined application format and informational webinars and workshops designed to enhance application success from underserved institutions. Applications would be selected through peer review; evaluation criteria would focus on intellectual significance, feasibility, and the project's impact on the institution. The program could be offered at an exploratory level of up to \$25,000 and a small project level at up to \$60,000. A grant term lasting up to 18 months would encourage effective small-scale programming while alleviating the

institutional burden associated with extensive grant management.

## FEDERAL/STATE PARTNERSHIP

	<b>FY 2021 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2023 President's Budget</b>	<b>Delta from FY 2021</b>
Federal/State Partnership	\$51,576	\$63,000	\$11,424

*Note: Dollars are in thousands.*

The Office of Federal/State Partnership serves as NEH's liaison with its state affiliates, the 56 state and jurisdictional humanities councils. The councils, which represent all 50 states and the six U.S. 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 program funds is awarded to the humanities councils through the General Operating Support Grant program. The amount awarded to each council is determined using a funding formula prescribed in NEH's authorizing legislation. The councils are essential partners 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. In FY 2021, with NEH funds, the councils and their subrecipients produced 348,000 programs and resources that were accessed 294 million times. As representatives of every U.S. state and jurisdiction, the councils' partnership with NEH ensures that the agency reaches all Americans, from Alaska to Florida to the Northern Marianas, with diverse, local, and place-based humanities programming.

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 Office of Federal/State Partnership administers this grant program and, when directed by the NEH Chair, issues supplemental awards, monitors council activity, maintains network-wide communication channels, and provides capacity-building resources.

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 each state or jurisdiction. Collectively, the councils work with thousands of local partners to strengthen humanities programs and promote the relevance of the humanities in public life. To expand the councils' reach and welcome new and diverse audiences, the councils partner with schools, libraries, historical societies, museums, HBCUs, HSIs, TCUs, community colleges, public media, businesses, social service organizations, and Tribal, state, and local governments. The councils serve as cultural leaders in their state or jurisdiction, making use of their partnership with NEH to forge strategic collaborations, 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 NEH's National Council on the Humanities and for approval by the NEH Chair. 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 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 federal, 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. The Office shares the "Self-Assessment and Site Review Reports" with the NEH Chair's Office and the National Council on the Humanities. The reports along with the recommendations of the Chair's Office and the National Council are then shared with the councils. The Office of Federal/State Partnership strongly encourages the councils to implement the recommendations of the consultants, the National Council, and NEH staff when carrying out their plans and operations.

The Office'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, and professional and nonprofit leadership development resources that councils might find helpful. The Office encourages the councils to develop professional expertise in formative and summative evaluation techniques, which serve as important tools for guiding outcomes-based approaches to program design, analyzing audience reach and impact, and strengthening fundraising activity. The Office also helps build "communities of practice" so that councils can share lessons learned from their current programs and operations.

In addition to its council oversight responsibilities, the Office of Federal/State Partnership serves as a liaison between the humanities councils and the Chair's Office and other NEH program divisions and offices. The Office helps support the agency's goals by providing the councils with information about funding opportunities within NEH's various programmatic divisions, and by administering NEH's supplemental awards for emergency relief as well as special awards made through the Chair's special initiatives, such as "A More Perfect Union." The Office has also played an important role in support of the agency's efforts to distribute relief funds appropriated to NEH under the Coronavirus, Relief, and Economic Security Act of 2020 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

### ***FY 2021 Humanities Councils Activities, Outcomes, and Reach***

As recipients of NEH's General Operating Support (GOS) grants, the 54<sup>2</sup> state and jurisdictional humanities councils are required to report annually on council- and subrecipient-conducted activity during the past funding period. Recently, the Office of Federal/State Partnership updated its information collection tools and process. In FY 2019, the Office aligned the reporting period with the GOS funding period. In FY 2020, the Office implemented a new final performance report template to collect information on activities and outcomes during the past funding period that were funded by the GOS grant and funds leveraged to meet the required cost share. In FY 2021, the

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<sup>2</sup> While working to establish new humanities councils in Iowa and the U.S. Virgin Islands, NEH is distributing funds to that state and jurisdiction through interim partnerships with the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs and the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands, respectively.

Office converted this report template to a digital, fillable form.

Following the closure of the FY 2021 funding period, the 54 state and jurisdictional humanities councils submitted required annual reports, including the final performance report. Councils reported on council-conducted activity during the November 1, 2020, to October 31, 2021, funding period, as well as on activity from subawards that closed during that period, which may include subaward activity outside of the period.

From these reports, NEH learned that GOS award funding reached nearly every congressional district, and that councils sponsored a wide variety of public humanities activities. Councils and their subrecipients conducted over 23,000 live activities that attracted more than 6.6 million participants, and over 325,000 recorded, printed, and digital activities and resources that were accessed more than 294M times by audiences around the country.

Council activities include a range of types, topics, and formats. Councils reported conducting activities that promoted civil discourse through the humanities that were inclusive of diverse perspectives, such as lectures, reading and discussion programs, K–12 youth programs, and digital humanities activities. Councils reported that subrecipients also conducted a wide range of humanities programs, including exhibitions, oral history projects, teacher institutes and workshops, and language revitalization projects. The rich range of topics and formats reinforce the councils' efforts to reach broad and diverse audiences in the states and jurisdictions.

Councils and their subrecipients work with scholars in the development of rigorous humanities programming, making humanities research accessible to the public. Councils reported that nearly 15,000 scholars participated in council and subrecipient activities, including in the design, delivery, and evaluation of council activities; in the review of grant applications for council grantmaking; for general consulting purposes; and in subrecipient projects. In addition, councils work with local partners to strengthen humanities programs and promote the relevance of the humanities in public life. In 2021, councils partnered with almost 5,000 organizations, ranging from public libraries and K–12 schools to community organizations and public media. Councils also enhance the availability and quality of humanities programming, teaching, and learning through their partnerships with higher education institutions. Councils reported conducting or funding activities that involved the participation of community colleges, Asian American and Pacific Islander Institutions, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.

Finally, councils reported on their human resources – the people who bring the work of the councils to life in each state and jurisdiction. In 2021, the councils employed 526 staff members, engaged more than 1,037 volunteer board members, and hired 87 interns. More than 90 percent of the councils that hired interns also paid their interns, a critical practice in developing a diverse and vibrant workforce within the state or jurisdiction.

### *Advancing Equity and Support for Underserved Communities*

State and jurisdictional humanities councils create opportunities for humanities-informed discussions that explore contemporary issues, provide historical, social, and philosophical context for the discussions, and promote thoughtful, informed civic reflection. When in-person events are possible, council-led discussion programs occur in many spaces, such as public libraries, community centers, churches, and other local venues where people live and work. Councils invite input and feedback from the communities they seek to serve. For example, to develop its discussion topic themes, Maine Humanities seeks recommendations from underserved

communities, including 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 “Race and Real Estate”; “Crossing Over: Works by Contemporary American Indian Writers”; and “Mental Health through Historic Writings.” Similarly, through the annual *Vermont Reads* program, Vermont Humanities invites students, adults, and seniors across the state to read the same book and participate in community discussions of the book’s themes. Recent book selections, including *We Contain Multitudes*, *The Hate U Give*, and *March: Book One*, explore the LGBTQ+ experience, the Black Lives Matter movement, an adolescent’s struggle for justice, and the history of the civil rights movement.

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 preserve and share traditional languages, cultures, and histories. Building on the award-winning “Guam Women Warriors Oral History Project,” launched in 2015 as part of NEH’s *Standing Together* initiative, Humanities Guam introduced “Beteranu Gi Geran Vietnam,” an in-depth exploration of the unique and often-overlooked experiences of CHamoru-speaking veterans from Guam. The oral histories, recorded in CHamoru, will be transcribed and subtitled in English and made accessible to the public as well as for scholarly research. The collection will be archived at Kaipuleohone Language Archive, University of Hawaii; the University of Guam; and the Library of Congress Folklife Center and Veterans History Project. The formal training of CHamoru language interviewers in oral history techniques is expected to have a lasting impact, allowing for future documentation and preservation of other aspects of CHamoru cultural heritage.

The Minnesota Humanities Center (MHC) explores “absent narratives” across their programs to amplify voices and stories that have been missing from public discourse in Minnesota. MHC regularly collaborates with indigenous communities to produce programs. Notable examples include *Minnesota Native American Lives*, a series of biographies of American Indian leaders written for third- to fifth-grade students; “Learning from Place – Bdote,” a series of place-based programs exploring the history and community of the Dakota people; and the traveling exhibition “Why Treaties Matter: Self-Government in the Dakota and Ojibwe Nations.”

The Alaska Humanities Forum supports two programs that help build understanding between urban centers and traditional Alaskan Native villages. “Take Wing Tengluni” helps rural Alaska native students adapt to urban and postsecondary cultures while maintaining their traditional culture and values, and “Creating Cultural Competence (C3)” 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 grantmaking. While councils have always sought to reach a broad, statewide audience, they have become more thoughtful and deliberate in working to identify the communities they are not serving, any internal and external barriers, and the community-level partnerships that would lead to increased access to their grants and programs. The Rhode Island Council for the Humanities (RICH), for example, developed a capacity-building evaluation toolkit to help small nonprofit grantees in underserved communities learn to evaluate and report on the impact of their RICH-funded programs. Similarly, the New Jersey Council for the Humanities (NJCH) is building equity through their grantmaking process, with special outreach and grant workshops for cultural organizations in underserved communities.

New-to-NJCH organizations now make up 50 percent of the annual applicant pool – a testament to the NJCH’s efforts. Many councils also provide grant applications in Spanish and other languages of recent immigrants.

Other equity-related examples abound. Through a partnership with the University of Arkansas’s Partners for Inclusive Communities, Arkansas Humanities includes guidance in its quarterly magazine on ways to build welcoming, inclusive, accessible programming for people who are disabled. Georgia Humanities’ and the University of Georgia’s recent webinar, “Shakespeare and the Poetics of American Sign Language,” featured Gallaudet University professor Jill Bradbury and underscored the importance of bringing humanities content performed by deaf and culturally deaf actors to deaf, culturally deaf, and hearing audiences. The webinar included American Sign Language interpretation as well as closed captioning.

Humanities councils also offer programming for people who are incarcerated. For example, Mississippi Humanities Council’s “Prison-to-College Pipeline” and “Prison Writes” initiatives, and Hawai’i Humanities’ program “TryThink” offer prisoners opportunities for self-development while also supporting their re-integration into society upon their release. In 2021, Humanities New York (HNY) launched a post-incarceration humanities partnership grant opportunity for nonprofit organizations that serve prisoners—and their families—who are going through the process of societal reentry after a period of incarceration. This program is part of HNY’s sustained engagement with issues of incarceration. Grants will support a collection of oral histories about the incredible scale of imprisonment and its effects on individuals, families, and communities.

The popularity of council-produced podcasts has skyrocketed during the pandemic. These programs inspire and educate listeners by sharing the stories of those who have historically been underserved and marginalized. In 2021-2022, Humanities DC will pilot a program titled “Porch Tales,” which tells the stories of Black women in Washington, D.C., who have frequently been left out of the narratives of some of the nation’s most important movements and moments. “Amended,” the New York Humanities’ award-winning podcast, features stories from the 1800s to the present day about the quest for full equality among a diverse array of women. Wyoming Humanities’ podcast “First, But Last” celebrates the histories of a diverse group of women from the “Equality State” to honor Wyoming as the first state to give women the right to vote. Episodes of Virginia Humanities’ award-winning “With Good Reason” podcast have explored topics such as race in America, the disability justice movement, the impact of redlining on African American homeownership, and navigating healthcare as an immigrant or refugee.

Many state and jurisdictional humanities councils are addressing issues of DEIA 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. In 2021, the council prioritized building a more inclusive and equitable organizational culture in its strategic plan. Many other councils have used the handbook as a model for work in their state. Some councils are addressing issues of equity and access through capacity building efforts for other humanities organizations. In 2021, Maryland Humanities hosted “Beyond Statements: Leading Racial Equity in Humanities Organizations,” part of a speaker series focused on operationalizing racial equity in the humanities field.

## *Confronting the Climate Crisis*

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 Traveling Exhibition Service to support *Museum on Main Street* exhibitions in local communities. For example, "Water/Ways" was exhibited in 140 small museums, libraries, and cultural institutions across the country. This exhibition and related public programming explored how human creativity and resourcefulness have protected water resources and fostered 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. Over 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 June of 2021, Florida Humanities presented "Let's Talk About Water," a weeklong series of online lectures leading up to the launch of the Florida tour of "Water/Ways." Topics included "spiritual waters" and the history of the Clean Water Act. The Council's *FORUM* magazine complemented this program with a series of articles on the theme "Written in Water."

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 the relationship between humans and the environment. Often set in outdoor, natural environments, "Campfires" scientists describe the natural history of the setting, with humanists providing 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 also sponsored the creation of original films about local waterways and has published an anthology of environmental writing from around the state.

Humanities Montana's "Gather Round" program uses U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo's anthology of First Peoples' poetry, *Living Nations, Living Words*, as inspiration for outdoor environmental humanities programs. Participants are asked to reflect on the meaning of living heritage, landscape, and their evolving relationships with the earth as they hike on the Blackfoot Reservation in northwestern Montana and Little Shell territory in north-central Montana.

In 2022, Humanities New York will debut "Liberty, Land, and Loss: Echoes of the American Revolution," a scholar-guided, multi-part exploration of historical and contemporary intersections of racial justice, focusing on the centuries-long deprivations endured by indigenous populations. The project will include a reading and discussion program, a set of original articles on the Humanities New York blog, and online community conversations.

Many other councils are conducting similar programming. The theme of Nevada Humanities' "Nevada Reads 2021" is "Cultivating Environmental Literacy." The council will conduct online book clubs, outdoor adventures, and virtual workshops. Additional conversation-based programs in Nevada will include Native American scholars and journalists discussing land sovereignty, water rights, and colonial mapping practices. Arizona Humanities will host "Climate Conversations," a series of dialogues that bring humanities perspectives to bear on the issues of climate justice, the borderlands, water resources, and indigenous communities' relationship to the environment. Part of Maine Humanities' new program, "What If?", includes a reading and discussion series and scholarly humanities presentations that grapple with the crisis of climate change. The South Dakota Humanities Council has selected *Our History Is the Future: Standing Rock Versus the Dakota Access Pipeline, and the Long Tradition of Indigenous Resistance*, by Nick Estes, as its 2022 "One Book South Dakota." This book explores the history of indigenous people's resistance to land incursion and dispossession and probes the differing meanings of "land" as understood by the Oceti Sakowin compared with non-Native settlers.

### *Responding to Natural Disasters*

When state and jurisdictional cultural sectors are affected by severe weather events, the Office of Federal/State Partnership provides technical assistance and relief funding through the councils in the affected states and jurisdictions. In the first half of 2021, NEH issued the Chair's Emergency Supplements to Humanities Texas (\$0.134M), Oklahoma Humanities (\$50,000), Kentucky Humanities (\$20,000), and the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities (LEH; \$50,000) following extreme weather-related events in those areas. LEH also received \$0.150M emergency Supplement in 2021 to support cultural heritage disaster mitigation and recovery efforts following Hurricane Ida. LEH made nineteen awards to organizations in nine parishes; repaired damage to LEH's headquarters in historic Turner's Hall; and are working with FEMA and local conservators and the Louisiana Association of Museums to plan and conduct a series of cultural heritage disaster preparedness workshops in spring 2022.

Many councils are developing disaster preparedness plans in anticipation of the impacts of climate change. In 2020, with NEH support, the LEH published *Resilience, Culture, and Place Identity: Research and Recommendations on the Roles of Humanities Organizations in Emergencies and Disasters*, a comprehensive report and yearlong research effort on the role humanities organizations can play in supporting the long-term resilience of the communities, individuals, and the cultural entities they support. The Office of Federal/State Partnership shared the LEH's report with the humanities council community and has hosted network-wide disaster preparedness webinars featuring FEMA, HENTF, and council executive directors with expertise in cultural heritage disaster mitigation assessment and grantmaking.

### *Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic and its Associated Economic Crisis*

On June 15, 2021, NEH issued \$52.6M of its \$135M American Rescue Plan (ARP) appropriation to its council partners in all 56 states and territories. Through council regrants, these funds have allowed cultural entities—in many cases small, grassroots organizations that are vital to their communities—to rebuild operations, retain and hire staff, and provide public humanities programming.

At the start of 2022, all 54 state and jurisdictional humanities councils and two interim partners completed their ARP regranteeing activities and have begun to record preliminary data on their subrecipients. In aggregate, 6,569 organizations applied for funding from their local humanities council and 4,179 received awards totaling \$46.6M. While a more comprehensive analysis will be

possible when all the state and jurisdictional councils have submitted their subaward reports and have completed their final reports (due June 30), we can see clear trends in the preliminary data:

- Just as was the intent of the ARP subaward program, most funds were used to sustain general operations and preserve jobs. 35% of the subrecipients used their grant to support and maintain general operations, and 23% of the subrecipients put their funds towards keeping staff on the payroll.
- Job creation and retention was a vital part of the ARP program, and the preliminary data already shows the impact the program will have on individuals. The councils report anticipating the creation of 2,284 jobs and the retention of 6,793 jobs.
- Organizations connected to their local history and places of community gathering dominated the subrecipients as reported by the councils. Historical societies, history museums, and cultural heritage organizations accounted for 43% of the organizations given subawards. Public libraries and community organizations came in second at 19% of organizations.
- Reaching as many people and organizations as possible was a clear priority for the humanities councils. Through their subawards, they were able to provide much-needed aid for most of the United States and its territories, granting awards to organizations in 90% of congressional districts.

The Crow Language Consortium announced they had received a \$10,000 ARP award from Humanities Montana: “This funding is vital for the Crow Language Consortium to continue its work supporting the Crow community and the Crow language. More importantly, American Rescue Plan funding through Montana Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities is instrumental in helping us and Montana’s other cultural organizations and institutions adapt our programming to continue to serve our communities safely.”

Many councils worked collaboratively with state agencies, foundations, and other nonprofit organizations to increase awareness of the availability of ARP funds and, in some cases, to leverage additional financial support for the cultural sectors they serve. For example, the Connecticut legislature allocated \$30M to Connecticut Humanities over the next two years. This funding will support the arts and cultural sectors of the state as they recover from the pandemic. This funding was awarded through a collaboration between Connecticut Humanities and the Connecticut Office of the Arts. The Rhode Island Council for the Humanities partnered with the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts to create a combined grant opportunity for cultural organizations throughout the state. The collaboration garnered positive press attention from the Associated Press, *Boston Globe*, and other news outlets. Rhode Island’s press release quoted Senators Reed and Whitehouse, Representative Langevin, and Governor McKee, thanking NEH for service to their state: “The arts, culture and humanities communities are an important economic driver in the state.” Senator Reed stressed that the federal grants will “generate economic activity and help our state’s cultural sector survive the pandemic, adapt and prepare for the future, and continue to serve audiences going forward.”

The councils may also use a portion of their ARP funding for their own council-conducted programming that supports ARP goals. Many councils are convening regional “recovery roundtables” to share best practices, support inclusive grantmaking, build capacity, and develop statewide cultural infrastructure. The Office of Federal/State Partnership is working with NEH’s Office of Grant Management to monitor the councils’ use of ARP funds.

## *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, to understand the core principles of constitutional government, and to consider anew the rights and responsibilities of members of a democracy. The councils produce rich humanities-based programs that provide opportunities for residents of their states to reflect on these vital aspects of American civic life. The Alabama Humanities Alliance, for example, sponsors "Stony the Road We Trod," a 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 councils also support or lead their state'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. Humanities Nebraska's Speakers Bureau and Chautauqua programs, for example, reach over 32,000 people annually. In 2021, the council's "Fifties in Focus Chautauqua" will highlight television, rock and roll, the Space Race, the Korean War, and McCarthyism. Similarly, Illinois Humanities, through its Road Scholars Speakers Bureau, annually invites Illinois writers, storytellers, historians, folklorists, musicians, and living history actors, among others, to share their expertise and enthusiasm with audiences across the state. In 2021, the Bureau is featuring 28 speakers and 44 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 humanities councils are uniquely positioned to advance the goals of the agency's special initiative, "A More Perfect Union." 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. Civics 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, NEH awarded each of the councils in all 50 states and six jurisdictions \$50,000 to implement programs aligned with the goals of "A More Perfect Union", 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 are using the funds to 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—reading and discussion programs, exhibitions, teacher workshops, and convenings, among others—that will provide a wide variety of entry points for audiences to engage with humanities ideas and 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 program content.

### *Program Plans for FY 2023*

In addition to sustaining the core work of the grant programs described above, the Office of Federal/State Partnership will seek to broaden its reach and impact in ways that are responsive to the Administration's priorities, especially advancing equity and confronting the climate crisis. NEH will support the councils' ongoing work in DEIA and foster council information sharing to reach organizations and communities that have been historically underserved by the humanities. We will also provide resources to support council leadership in cultural heritage disaster preparedness, mitigation, and recovery.

The Office's efforts will be guided by the following capacity-building goals:

- For many years, most councils have been actively developing internal and external DEIA strategies to increase funding and programmatic access to underserved communities. Many councils are considered leaders in DEIA and civic reflection. The Office of Federal/State Partnership will coordinate an in-person or virtual information-sharing or peer-learning convening for the councils. Possible outcomes include presentation of state-based models that can be replicated across the country, strengthened collaboration among the councils, and NEH staff information gathering and sharing. Other peer-learning convenings could focus on how to partner with tribal governments and Native American and Indigenous communities, and how to build inclusive public programs that welcome people with disabilities.
- The Office of Federal/State Partnership will encourage best practices in the development of humanities-rich, meaningful public programming. NEH will coordinate a convening of council, agency, and other experts to discuss approaches for sharing and contextualizing difficult historical events, facilitating civil dialogue about the current climate crisis and issues of racial equity. A special emphasis will be placed on elevating the voices, stories, texts, objects, and places of previously marginalized individuals and communities.
- Defining measures of success and developing outcomes-based approaches to grantmaking and program development would help councils understand how their programs impact state and local communities. Quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis will help councils identify programmatic and operational areas in need of strengthening, identify audiences they are not reaching, and inform new outreach strategies. Aligning council evaluative practices with NEH's efforts will help the agency better understand the impact of NEH funding across the agency. The Office of Federal/State Partnership proposes to work with a consultant to improve and enhance its data collection, analysis, and reporting processes and will develop strategies for reporting on the findings.

The FY 2023 budget also includes funding to support natural disaster emergency supplements to the state and jurisdictional councils when the need arises. NEH will also encourage councils to serve as cultural heritage disaster preparedness leaders in their states, jurisdictions, and regions. Working with the Division of Preservation and Access, the Office of Challenge Programs, and an agency-wide working group, the Office of Federal/State Partnership will develop a toolkit and other resources to support natural disaster preparedness, mitigation, recovery, and resiliency efforts. To launch the resources, NEH will host special information sessions with guests from other federal agencies and their state programs.

## PRESERVATION AND ACCESS

	<b>FY 2021 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2023 President's Budget</b>	<b>Delta from FY 2021</b>
Preservation and Access	\$19,000	\$22,000	\$3,000

*Note: Dollars are in thousands.*

### ***Program 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 materials that are threatened by their physical structures or 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.

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*

NEH has long ensured that humanities researchers and the broader public can more easily find and make use of cultural heritage collections important to advance both knowledge and public understanding. The Humanities Collections and Reference Resources program offers implementation grants of up to \$0.350M to support the digitization and description of collections and the creation of new reference works, such as dictionaries, encyclopedias, digital archives, and indexes. Grants can be used for reformatting and aggregating humanities collections and datasets; arranging and describing archival and manuscript collections; and cataloging collections. Most of these projects put their collections and resources online, thus enhancing access for both U.S. and international audiences.

The program's subcategory, Humanities Collections and Reference Resources Foundations, supports formative work such as planning, assessment, and piloting through awards of up to \$60,000. Drawing on collaborations between humanities scholars and technical specialists, such projects help cultural institutions establish intellectual control of collections, develop plans and priorities for digitization, solidify partnerships and strategic plans to create complex digital resources, or produce preliminary versions of online collections or resources. For example, the Division recently awarded a grant to West Virginia University to plan a multi-institutional online portal aggregating the personal papers of former members of the United States Congress, the product of which will help strengthen Americans' knowledge of constitutional governance and democracy. With the overarching goal of making these primary sources easier to discover and use, the planning project will bring together technical and subject experts to prioritize material for inclusion, test storage platforms, and build a pilot website. The Foundations subcategory also supports diversification of our cultural heritage by encouraging partnerships between smaller organizations and those with more extensive collections experience. A recent award to Marygrove Conservancy in Michigan supports a partnership with the Detroit Historical Society, which will contribute expertise for the preservation and digitization of collections related to a contemporary American author's lecture series that features Black writers and poets from 1989 to the present.

Recent Humanities Collections and Reference Resources awards also demonstrate the power of sharing humanities resources online, especially as the coronavirus pandemic limits travel and in-person gatherings. An award to Drexel University in Pennsylvania 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 encompasses 350 years of the city's history. At Northern Arizona University, an award supports the digitization of 400 rare and unique moving images documenting the history of the Colorado Plateau and the American Southwest. The university library has led regional efforts to develop best practices in 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 have chronicled the daily life of our citizens in towns and cities across the country for centuries, helping to record the history of our nation. These newspapers provide invaluable resources for documenting the civic, legal, historical, and cultural life of every region.

Beginning in 1980, NEH support enabled organizations and institutions in 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico to locate, catalog, and microfilm their historic newspaper holdings and create a centralized bibliographic record of all newspaper titles published since 1690. Now, through digital technology, NEH is enabling researchers and the public to search this vast storehouse of newspaper content. In 2004, NEH and the Library of Congress signed a memorandum of understanding – renewed in 2009, 2014, and 2019 – establishing a partnership to create the National Digital Newspaper Program. Under the terms of this partnership, NEH provides grants to an institution or organization in each state and territory to digitize titles published between 1690 and 1963 and prepare searchable files that the Library of Congress will maintain permanently online.

Thus far, more than 18 million pages of historical U.S. newspapers have been digitized, with many millions to follow. The selected pages are accompanied by brief essays summarizing the history of production, content, and circulation of each newspaper, as well as a directory of all newspapers published in the U.S. from 1690 to the present. This comprehensive information is publicly accessible online through the *Chronicling America* website ([ChroniclingAmerica.LOC.gov/](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/)).

A complex undertaking, the National Digital Newspaper Program is being implemented in phases. To date, the Division has provided support for projects in all but one state. Each participating state is contributing approximately 300,000 pages of digitized newspapers per six-year cycle. Initially, the eligible content was limited to newspapers published between 1836 and 1922 and newspapers written in English. In recent years, the program has expanded to include content published between 1690 and 1963 and 22 additional languages, including Dakota, German, Tagalog, Spanish, Danish, Hungarian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, and Swedish. By expanding the program, NEH has provided the public with welcome access to the nation's vibrant ethnic and immigrant press.

Much work remains to ensure that this longstanding commitment to newspaper heritage reflects the coverage, depth, and diversity of our nation's history. In 2021, Rhode Island contributed *Chronicling America's* earliest content by adding pages from the *Newport Gazette*, which dates to 1777. The recent addition of Massachusetts to the program promises to further strengthen eighteenth-century content, while other contributors are increasing the presence of historically underrepresented groups. Montana will be shifting its focus to Native American newspapers published on or near reservations, and Texas will focus on diverse groups from the border region and titles that offer perspectives on Mexican American civil rights. Significant expansion of geographic coverage includes Florida reaching beyond the mainland United States to feature newspapers published in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

### *Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections*

This program encourages sustainable, systemic, and energy-conscious solutions to mitigate deterioration in, and prolong the useful life of, collections in cultural heritage repositories. The program also helps strengthen institutional resilience in the face of disasters caused by natural and human activity. As museums, libraries, and archives seek to reduce their environmental impact, this program is distinct in joining carbon footprint reduction with preventive conservation techniques, such as management of environmental humidity, temperature, light, and pollutants; protective storage; and safeguarding collections from disasters. A 2020 survey report funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, titled *Small & Diverse Archival Organization Needs Assessment Project*, found that building issues, space planning and usage, building environments, fire safety, water safety, and security pose significant barriers to the long-term sustainability of collections. The report goes on to single out sustaining cultural heritage collections as an important area of grant-funded support that can help address these urgent needs.

Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections 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, the Oneida Indian Nation has gathered a team that includes specialists in conservation and preservation to develop recommendations for improving sustainability, energy efficiency, and security for historical documents, textiles, baskets, and other artifacts in their holdings.

Larger awards of up to \$0.350M provide significant assistance to organizations seeking to implement preventive conservation measures. Such implementation projects often focus on lighting and climate control systems in collections and exhibition spaces. The Maine Historical Society received funding to install solar panels on its Collections Management Center, reducing the Society's use of fossil fuels by 126,000 kilowatt hours per year and eliminating 376 tons of carbon dioxide in the three years since implementation. The George Eastman Museum, a leading film and photography archive, upgraded its climate control system and replaced fluorescent bulbs with LED lighting, which is expected to reduce energy consumption by approximately 10,500 kilowatt-hours per year, an amount similar to the annual energy use of an average American home. Others have added insulation and more tightly sealed their buildings to enhance the performance of existing systems and decrease exposure to pests and to fluctuations in temperature and relative humidity.

#### *Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions*

Smaller cultural repositories make up a large majority of collecting institutions in the United States. But 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 and sustainable environmental conditions; staff and volunteer education through online and in-person workshops; and preservation supplies and equipment. Many of these institutions steward collections that reflect under-represented communities and focus on a diverse range of topics, such as Native American cultures, the Civil War, rural life, industrial history, and civil rights.

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 two decades since the program began, NEH has awarded over 2,200 grants to institutions in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Each year, an average of 30 percent of Preservation Assistance Grants are awarded to institutions that have never received a grant from NEH, strong evidence that this grant program reaches institutions not previously served by the agency. A significant number of previous award recipients have also gone on to compete successfully for grants from other NEH funding programs.

Examples of the benefits of this grant program abound. The Aquinnah Cultural Center, Inc., in Aquinnah, Massachusetts, recently received its first NEH award: a Preservation Assistance Grant to hire a consultant to perform a general preservation assessment for a collection of three-

dimensional objects, oral history recordings with tribal elders, archival records, archaeological artifacts, paintings, and books documenting the history of the Aquinnah Wampanoag tribe. Para La Naturaleza, a unit of the Conservation Trust of Puerto Rico, will purchase and receive training in the use of environmental monitoring equipment to be installed in four historic buildings and one off-site storage space. Located in three different climatic zones on the island, these buildings collectively house approximately 5,000 historical artifacts and art objects representing the island's cultural, agricultural, and industrial history. Finally, the Morris County Park Commission in Morristown, New Jersey, received a Preservation Assistance Grant to purchase preservation supplies and equipment and hire preservation consultants as well as an intern to assist in data collection. The project will test low-cost, environmentally sustainable improvements to collection storage environments in buildings located at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Fosterfields Living Historical Farm, Historic Speedwell, and Willowood Arboretum—cultural sites that house library, archival, and artifact collections documenting the history of northern New Jersey.

*Dynamic Language Infrastructure - Documenting Endangered Languages Senior Research Grants*

This program supports the creation of such tools 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 study 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 \$0.450M support fieldwork and other activities that make it possible to record, document, and archive endangered languages. These activities in turn enable 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. An award to the University of California-Berkeley is enabling 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 on the California Language Archive. The project staff is also engaging with representatives of communities who speak these languages on such related task as collaborative curation, community-based metadata creation, and expansion of public access to the archive.

*Preservation and Access Education and Training*

The Division views the education and training of the stewards of humanities collections – including 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; disaster planning and emergency response; and audio-visual preservation.

All the institution and program types supported through the program – graduate art conservation programs, regional preservation centers, and continuing education – are expanding their programming to support under-represented students. In recent years, the Division has offered special support for projects to increase the diversity of the preservation and access fields, and to expand training in care of collections to under-represented communities.

The results of this special encouragement have been quite impressive. The Division is currently supporting a museum-hosted summer institute for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders, based at University of Hawai’i, Manoa, which is not only contributing to the diversification of the preservation profession, but also to the preservation of Pacific Island collections. At the graduate conservation program at the University of California-Los Angeles NEH funding supports a Native American fellowship program as well as the development of courses in collaborative curation. The name of the program – Interdepartmental Program in the Conservation of Cultural Heritage (previously Archaeological and Ethnographic Materials) – reflects a new way of valuing the diversity of the world’s tangible and intangible heritage. The Community Archiving Workshop, an affiliated group of the Association of Moving Image Archivists, is offering training and apprenticeships in audio-visual preservation, as well as culturally appropriate preservation and access practices, for Native American archivists and memory-keepers. The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts is offering a three-year Preservation Training Initiative in conservation and archives, available to both current students at multiple academic levels as well as continuing education museum professionals. Working closely with HBCUs in the state of Virginia, the host institution emphasizes outreach for students and museum professionals of color to advance culturally appropriate preservation and access practices.

The Division also awards grants to preservation field service 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. Altogether, 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 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 training 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. 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 addresses 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 methods to protect and slow the deterioration of humanities collections using 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 \$0.350M 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 (RIT) supports 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. RIT will devise strategies for mitigating the impact of pollutants on the collections of the nation's cultural repositories. A planning award to the University of California, Los Angeles, supports the development of models, tools, and a strategic plan for teaching sustainability in cultural heritage conservation programs. This foundational, evidence-based research, conducted in partnership with the Getty Conservation Institute, will contribute to cultural heritage institutions' adoption of environmentally sustainable practices, such as seasonal adjustments to HVAC set points, reduced reliance on single-use conservation supplies, and application of less toxic solvents in conservation treatments.

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 supports 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 2023***

The Division proposes a \$1.5M program to document cultural heritage and community experience in support of climate resiliency. Humanists in libraries, archives, museums, and higher education play an important role in fostering resilience in the face of climate change. As culture-keepers, they sustain memory and identity in disrupted communities; as knowledge brokers, they transfer abilities and perspectives that can deepen our understanding of the natural world and alternative means to live within it.

Documenting activities might include:

- Proactively identifying and capturing historical and cultural resources, including through digital means, in communities potentially endangered by wildfires, drought, hurricanes, rising sea levels, and other climate events.
- Collecting oral histories from individuals impacted by climate change, including survivors and first responders.
- Documenting traditional knowledge, historical practices, and technology that may inform contemporary ways of working and living.
- Engaging in collaborative planning efforts to prepare communities for rapid response collecting.
- Applying insights from cultural heritage identification and documentation projects to inform resilience strategies at the local level.

NEH has funded documentation of lost or imperiled cultural heritage in war-torn nations such as Syria and Iraq. The climate crisis forces us to recognize that communities in the United States now need similar support.

Existing Preservation and Access programs address climate change in many ways—from promoting disaster preparedness and energy-efficient storage practices, to re-examining existing historical resources for evidence of climate change. The approach outlined above has additional benefits:

- Aligns with equity work and the Administration’s Justice40 initiative.
- Enables community-focused documentation practices that advance community knowledge and empower people and communities to make decisions about how their stories should be collected and used.
- Recognizes the importance of documenting contemporary experiences with climate change and the opportunities such projects offer to reckon with the social, economic, and emotional impact on individuals and communities.
- Goes beyond saving cultural resources and deploys the humanities to help society respond to climate change.

In addition to the new climate resiliency program described above, the Division of Preservation and Access will encourage activities to promote equity and respond to the climate crisis throughout its core programs. For example:

- Preparedness to safeguard cultural heritage collections from natural disasters requires planning, practice, and appropriate organizational networks. This work will be further emphasized through the Preservation Assistance Grants program, which already boasts a broad geographic reach among awards recipients.
- Historical records provide opportunities to research and study climate change. The Humanities Collections and Reference Resources program will preserve and make accessible collections that help multidisciplinary researchers, including climate scientists, understand change over time.
- The Humanities Collections and Reference Resources program will also foster a historical record reflective of our nation’s diversity with projects that make the records and heritage of diverse groups newly accessible and that reconsider collections which have been inappropriately or under-described due to historical bias.

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

	<b>FY 2021 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2023 President’s Budget</b>	<b>Delta from FY 2021</b>
Public Programs	\$13,500	\$15,400	\$1,900

*Note: Dollars are in thousands.*

***Program Categories***

- Public Humanities Projects
- Media Projects
- Digital Projects for the Public

***Program Goals and Accomplishments***

The Division of Public Programs is where the work of NEH meets the American public. Through the Division’s support of museum exhibitions, documentary films, podcasts, historic sites, library discussion programs, and online games, it reaches 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 Division supports many accessible projects across the country that meld humanities scholarship with imaginative formats to engage public audiences of all ages and circumstances in serious questions about history, culture, and American democracy.

*Public Humanities Projects*

Awards for Public Humanities Projects provide critical support to museums, historic sites, libraries, community centers, and other cultural institutions, enabling the development of exhibitions of artistic, cultural, and historical artifacts; interpretation of significant American historic sites; presentation of reading and film discussion series; and creation of lifelong learning activities. More than 200 currently available public projects funded through this program are stimulating millions of Americans to think critically about the world around them and to instill a deeper understanding of fundamental questions facing contemporary society.

“Malala’s Story”, which opened in September 2021 at the Children’s Museum of Indianapolis, relates the experiences of Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani teenager shot in 2012 for speaking out against the Taliban’s prohibition on educating females. The exhibition examines ideas of gender equality, the role of family in young people’s lives, religious difference, and violence against women and children in conflict zones. The story integrates into the previously NEH-funded permanent exhibition titled “The Power of Children: Making a Difference.” This exhibition shares accounts of the lives of three children—Anne Frank, Ruby Bridges, and Ryan White—to illustrate the ways in which young people have fought discrimination in different times and places.

The use of humanities scholarship to help audiences grapple with challenges in today's world is one of the hallmarks of projects supported by the Division of Public Programs. At the Division-supported project at the historic home of photographer Alice Austen, interpretive materials describe the ways in which her work explored the boundaries of gender roles in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, drawing parallels with current debates about conformity and gender identity. The Heard Museum's "Away from Home: American Indian Boarding School Stories" documents the government's forced attempts to assimilate Native American children. Similarly, the forthcoming traveling exhibition "Mr. Pruitt's Possum Town: Trouble & Resilience in the American South" uses images captured by a small-town photographer to explore the iniquities of the Jim Crow era in Mississippi, enabling audiences to understand the antecedents of modern struggles around equity, diversity, and social justice.

Funding a mix of large and small, urban, and rural organizations contributes to the Division's goals of achieving equity in audience reach and sharing a diversity of stories. Grants awarded in support of projects conducted by large, national organizations often facilitate broad dissemination. An example of a project with such broad impact is the Library of America's discussion program *Lift Every Voice: Why African American Poetry Matters Today*. This Division-supported project, launched in September 2020, employed the African American poetic tradition to help illuminate the social, cultural, and political history of the United States. Using a newly published anthology of works by over 100 poets from the eighteenth century to the present, scholars guided audiences through substantive discussions of struggles for freedom, the evolution of identity, and shifting historical memory. Although the pandemic forced plans for five large events in major cities to be adapted as virtual convenings, audience interest nonetheless proved strong. Almost 2,600 people participated virtually in the online launch of the project, far more than could have been accommodated at an in-person program. The project also included a multimedia website, supplemental educational materials for educators, and sub-awards to 50 libraries in 24 states enabling them to conduct related programming on a local level.

Division funding also supports locally focused organizations, which are best equipped to serve the needs of underserved communities at this level. Early-stage funding is especially critical for these small institutions where overextended staff and limited financial assets can present substantial barriers to building new programs. In June 2021, the New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center opened the exhibition, "More than a Job: Work and Community in New Bedford's Fishing Industry." The project received preliminary funding from NEH for content planning, providing the small staff of one full-time and two part-time employees sufficient support to develop a plan for the full-scale implementation of this exhibition. The center's implementation proposal was successful in obtaining further NEH support for this exhibition, which offers insight into the fishing industry's influence on New England culture. Another small organization, the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center, received NEH support from the Division to create interpretive programs illuminating the experience of the multiracial working class of the historic west side of San Antonio, Texas.

### *Media Projects*

The Division supports a wide variety of media projects that convey excellent humanities scholarship to millions of people via broadcast television, radio, video streams, and podcasts.

Several NEH grantees were also instrumental in helping 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.

Media projects supported by NEH are captivating, widely distributed, thoroughly researched, and thoughtful in their presentation. NEH makes a unique contribution to nonfiction film and radio programming by fostering close collaboration between media producers and scholars, who work together to create programs that help bring the insights of the humanities to a broad and diverse range of the American public.

The Division has funded several 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. The Division has also supported projects exploring more recent trends in Black culture. In February 2021, PBS broadcast *Mr. SOUL!*, a documentary about pioneering talk-show host Ellis Haizlip and his television program *SOUL!*, which was the first nationally broadcast all-Black variety show on public television. The documentary, featuring many rare clips, illuminates the cultural contributions of major figures in Black literature, poetry, music, and politics from the late 1960s and early 1970s. In March 2021, *Mr. SOUL!* won an NAACP Image Award.

The Division provided significant support to the Center for Asian American Media for its documentary film, *Asian Americans*, co-produced with PBS station WETA. This five-hour film series engages viewers 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 prime time on May 11, 2020, and was made available to 98 percent of American households via broadcast and online streaming. Following a spike in violence against Asian Americans in 2021, PBS rebroadcast the series and provided easy access to the series online. In 2021, *Asian Americans* won a prestigious Peabody Award.

Films supported by the Division have examined the politics and culture of the 1960s and 1970s, including the roots of political issues and movements that remain relevant today. *Crip Camp*, for example, looks at a groundbreaking summer camp that galvanized a group of teens with disabilities to help build a movement. The documentary, currently available on Netflix, was nominated for a 2021 Academy Award. *9to5: The Story of a Movement*, which aired on PBS, chronicles the movement by women office workers to achieve better pay, more advancement opportunities, and an end to sexual harassment. *The First Angry Man* is a documentary about political outsider Howard Jarvis and the California property-tax revolt he led in 1978. *Adios Amor: The Search for Maria Moreno* uncovers the story of Maria Moreno, the first female farm worker in America to be hired as a union organizer. The film received a 2020 Imagen Award for Best Informational Program as part of the PBS/Latino Public Broadcasting Voces series. And in 2021, the Division funded a biographical documentary film, currently in production, of the public intellectual and author William F. Buckley Jr.

NEH-supported films have also examined the lives of influential figures in American arts and culture. The Division funded nationally-broadcast biographies of the neurologist Oliver Sacks, the journalist Walter Winchell, the writer L. Frank Baum (best known for *The Wizard of Oz*), and the author Flannery O'Connor. A documentary on the life of Laura Ingalls Wilder, creator of the popular Little House series, attracted more than one million viewers, and an additional 283,000 streams, when it premiered nationally in December of 2020. The film chronicles how Wilder transformed her uncertain and difficult childhood into beloved children's classics, and, in doing so, contributed to lasting myths about the settling of the American West. The film's co-producer, public television station WNET, created extensive educational resources, aligned with topics typically taught in United States history classes, to accompany the documentary.

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 grant funded through NEH's CARES Act appropriation that will document the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on different communities across the country.

"Subtitle" is another popular and successful NEH-funded radio and podcast series that is airing in 2021–2022. These one-hour programs are being broadcast as part of the weekly The World series, carried by over 200 NPR affiliates. Looking at regional accents, new words, and international topics, the series offers keen insights into language, linguistics, and speech as it explores a wide range of topics, including the development of podcasts in various locales. Podcasts of "Subtitle" have been downloaded more than 200,000 times.

### *Digital Projects for the Public*

The Division's Digital Projects for the Public supports the development and production of humanities projects that make use of a wide array of digital technologies and platforms, including mobile applications, websites, digital games, interactive kiosks, and augmented and virtual reality experiences. Projects funded in this program reach a diverse range of audiences, and offer those without direct access to cultural institutions a fresh, innovative, and low barrier-of-entry way to explore humanities content such as state and local history, Indigenous culture, religious landmarks, military history, and art. The Division has seen substantial growth in this domain since the beginning of the pandemic, as educators and other audiences sought out projects that allowed for deep humanities engagements without requiring in-person attendance.

Digital games continue to offer unique opportunities for audiences to gain valuable humanities experiences, and to do so at a scale equivalent to the Division's most successful documentary films and exhibits. For example, "Mission US" by WNET Thirteen and "Race to Ratify" by iCivics offer compelling ways to explore U.S. history in both formal and informal learning contexts. These two games have reached millions of unique players since their launch. Division-supported educational games have focused on events as varied as the American Revolution, the Trail of Tears, the civil rights movement, westward expansion, and the

ratification of the Constitution. These games have recently seen a large uptick in their already well-established user base, as educators sought out robust digital resources to aid them in sustaining students' engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic. Similarly, the award-winning "Walden, a game" from the Game Innovation Lab at the University of Southern California saw such an increase in demand during the pandemic that the project team began building a Chromebook version that could be used in classrooms and other learning environments.

There has also been substantial growth in grant applications for virtual reality and augmented reality tours. These projects allow for remote digital experiences of humanities content found in museums, historic sites, and other cultural institutions. Projects such as these have become a primary means for reaching audiences during the pandemic, on both a local and national scale. In doing so, they not only sustain current audiences, but also grow them by allowing for remote learning opportunities in formal and informal contexts.

Division-funded projects in the realm of virtual reality include *Reconstruction 360°* from South Carolina ETV, a web and on-site mobile application that provides tours of Reconstruction-era sites in South Carolina; *Exploring the Cajun Roots: Augmented Reality Tour of Acadia History* from the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, an augmented reality tour and 360° panoramic website of nineteenth-century Vermilionville in Lafayette, Louisiana; *River of Time: A Game for Community Engagement* from Grand Rapids Public Museum, supporting the prototyping of a self-guided mobile game that explores the history of the Grand River; and *VR Hoover Dam: A Virtual Reality Game Exploring the History and Construction of an American Icon* from University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, which would develop an educational virtual reality experience chronicling the Hoover Dam's construction. The Division expects that demand for NEH-funded projects such as these will only increase in the years to come, as best practices from the pandemic become embedded in the long-term plans of educators and cultural institutions.

### ***Program Plans for FY 2023***

In addition to sustaining the core work of the grant programs described above, the Division of Public Programs has been seeking to broaden its reach and impact in ways that advance racial equity and support for underserved communities. The goal of advancing equity has local resonance with museums, state humanities councils, humanities centers, and historic sites. Support for local projects exploring past injustices and community reconciliation has always been a significant part of our Public Humanities Projects grants to historic sites and small museums. 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. To this end, the Division proposes to develop two new programs focused on equity.

First, partnering with an experienced museum, the Division will organize a three-day workshop to explore with museum professionals the best practices for diversifying the interpretation at their institutions. Workshop participants would be selected from institutions demonstrating a desire to expand their interpretation, but uncertain of how to approach the process. The workshop will address working with advisory teams and how to diversify the perspectives

included in such groups; building effective community partnerships, outreach to audiences of color, and cross-cultural collaboration; engaging in respectful, nonpartisan dialog around social justice issues; and reexamining museum collections to identify the hidden voices and stories that reveal untold histories.

Second, the Division will launch a new grant program for underserved cultural heritage organizations with the mission of telling stories of marginalized populations to strengthen or expand their ability to offer public humanities programs to wide audiences. Examples of eligible applicants include African American historic sites, tribal museums, LGBTQ+ historical societies, Latinx cultural centers, and Asian American museums. The program will advance the museums' ability to collaborate with outside consultants and scholars to deepen analytical examinations of humanities content, investigate new avenues for interpretation, and explore new interpretive methodologies. Eligible award expenses will include planning and implementation of public programs, as well as expenses aimed at increasing staff capacity for analytical interpretation and broadening audiences.

## DIVISION OF RESEARCH PROGRAMS

	<b>FY 2021 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2023 President's Budget</b>	<b>Delta from FY 2021</b>
Research Programs	\$14,500	\$17,000	\$2,500

*Note: Dollars are in thousands.*

### ***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 Fellowships (with the National Science Foundation)
- Advanced Social Science Research on Japan (with the Japan-U.S. 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 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 11, 2001, 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 race and gender studies and environmental humanities.

### *Advancing 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 equity and for addressing the needs of underserved communities. Projects in racial 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 twentieth-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 nineteenth 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 Crisis*

The Division has long served as a source of funding for new fields of inquiry in the humanities, including medical humanities and environmental humanities. Consistent with the Administration’s interest in confronting the climate crisis, Research grantees are 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, the 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 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 centers around the world, including sites in India, China, and the Middle East.

### ***Programs Supporting Individual Research***

The primary building block of the humanities can be found in the work of the individual scholar, and, accordingly, 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 in the Research division: Fellowships, Summer Stipends, Public Scholars, and Awards for Faculty at HSIs, HBCUs, and TCUs.

### *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 scholarly as well as 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) addressed 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 nonacademic 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 HBCUs, HSIs, and 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 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 civics 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 public. Recent grants have supported editions of the papers of major political figures such as George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Eleanor Roosevelt, Jane Addams, and Martin Luther King Jr.; the works of philosophers Thomas Aquinas and Karl Barth; inventor Thomas Edison; and literary figures Mark Twain, novelist Catherine Maria Sedgwick, 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, published the documentary history of the experiences of four million African American freedmen after the Civil War. These documents 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, 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*

The 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 partnered with NEH to help them deliver large-scale peer review for individual scholars. With nearly 50 years of experience in evaluating scholarship, NEH entered 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 to fund documentation of the thousands of rapidly disappearing languages all over the world. The Dynamic Language Infrastructure–Documenting Endangered Languages 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 shows how events such as the Paralympics have affected disability-related policies and perceptions both in and beyond the sports arena.

***Program Plans for FY 2023***

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:

- *Supporting Underserved Communities:* 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 already allowed for more flexibility and have broadened the definition of what qualifies as research in HBCUs, HSIs, and TCUs to respect the heavy teaching and mentoring responsibilities of their faculties. As a complement to this program, NEH plans in FY 2023 to expand our Summer Stipends program to better support community colleges and other Federally recognized minority serving institutions. This includes raising the award amount from \$6,000 to \$8,000, and encouraging scholars from Asian American Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions, Native American-Serving Non-Tribal Institutions, and Predominantly Black Institutions to apply for two months of support to conduct research for course revision, to engage students or community members in humanities research, or to publish the results of their research in academic or public forums. This will increase the total budget of Summer Stipends to over \$0.6M per year. In our Collaborative Research program, we will add a financial incentive for digital scholarship or manuscript preparation projects to include minority-serving institutions and community colleges as equal partners in the formation and

execution of multi-year research and publication projects. If either the applying institution or a sub-awarding institution is one of the Federally recognized minority-serving institutions mentioned above, and the application can demonstrate real and meaningful collaboration between scholars at these institutions, then the team can ask for an additional \$50,000 of support. This will bring the total Collaborative Research budget to \$2.3M million per year.

- *Understanding Climate:* The Division will continue to support all areas of humanistic inquiry but will do more to engage the environmental humanities with respect to climate change. In FY 2023, NEH will invest an additional \$6M to shine a bright light on the environmental humanities and engage the nation's top humanities scholars and writers with the issues surrounding climate change and global warming. In addition, NEH will include a \$10,000 financial incentive in our Collaborative Research program for convening projects that invite scientists involved in climate change research to take part in any proposed conference on humanities engagement with the climate crisis.
- *Expanding International Collaboration:* The Research Division is also building international collaborations and bringing the humanities to international audiences, both through the 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. NEH will look to expand these efforts over the coming years as part of our commitment to advancing humanities research at home and abroad.

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET**

	<b>FY 2021 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2023 President’s Budget</b>	<b>Delta from FY 2021</b>
Administration	\$29,700	\$35,680	\$5,980

*Note: Dollars are in thousands.*

The NEH administrative budget supports staff salaries and benefits, telecommunication systems, building rent and security, contractual services, equipment, supplies, and other support activities that enable the agency to meet its goals of promoting advanced research, deeply informed teaching in schools and colleges, lifelong learning, and the preservation of cultural collections.

NEH’s administrative budget includes several items that are not typically included in other federal agencies’ overhead. The most prominent of these is the annual cost of evaluating grant applications. Annually, NEH receives more than 5,000 grant applications, with almost 1,000 grants awarded on average. The applications are reviewed and evaluated by both NEH staff and experts outside of the agency. For example, in FY 2021, nearly 1,100 scholars, teachers, museum curators, experts, and other professionals convened to conduct 263 panels. While the panels have moved to a virtual environment due to the pandemic, thereby reducing travel costs, NEH continues to pay the \$250 honorarium fee for each panelist.

NEH is requesting \$35.680M in administrative funds to support the agency’s program request of \$165.0M. The agency’s main administrative cost are salaries and benefits, which NEH estimates will increase to almost \$28.0M in FY 2023. NEH’s administrative budget will also support (1) the establishment of two new offices and one new senior staff position that will enable it to advance the Administration’s priorities in DEIA; and (2) the agency’s response to personnel directives applicable in FY 2022 and FY 2023 that enable a safe return-to-office-work environment. NEH’s plans in these areas are detailed below.

**Advancing (1) Equity and Support for Underserved Communities and (2) DEIA Within NEH’s Workforce:**

Pursuant to President Biden’s executive orders on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities (Executive Order 13985) and DEIA in the Federal Workforce (Executive Order 14035), NEH plans to create an Office of Research and Analysis, an Office of Outreach, and establish the role of Chief Diversity Officer:

- *Creation of NEH Office of Research and Analysis:* NEH does not currently have a robust data collection system to analyze the effectiveness of its grants or whether, and to what extent, its grants reach the agency’s equity goals. NEH is thus developing an Office of Research and Analysis to implement rigorous evaluation metrics and establish a baseline of the agency’s existing support for underserved communities. This office would be staffed by professional data scientists and social scientists who would (1) collect data about the organizations and individuals that apply to NEH, the principal investigators who lead those grants, and the NEH peer reviewers who adjudicate them; (2) perform studies in-house about the impact of NEH’s awards, particularly by analyzing closed-out grants to see how they have positively impacted the field over time; (3) award grants and contracts to outside organizations (e.g., researchers who are experts in diversity and

equity) to perform studies of NEH's work; and (4) provide reliable data to senior NEH leadership to help inform new grant programs, new forms of outreach, and NEH hiring practices.

- *Creation of NEH Office of Outreach:* Recognizing a need to centralize the agency's outreach efforts, NEH plans to form an Office of Outreach that will work in tandem with the communications, program, and administrative staff to increase engagement with potential grant applicants. NEH will use evaluation research from the Office of Research and Analysis to drive its outreach activities for underserved communities and institutions, such as Tribal Nations, HBCUs, HSIs, TCUs, veterans, community colleges, and others.
- *Establishment of NEH Chief Diversity Officer Position:* NEH will develop a Chief Diversity Officer position to advise the Chair and the agency on all matters of DEIA across its programs, operations, outreach and communications, human capital, and evaluation efforts.

***Health and Safety:*** NEH will continue to offer personal protective equipment (gloves, masks, hand sanitizer, desk shields, disinfectants, soap supplies, etc.) to keep employees safe from COVID-19. Also, NEH plans to renegotiate existing janitorial contracts to increase the frequency and scope of office cleanings to eliminate potentially hazardous germs. All NEH safety protocols will be in alignment with federal workplace guidelines.

***Professional Development Opportunities:*** NEH will continue to identify and offer training opportunities to employees, supervisors, and managers to assist them with adapting, working, and supervising in a virtual or hybrid work environment.

***Workplace Modernization:*** NEH will develop a flexible workforce policy that will enable NEH to attract, recruit, retain and empower top talent to advance its DEIA goals. Specifically, remote work and telework options will allow NEH to hire a more diverse workforce since potential staff will no longer be limited to the District-Maryland-Virginia commuting area. Workplace flexibility can also improve work-life balance and reduce the cost and environmental impact of commuting to the office.

In response to the directive to strengthen federal hiring practices, NEH plans the following:

- *Paid Internship Program:* Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, NEH implemented a virtual Pathways Internship Program for college students in summer 2020. The resulting 2020 class of interns were more diverse than previous years; specifically, 30 percent of all interns hired through the Pathways Internship Program in 2020 comprised people of color. For FY 2023, NEH will seek to expand the program by continuously hiring interns throughout the fiscal year and to increase the number of participants by 10 percent.
- *NEH Hiring Processes:* NEH will identify critical hiring needs; update the position description library; strengthen vacancy announcements and job assessments to identify HR staffing gaps, allowing for enhanced ways to attract diverse, quality, and talented applicants.

Responding to the federal government’s directive to improve personnel vetting, NEH plans the following:

- *Organizational Assessments:* NEH will continue to work with other small agencies to update the organizational assessments that are utilized by applicants who apply for various positions. This streamlining will be conducted to attract more qualified individuals.
- *Personnel Vetting Systems:* NEH will stay up to date on GSA USA Access system compliance updates as related to Personal Identity Verification (PIV) badges for both agency staff and contractors. The agency will also conduct timely background investigations on eligible staff positions and contractors who have appointments that exceed six months.

### NEH Budget Request by Object Classification

(\$ in thousands)		FY 2021 Final	FY 2023 Request
<b>Full-Time Equivalent (FTEs)</b>		<b>172</b>	<b>185</b>
11.1	PERSONNEL COMPENSATION	17,943	21,305 <sup>3</sup>
12.1	BENEFITS	5,905	6,600
13.1	UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	39	5
	SUBTOTAL PERSONNEL COMPENSATION	23,887	27,910
21.1	TRAVEL & TRANSPORTATION	4	200
23.1	GSA RENT	3,183	3,200
23.3	COMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES	191	225
24.0	PRINTING	106	110
25.1	OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	2,855	3,520
25.9	PANELIST CONTRACTS	268	280
26.0	SUPPLES	50	70
31.0	EQUIPMENT	261	165
	SUBTOTAL NON-PERSONNEL COMPENSATION	6,918	7,770
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>30,805</b>	<b>35,680</b>

<sup>3</sup> FY 2023 Budget Request includes projected 4.6 percent general pay raise for 2023.

**Budget Estimates in Detail**  
(\$ in thousands)

<b>11.1 PERSONAL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
PERSONAL SALARY AND BENEFITS	23,887	27,910

**11.1 – 13.1 PERSONAL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS.** Personal compensation includes salaries and benefits for the following categories of employees: full-time permanent, part-time permanent, temporary, base pay experts and consultants, and intermittent appointments (members of the National Council on the Humanities). Benefits include NEH’s shared contributions toward employees’ retirement, health, life insurance, and unemployment benefits.

NEH’s rigorous peer-review process require a highly educated workforce that is knowledgeable about the discipline content as well as the agency’s grantmaking procedures. Most NEH program staff hold a PhD or other advanced degree in the humanities. NEH’s administrative staff also includes budgeting, accounting, information resource management, legal counsel, public affairs and communication, and administrative services.

NEH reported 172 Full-Time Equivalent (FTEs) for FY 2021 end-of-year staffing. In FY 2023, the agency anticipates this number to be 185 FTE. This planned increase reflects the addition of new offices and positions (detailed above) and hiring to fill essential vacancies.

In FY 2023, NEH’s salary and benefit cost projections include a 4.6 percent pay raise in 2023, an estimated small number of retirements, and a decrease in agency unemployment compensation to previous year levels.

<b>21.1 TRAVEL &amp; TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION	4	200

**21.1 TRAVEL & TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS.** Travel funds and expenses include site visits for program oversight, grant-application workshops, outreach activities, and travel related to agency training. Also included in this line item are the travel expenses for 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 Chairperson concerning funding of specific projects.

Travel expenses for the two previous years have been dramatically lower due to the pandemic. NEH expects that staff travel may gradually increase in FY 2022 with a more robust travel schedule in FY 2023. NEH anticipates that travel expenses will continue 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 due to increased outreach to underserved communities.

<b>23.1 RENTAL PAYMENTS TO GSA</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
GSA RENT	3,183	3,200

**23.1 GSA RENT.** NEH occupies space in the Constitution Center in Washington, D.C., a privately owned building that is partially leased to the General Services Administration (GSA). NEH’s rent charges are determined by an Occupancy Agreement that the agency negotiates with GSA. The current Occupancy Agreement is for the period of November 2020 through April 2024. NEH relinquished some unused space when the new Occupancy Agreement was most recently negotiated. However, the FY 2023 budget assumes a small level of inflation.

<b>23.3 COMMUNICATION, UTILITIES, AND MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
COMMUNICATION AND UTILITIES	191	225

**23.3 COMMUNICATIONS, UTILITIES, AND MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES.** NEH upgraded to a more efficient Microsoft Teams telecommunication system for employees teleworking and/or working from remote locations in FY 2021. The Teams telecommunication system has replaced all call messaging units, desktop phone and instrument lines, and local Washington Interagency Telephone Services. These savings to the agency began in FY 2021.

The projected rise in utilities costs for FY 2023—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 of three times those of the preceding service.

<b>24.0 PRINTING AND REPRODUCTION</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
PRINTING	106	110

**24.0 PRINTING AND REPRODUCTION.** This line item covers the costs of printing *Humanities* magazine, an award-winning, quarterly periodical; agency posters and program brochures; stationery, and program announcements annually. NEH anticipates a slight increase in FY 2023 due to contract costs as the agency continues to digitize its publication obligations.

<b>25.1 OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	2,855	3,520

**25.1 OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES.** NEH employs a variety of contractual services which include: (1) support, maintenance, and improvement of information technology systems; (2) annual contract and maintenance of the agency’s financial database; (3) employee training; (4) security personnel costs at the Constitution Center; (5) contracts for temporary personnel assistance; (6) and contracts with Interagency funds transfers.

NEH continues to modernize the agency information technology infrastructure with cybersecurity at the forefront in the system development life cycle. On an annual basis funds are needed for both long-term projects and Department of Homeland Security directed changes. NEH plans to significantly modernize the telework system while adopting zero-trust and TIC 3.0 safety measures. These plans include adopting cloud-based management such as Azure Active

Directory, Microsoft Endpoint Manager, Azure Sentinel, and Windows Security Center. To do so, NEH will use funding for subscriptions, cloud services, training, and support services. In FY 2023, NEH will:

- Complete the zero-trust security and TIC 3.0 architecture implementation. This will include adding zero-trust to all service endpoints and on-premises equipment. The investment made in phase one will be leveraged to support this effort. Anticipated year one costs will be \$50,000 with annual costs of \$50,000 for cloud services. To properly ensure that these security measures are effective for future agency operations, NEH’s request funds \$90,000 for system-testing exercises and \$80,000 for system assessments.
- Adopt Security Information and Event Management or Security Data Lake for event logging of all its on premise and cloud systems in accordance with OMB memorandum M-21-31. The FY 2023 budget request includes \$0.2M to meet EL3 Enhanced Implementation requirements, including anticipated one-time costs of \$15,000 and \$5,000 per year for cloud services. Finally, to allow for a cloud-device inventory and management system to be put into place, another \$20,000 will be required for another OMB approved system enhancement exercise.

Costs for Microsoft Teams licenses, Azure cloud hosting, Symantec maintenance, SKYPE for business, and similar services are also included in the other contractual services line item.

<b>25.9 PANELIST CONTACTS</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
PANELISTS CONTRACTS	268	280

**25.9 PANELIST CONTRACTS.** NEH contracts have historically included funds to allow for travel expenses, daily per diems, and honoraria for panelists each year. Starting in 2021 all panels were conducted virtually, reducing the travel and per diem portion of these prior panels. Panelists represent a diverse field of disciplinary, institutional, and regional backgrounds selected through a rigorous recruitment process. In FY 2023 panelist contracts are expected to increase due to the need to recruit more outside experts and run more peer-review panels for the new programs described in this budget submission.

<b>26.0 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
SUPPLIES AND MATERIAL	50	70

**26.0 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS.** NEH anticipates the costs of expendable supplies required to perform daily activities will increase throughout FY 2023 as NEH staff begin to transition from telework to returning to the workplace. In addition to common office supplies, NEH will continue to purchase personal protective equipment (gloves, masks, hand sanitizer, desk shields, disinfectants, soap supplies, etc.) in accordance with its workplace safety plan.

31.0 EQUIPMENT	FY 2021	FY 2023
EQUIPMENT	261	165

**31.0 EQUIPMENT.** All equipment, furniture and office machines having a useful life of more than one year are categorized under miscellaneous equipment. The reduced estimate for FY 2023 reflects the elimination of the one-time costs associated with the renewal of licenses and information technology subscription contracts.

## **BUDGET ADDENDUM**

### **NEH Inspector General Budget Request**

The budget for the operations of NEH's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is included 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 \$0.856M, which will support all staff salaries and allow for full administrative and legal support of this office, including:

- Staff salaries and benefits totaling \$0.797M to support a staff of 4 FTEs.
- A travel budget of \$10,000 for audit and investigative support and attendance at all appropriate IG conferences, workshops, and training seminars.
- Estimated information technology expenses of \$5,000.
- A training budget of \$10,000 to allow for staff certification as mandated by the IG Act and government auditing standards.
- Independent legal services, currently provided by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax and Administration 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.
- \$0.307M in continued support from the OIG for the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency.