The White House Initiative on HBCUs & National Endowment for the Humanities

Presents

Federal Funding Opportunities
National Endowment for the Humanities

- NEH is an independent federal agency created in 1965
- Largest funder of the humanities in the United States
- Awards are offered through 7 grant-making divisions/offices
- Since 1966, NEH has offered 845 NEH grants or $35.13 million to HBCUs
The study and interpretation of the following: language, both modern and classical; linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archaeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, criticism and theory of the arts; and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life.
NEH Grant Programs

- More than 30 grant opportunities
- 3 programs designed specifically for presidentially designated institutions
  - Humanities Initiatives at HBCUs
  - Preservation Assistance Grants (special encouragement)
  - Awards for Faculty at
    - Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)
    - Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs)
    - Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)
# Divisions and Offices

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Special Chairman’s Initiatives:

- STANDING TOGETHER
- common good

50th Anniversary National Endowment for the Humanities
Division of Education Programs

Deborah Hurtt- Program Officer
Humanities Initiatives at HBCUs

Grants to strengthen the teaching of humanities subjects at HBCUs

**Deadline:** June 23, 2016

**Duration:** 12 to 36 months

**Grant Amount:** Up to $100,000
Examples

Humanities Teaching and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Collection
Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA

Global Heritage and Legacy: a Humanities Initiative
Lincoln University of Pennsylvania, Lincoln University, PA

Stories that Heal: Embedding Narrative Medicine in the Sciences, English, and Nursing Curricula
Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS

Albany Georgia: Gateway to the Civil Rights Struggle
Albany State University, Albany, GA
Humanities Initiatives at HBCUs

Project focal points:
• Projects centered on specific humanities topics
• Projects supported by sound humanities resources

Activities that help build a project:
• Faculty study a topic and revise or create courses
• Develop curriculum for a new major or minor
• Make use of humanities resources; create curricular materials
• Collaborate with other institutions
• Connect the humanities with professional fields

NEH does not fund projects centered on:
• Pedagogy, skills development, advocacy, or social action

Examples:
• Asian art and literature, rather than interdisciplinary studies
• Civil Rights in documentary film, rather than filmmaking
• History of immigration, rather than immigration policy
Other Division of Education Programs

Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges
   Deadline: September 7, 2016
New Grant Program *(check website in early June)*
   Deadline: September 2016

Also
NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes
NEH Landmarks of American History and Culture
   Deadline to direct a project : February 25, 2016 (for summer 2017 projects)
   Deadline to attend a project : March 1, 2016 (for summer 2016 projects)
Dialogues on the Experience of War
   Deadline: September 15, 2016
Division of Research Programs

Mary Macklem- Program Officer
Awards for Faculty at HBCUs, HSIs, and TCUs

Supports individual faculty or staff members at designated institutions pursuing research of value to humanities scholars, students, or general audiences.

Deadline: April 14, 2016

Duration: 2-12 months equivalent of full-time work (part time or fulltime or a combination)

Grant amount: $4200 per full-time month

*NEH Program officers read drafts for this program (six weeks prior to deadline)*

Activities supported:

- Research and writing leading to scholarly publication
- Research supporting revision of an existing undergraduate course
- Research related to the goals and interests of the institution or community
- Producing articles, books, digital materials, archaeological site reports, translations, editions
Featured Projects

Candace Bailey, North Carolina Central
Music and the Performance of Women's Culture in the South, 1840-1870

Bertis English, Alabama State
Civil Wars and Civil Beings: Societal Construction, Reconstruction, and Post-Reconstruction in Perry County, Alabama, 1860-75

Susmita Roye, Delaware State
Women Writers and the Portrayal of Women in British Indian Fiction
Also for Individual Scholars

**NEH Fellowships (6-12 months)**
Deadline: April 28, 2016

**Summer Stipends (2 months)**
Deadline*: September 29, 2016

**Public Scholar Program (6-12 months)**
Deadline: February 2, 2016
Other Division of Research Programs

Please see attached brochure

Fellowships for Advanced Social Science Research on Japan
Deadline: April 28, 2016

Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions
Deadline: August 16, 2016

Collaborative Research Grants
Deadline: December 7, 2016

Scholarly Editions and Translations Grants
Deadline: December 7, 2016
Division of Preservation & Access (P&A)

Mary Downs- Program Officer
Preservation & Access Grants

• Physically preserve collections, with emphasis on preventive conservation

• Create intellectual access to collections (cataloging, arrangement and description, digitization)

• Develop digital tools to enhance access (e.g., databases and geospatial tools)

• Education and training for staff to serve as effective stewards of humanities collections

• Research to address major challenges in preserving or providing access to humanities collections

• Priority on audio-visual collections
Featured Grant Program: Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions

**Deadline**: May 3, 2016

**Projects begin**: January 2017

- Helps small institutions to care for humanities collections
- NEH’s outreach program
- Nearly 1,800 awards since 2000
- Encourage applications from institutions that have never applied to NEH
- Special encouragement for presidentially designated institutions
- Awards up to $6,000, easy to write, no cost-share
Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions (PAGs)

- General preservation assessments
- Consultations to address a specific preservation need, such as a storage plan or a disaster plan
- Purchase of storage furniture and preservation supplies
- Purchase of environmental monitoring equipment
- Education and Training (attend or sponsor workshops on disaster recovery, collections care, standards and best practices for digitizing collections).

Elizabeth City State University
Examples of PAG Projects at HBCUs

Jackson State University
Preservation Assessment of the Jackson State University Art Collection

Southern University at Shreveport
Black Ethnic Archives Preservation Assessment
Examples of PAG Projects

Develop and Implement a Storage Plan

Before:

After:
Examples of PAG Projects

Develop a Disaster Plan

Biloxi Public Library

Pago Pago School Library, American Samoa
Examples of PAG Projects
Storage Supplies and Environmental Equipment
Examples of PAG Projects

Attend Workshops
On- or off-site workshops led by preservation professionals

- Disaster Recovery
- Preservation of Collections
- Digital Preservation
Featured Program: Common Heritage

- New grant program, part of The Common Good
- Local communities partner with cultural heritage institutions to digitize community heritage
- Personal history materials, family history, life stories
- Public events (exhibits, lectures, panels, reading and discussion, presentations by a historian)
- Deadline: May 12, 2016
- Up to $12,000
Division of Preservation & Access Programs

Preservation and Access Education and Training
Deadline: May 3, 2016

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions
Deadline: May 3, 2016

Common Heritage
Deadline: May 12, 2016

Research and Development
Deadline: June 21, 2016

Humanities Collections and Reference Resources
Deadline: July 19, 2016

Documenting Endangered Languages
Deadline: September 15, 2016

Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections
Deadline: December 1, 2016

National Digital Newspaper Program
Deadline: January 12, 2017

National Digital Newspaper Program - African American Newspapers in Chronicling America
Courtesy Virginia Pierce
Office of Digital Humanities

Jennifer Serventi- Program Officer
Office of Digital Humanities

In 2006, the Digital Humanities Initiative (DHI) to help coordinate efforts in supporting and promoting digital humanities scholarship, teaching, and learning.

In 2008, DHI was made into a permanent NEH office under the new name “Office of Digital Humanities” (ODH).

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Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants

- Designed to encourage innovation or experimentation in the digital humanities
  - Emphasis on both method & content

- Relatively low-dollar grants
  - During the two planning stages
Digital Humanities Implementation Grants

Designed to encourage innovation in the digital humanities, but for projects at a later stage in their development.
Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities

2016 Opportunities

- The Digital Native American and Indigenous Studies Project (multiple locations)
- Space and Place in Africana/Black Studies: An Institute on Spatial Humanities, Theories, Methods and Practice (Purdue University/Hamilton College)
- Doing Digital History 2016: An Institute for Mid-Career American Historians (George Mason University)
  - Applications due March 15, 2016
Challenge Grants

Brandon Johnson- Program Officer
Two New Programs in 2016!

- Matching grants
- Access
- Communities
Humanities Access Grants

Help small and mid-sized institutions provide access to humanities programs for one or more underserved sectors
Creating Humanities Communities Grants

Help make connections between organizations that will foster community cohesion on a local or regional level.
PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Tricia Brooks- Program Officer
The Division of Public Programs supports outstanding projects grounded in humanities scholarship for general public audiences.
Museums, Libraries, and Cultural Organizations

Supports creative projects that actively engage audiences in humanities ideas. Typical formats include museum exhibitions, historic site interpretations, discussion programs, and other face-to-face programs

Two Levels of Funding:

• **Planning** -- up to $75,000
  • Expanding on themes and content

• **Implementation** — up to $400,000
  • Chairman’s Special Award up to $1 million
  • Conducting or installation of projects

**Deadline** - August 10, 2016

• Annual deadlines in August and January
Media Projects

Support film, television, and radio projects for general audiences that encourage active engagement with humanities ideas in creative and appealing ways.

Two levels of funding

• **Development** -- up to $75,000
  • Research and refinement of content

• **Production** – up to $650,000
  • Chairman’s Special Award up to $1 million
  • Filming/taping and post-production

**Deadline**- August 10, 2016
• Annual Deadlines August and January
Digital Projects for the Public

Supports projects that significantly contribute to the public’s engagement with the humanities through digital platforms, such as, websites, mobile apps and tours, interactive touch screens and kiosks, games, and virtual environments.

Three levels of funding

• **Discovery** — up to $30,000
  • Very early stages of planning

• **Prototyping** — up to $100,000
  • Building a test model

• **Production** — up to $400,000
  • Launch or implementation of the project

• **Deadline** — June 8, 2016
  • Annual Deadline in June
State Humanities Councils

You can find your state humanities council on the NEH website
Strategies, Tips & The Review Process
Prepare

Start early
- Talk with NEH staff
- Find the right program
- Consult www.neh.gov
- Read the guidelines
- Study the samples
- Register with grants.gov
- Talk to your colleagues

Draft early
- For some programs, NEH program officers will read and respond to draft applications
Application Information

Grant database

Match your project to a program
Search the funded projects database
Each grant program has a webpage with the guidelines and other resources.
Strong Applicants

Address the review criteria
*TIP: See Section V of the guidelines*

Make a case for your project
- Explain why it is significant
- Put it in context with a larger story
- Highlight the humanities subject matter
- Anticipate and address readers’ questions
- Provide a detailed plan of work

Consider your audience
- Write for generalists and specialists
- Communicate who the project is for

Write clearly and specifically
- Balance abstraction with examples
- Remove jargon

Request feedback; apply again
Application Review Process

1. Peer Review Panelists
2. NEH staff
3. National Council
4. Chairman
Questions?

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