NEH Funding Opportunities Workshop

Victoria Sams, Division of Education Programs
AGENDA

• About the NEH
• Examples by Division
• Where to find more information
• Questions
WHAT IS NEH?

NEH is a federal agency, founded in 1965-66 to support all areas of the humanities through project-based grants and fellowships using merit-based peer review.

- NEH programs are competitive, but you won’t get a grant if you won’t apply
- Biggest pitfall: failure to read the application guidelines and follow the instructions
- Second biggest pitfall: not taking advantage of the help/resources available to you
- Good things come to those who PLAN and have a regular regimen of applying
All You Need to Know

• NEH programs are competitive, but you won’t get a grant if you don’t apply
• Read the application guidelines
• Talk to NEH program officers
• Program officers are your colleagues
WHAT ARE THE HUMANITIES?

“Language, both modern and classical; linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archaeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, criticism and theory of the arts”

- 1965 founding legislation
The Work of NEH

Strengthen teaching and learning / Education Programs
Facilitate research and original scholarship / Research Programs
Provide opportunities for lifelong learning / Public Programs
Preserve and provide access to cultural and educational resources / Preservation & Access
Strengthen humanities institutions / Challenge Grants
Nurture new ways to conduct and disseminate scholarship / Digital Humanities
Support state and local humanities engagement / Federal-State Partnership
Division of Research Programs

Supports scholarly research that advances knowledge and understanding of the humanities. Awards are made to scholars working on research projects of significance to specific humanities fields and to the humanities as a whole.

**Individual grants:**
- Fellowships
- Awards for Faculty
- Summer Stipends
- Public Scholar Program
- NEH-Mellon Fellowships

**Institutional grants:**
- Collaborative Research
- Scholarly Editions
- Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions

—Photo by K. Xenikakis and S. Gesafidis; courtesy of the Mitrou Archaeological Project
Fellowships
DIVISION OF RESEARCH PROGRAMS

DEADLINE: Second Wednesday of April
Awards are made for periods from 6 to 12 months. Awards are $5,000/month. The minimum award is $30,000; the maximum is $60,000.
Award periods must be continuous and full-time.
Includes NEH-Mellon Fellowships for Digital Publication.

The Lives of Frederick Douglass
by NEH Fellow Robert S. Levine
Collaborative Research
DIVISION OF RESEARCH PROGRAMS

DEADLINE: First Wednesday of December

Collaboration must involve at least two scholars from the same or different institutions.

Awards are made for one to three years and rarely exceed $100,000 per year.

Three types: Publication Grants; Convening Grants; Archaeology Grants

Conference organized by David Marshall Miller in 2018
Scholarly Editions and Translations
DIVISION OF RESEARCH PROGRAMS

DEADLINE: First Wednesday of December

Collaboration must involve at least two scholars from the same or different institutions.

Awards are made for one to three years and rarely exceed $125,000 per year.

Martha Dow Fehsenfeld and Lois More Overbeck, Emory University.
Recent grants
DIVISION OF RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Rosemarie Garland-Thomson, Emory University, “How to Be Disabled: Shaping the Future for Everyone” (Public Scholars, 2019)


Sarah Gardner, Mercer University, “Reading During the American Civil War, 1861-1865” (Summer Stipends, 2018)

Supports public programs that reach large, diverse public audiences.

**applicants:**
- media producers
- historic sites
- libraries

Ken Burns’s *The Dust Bowl*
—Photo by Dorothea Lange; Library of Congress
## Division of Public Programs

### Project Activities and Products

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“Museum of the Hidden City,” a mobile app that explores the history of housing and urban design in San Francisco.

—Courtesy Walking Cinema
Media Projects
DIVISION OF PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Development Grants:
Up to $75,000

Production Grants:
Up to $1 Million

THE VIETNAM WAR
A FILM BY KEN BURNS & LYNN NOVICK
The Power of Children: Making a Difference shares the extraordinary stories of Anne Frank, Ruby Bridges, and Ryan White—three children whose lives teach us about overcoming obstacles to make a positive difference in the world.
RECENT GRANTS IN PUBLIC PROGRAMS

• Shawn Toner, North Georgia College and State University, “America’s Music: A Film History of our Music from Blues to Bluegrass to Broadway” (Small Grants to Libraries: America’s Music, 2012)

• Timothy Crimmins, Georgia State University Historical Foundation, “The Georgia Capitol History Project,” (America’s Historical and Cultural Organizations Planning Grants, 2009)

• Heather Oswald, Kennesaw State University, “Manifold Greatness: The Creation and Afterlife of the King James Bible” (Small Grants to Libraries: The King James Bible, 2011).

• Hastings Center, “Shaping Humans: A Discussion Series on Technology, Disability, and Human Flourishing (Community Conversations, $250,000)

• American Jewish Historical Society, From Sitting Room to Soapbox: Emma Lazarus and Union Square, 1860s-1930s (Exhibitions, Implementation, $300,000)
DIVISION OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Applicants:
- colleges and universities
- libraries
- museums
- other academic or cultural organizations

NEH has funded a number of projects that make use of the rich sources of the Library of Congress
—Douglas Arnold/NEH
DIVISION OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Project Activities and Outcomes

ACTIVITIES:
- collegial study of humanities topics
- teaching and guidance from established scholars
- reading and discussion
- site study
- work with primary resources
- research or teaching projects

OUTCOMES:
- deepened knowledge
- faculty collaboration
- intellectual communities
- teaching resources
- new and enhanced curriculum
NEH Summer Programs
DIVISION OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS

SUMMER SEMINARS & INSTITUTES
Funding: Up to $135,000 for Seminars
Up to $225,000 for Institutes

LANDMARKS OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE
Funding: Up to $180,000

APPLICATION DEADLINES:
February 11, 2021 for 2022 projects (directors)
March 1, 2021 for 2021 projects (participants)

https://www.neh.gov/divisions/education/summer-programs
Recent grants in Summer Programs

• Timothy Crimmins, Georgia State University, “The Problem of the Color Line: Atlanta Landmarks and Civil Rights History” (Landmarks of American History and Culture, 2018, 2015, 2011)

• David Saltz, University of Georgia (and Sarah Bay-Cheng, Bowdoin College), “Digital Technologies in Theatre and Performance Studies” (Summer Institutes for College and University Faculty, 2018)

• Toby Emert, Agnes Scott College, “Shakespeare and Digital Storytelling” (Summer Institute for Schoolteachers, 2019)

• Harvey Klehr, Emory University, “Communism and American Life” (Summer Seminars for Schoolteachers, 2017, 2015, 2013)

• Pellom McDaniels, “Black Aesthetics and African Diaspora Culture” (Summer Seminars and Institutes for College and University Faculty, 2013)

• Chara Haeussler Bohan, Georgia State University, “Courting Liberty: Slavery and Equality under the Constitution, 1770-1870” (Summer Institutes for Schoolteachers, 2017, 2015)

• Bruce Gentry, Georgia College and State University, “Reconsidering Flannery O’Connor” (Summer Institutes for College and University Faculty, 2013)

• Sarah E. Gardner, Mercer University, “Cotton Culture in the South from the Civil War to the Civil Rights Movement” (Summer Institutes for Schoolteachers, 2011)
Planning: Awards up to $35,000 for a 12-month term.

Implementation: Awards up to $100,000 for a term of up to 36 months.

Deadline: September
Planning or Implementation?

Can you show

- evident prior planning
- defined rationale with clear intellectual and logistical objectives
- institutional commitment for the plan?

*Not yet?* then apply for Planning

Get the right people together to think through how to proceed before you implement!
Current programs
- Hispanic-Serving Institutions
- Historically Black Colleges & Universities
- Tribal Colleges & Universities
- Community Colleges
- Colleges and Universities

*Deadline: July*

*Funding: Up to $150,000 for a grant term of up to 36 months.*
• Timothy Sweet-Holp, Albany State University, “Strength from Adversity: A Reading, Discussion, and Mentorship Program” (Humanities Initiatives at HBCUs, 2017)

• Vicki Lyn Crawford, Morehouse College, “Humanities Teaching and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Collection at Morehouse College” (Humanities Initiatives at HBCUs)

• Gloria Wade Gayles, Spelman College, “The SIS Oral History Project: Transformative Teaching and Learning in the Humanities: (Humanities Initiatives at HBCUs)
Dialogues on the Experience of War

Deadline: October

Funding: Up to $100,000 for a term of up to 24 months
Reading and discussion group participants gather around documents during their visit to the Wolfsonian-FIU. Image courtesy of Florida International University.
RECENT GRANTS IN DIALOGUES ON THE EXPERIENCE OF WAR

• Melissa Huber, Humanities Texas, “Veterans Voices: A Reading and Discussion Series” (2020)

• Julie Montione and Sean Lake, Valencia College, “Expanding the Conversation: Catharsis Across Campus” (2019).

• Thomas La Pointe and John Gaiamo, Bergen Community College, “No-Man’s Land: Dialogues on the Experience of War” (2018)

• Marian Moser Jones, University of Maryland, “One Hundred Years of American Women in Uniform” (2016)

• Sheena Eagan and Anna Froula, East Carolina University, “Odysseus Goes to University: Veteran to Scholar Bootcamp” (2020)
Division of Preservation and Access

Protects and makes available cultural and historical collections of manuscripts, books, art, images, audio, moving images, objects, artifacts, and digital collections.

applicants:
libraries
archives
museums

Walters Art Museum digitized Islamic illuminated manuscripts with an NEH Humanities Collections & Reference Resources grant
Helps small cultural heritage institutions get on the right track toward caring for their significant humanities collections

**Deadline:** January

**Funding:** Up to $10,000

**Activities:** hire a consultant, preservation assessment, purchase storage and preservation supplies, including environmental monitoring equipment, and offer education and training workshops on preservation topics, including collections care and disaster planning

Easy narrative (5 pages), high funding ratio!
Division of Preservation & Access

HUMANITIES COLLECTIONS AND REFERENCE RESOURCES

Strengthens efforts to extend the life of collections and make their intellectual content widely accessible, often through use of digital technology

Deadline: July

Funding:
Foundations (Planning): Up to $50,000
Implementation: up to $350,000

Activities: pilot, planning; arrange & describe, catalog, digitize, develop reference resources (encyclopedias, dictionaries, atlases)
Strengthen the institutional base of the humanities with grants that support infrastructure development and capacity building

Deadline: May

Funding:
Most institutions: Up to $500,000 with 3:1 Matching (private 3rd party funds)

HBCUs, TCUs, HSIs and two-year community college applicants: Up to $500,000 with 1:1 Matching (private 3rd party funds)

Activities: Capital Projects supports the design, purchase, construction, restoration, or renovation of facilities for humanities activities, and for critical building systems
Office of Digital Humanities

Offers grant programs that address cultural changes brought about by the introduction and spread of digital technology. This includes projects that explore how to harness new technology for humanities research as well as those that study digital culture from a humanistic perspective.

applicants
US colleges and universities
museums, libraries, historical societies, and other non-profit organizations

Innovative, experimental, and/or computationally challenging projects.

Experimentation, reuse, and extensibility

Projects that can scale to enhance scholarly research, teaching, and public programming.
Level 1:
Planning & Prototypes

Level 2:
Prototypes & Experimentation

Level 3:
Sustainable Development
Freedom's Movement

$28,376 to the University of Georgia
Divisions and Offices

Challenge Programs
Challenge programs transform and strengthen humanities institutions and organizations with federal matching grants to support construction and improvements to facilities and equipment.

Digital Humanities
ODH supports development of and training in digital tools, methods, and best practices for the humanities.

Education
The Division of Education Programs funds projects that strengthen teaching and learning in the humanities through professional development and innovative curricular programs.

Federal/State Partnership
Grant programs offered by the National Endowment for the Humanities are administered by divisions and offices that work with prospective applicants, recruit and oversee peer-review panels, provide analysis of panel results to members of the National Council on the Humanities and the agency’s senior staff, conduct site visits of projects that have received NEH support, and represent NEH at regional, national, and international conferences in the humanities.
www.neh.gov

Application information

Awards database
University of Maryland, College Park (College Park, MD 20742-5141)
Jennifer E. Guilliano (Project Director: September 2013 to April 2014)
Julie Greene (Project Director: April 2014 to April 2017)

*Transforming the Afro-Caribbean World (TAW)*

A two-day workshop exploring appropriate digital collections and tools that would facilitate archival research on the relationship between Afro-Caribbean labor and migration history and the construction of the Panama Canal from 1904-1914.

The *Transforming the Afro-Caribbean World (TAW)* project seeks NEH startup funding to bring together scholars of the Panama Canal, Afro-Caribbean history, and experts in the digital humanities, data modeling, and visualization for a two-day planning workshop that will discuss a large-scale effort to explore Afro-Caribbean labor, migration, and the Panama Canal. The TAW workshop has several aims: 1) digitization of a subset of the proposed records to evaluate potential costs and preservation issues; 2) exploration of structured data tools; 3) the creation of annotated bibliographies for use by teachers and the public as they begin to explore the centennial anniversary; and 4) identification of other archives and repositories to be included in the larger project.

Project fields: Interdisciplinary Studies, Other

Program: Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants

Division: Digital Humanities

Totals: $28,961 (approved)

Awarded: $28,831

Grant period: 9/1/2014 – 8/31/2016
Learn about a grant program

Step 1
Review your application package

As soon as you know you’re ready to apply for this grant, make sure you register for a SAM number/DUNS number, and for a grants.gov account as this is vital to the grants process. If you already have registered for these items, make sure they are up to date.

Begin by reading the notice of funding opportunity and studying the application. The files are linked below. You want to ensure you understand all the expectations and restrictions for projects delivered under this grant and are prepared to write the most effective application.

Download Application Materials

Digital Humanities Advancement Grants NOFO (PDF)
Grants.gov application package for Digital Humanities Advancement Grants

Budget Resources

Budget Form, October 2018 (XLS)
Sample Budget, October 2018 (PDF)

Program Resources

Digital Humanities Advancement Grants Frequently Asked Questions (PDF)
List of recent awards in this program

Grant Snapshot

Maximum award amount: Level I: $50,000
Level II: $100,000
Level III: $325,000 in outright funds, with an additional $50,000 in matching funds
Open to: Organizations
Expected output: Article; Digital Material and Publication; Workshop; Report; Teaching Resources; Digital Infrastructure; Software
Period of performance: Up to thirty-six months

Application available: January 16, 2020
Optional Draft due: May 19, 2020
Application due: June 30, 2020
Expected notification date: December 31, 2020
Project start date: January 1, 2021

Contact the Office of Digital Humanities Team
odh@neh.gov
Applicants who are deaf or hard of hearing can contact NEH via Federal Relay (TTY users) at 800-877-8399
Learn how to apply

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NOFO (guidelines)
Application Package
Budget Form
Sample Materials
FAQs
How Program Officers Can Help You

Answer questions about grant programs
Offer advice on preparing applications
Provide feedback on draft proposals
(for some grant programs)

—Maria Biernik/NEH
QUESTIONS??

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