



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities North Dakota

Between 2004 and 2010, institutions and individuals in North Dakota received \$4.9 million from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the North Dakota Humanities Council for projects that explore the human endeavor and preserve our cultural heritage. Below are some examples.

- **Dickinson State University** has been awarded \$97,100—during the first two years of a six-year matching grant that can go up to \$500,000—to endow a chair in Theodore Roosevelt studies. The twenty-sixth president credited his famously energetic character to formative years spent in North Dakota.
- The **Plains Art Museum in Fargo** was awarded a preservation assistance grant of \$6,000 to properly store a collection of 310 works of art by artists including Salvador Dali and Jasper Johns.
- The **University of North Dakota** received \$200,000 to complete the five-volume Works of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, the first scholarly print edition of this Victorian poet's work in over a century. The project will also include Web enhancements.
- A \$111,000 grant helped send fifteen schoolteachers to a five-week seminar on the culture and history of the Great Plains, as seen through classic American literature from Willa Cather to Wallace Stegner, at the **North Dakota State University in Fargo**.
- From the Revolutionary era to post-Reconstruction, some sixteen thousand black Americans emigrated to Africa, Liberia in particular, via the **African Colonization Society**. University of North Dakota professor Eric Burin received \$40,000 to digitize the society's emigration records.
- A grant of \$168,000 enabled twenty-eight schoolteachers to attend a four-week summer institute to examine the historical and cultural contexts of the **Lewis and Clark expeditions** at Minot State University.
- The Lewis and Clark bicentennial was celebrated in a Chautauqua series titled **From Sea to Shining Sea: American Expansion and Cultural Change, 1790 to 1850**, supported by a \$32,000 grant to the North Dakota Humanities Council, featuring characterizations of Clark, Sacagawea, and John Jacob Astor.
- **"Why? Philosophical Discussions about Everyday Life"** is a biweekly radio program of the Institute for Philosophy in Public Life, a collaborative program of the North Dakota Humanities Council and the University of North Dakota College of Arts and Sciences.
- The **North Dakota Humanities Council** supported a widely noted conference on the eventful life and distinguished career of TV newsman Eric Sevareid, who for many years served as a commentator on the CBS Evening News with Walter Cronkite.
- **On Second Thought** is a triannual magazine of culture, history, and literary reflection published by the North Dakota Humanities Council to foster connections between the humanities and life on the plains.



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities Nationwide

NEH supports programs and projects that contribute directly and dramatically to the cultural life and historical perspective of tens of millions of Americans. Here are a few examples.

PRESERVING THE FIRST DRAFT OF HISTORY

Nothing captures the character of a community or the spirit of an era better than its newspapers. *Chronicling America*, a partnership between NEH and the Library of Congress, is digitizing millions of pages taken from newspapers dating back to the early Republic, making it possible to search the pages online for any word or phrase—at no charge.

AMERICAN VOICES

The papers of prominent Americans are a vital part of our cultural heritage, and NEH funds many projects to assemble and preserve them, including complete sets of collected papers for ten presidents from Washington to Lincoln to Eisenhower as well as public figures such as Thomas Edison, Martin Luther King, Jr., George Marshall, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, and Mark Twain.

SUCCEEDING BY THE BOOK

Over the past forty-five years, scholars supported by Endowment grants have produced 7,000 books—including numerous classics such as Dumas Malone’s *Jefferson and His Time*, James McPherson’s *Battle Cry of Freedom*, and Louis Menand’s *The Metaphysical Club: A Story of Ideas in America*—that have garnered scores of awards, including 18 Pulitzer Prizes.

PAST AND PRESENT IN PIXELS

NEH investments in the “digital humanities” make it possible for a student to walk the corridors of the Temple of Karnak in ancient Egypt in virtual 3D, or to visit the 1964–65 World’s Fair held in New York. Spectral imaging is being used to create an online critical edition of explorer David Livingstone’s previously unreadable field diary.

GENERATING PRIVATE SUPPORT

More than \$1.66 billion in humanities support has been generated by the Challenge Grants program, which requires recipients to raise \$3 or \$4 in outside funds for every federal dollar they receive.

HISTORY ON SCREEN AND IN TOWN

NEH-supported films, grounded in scholarly research, bring history alive. For example, twenty million Americans watched Ken Burns’s seven-part *The War* (2007), and teachers made extensive use of *The Buddha*. NEH also funds hundreds of exhibitions—not only blockbusters such as “King Tut” that make the wonders and heritage of other cultures accessible to the American public, but also smaller projects such as *Lincoln, the Constitution, and the Civil War* that reached classrooms across the country.

KEEPING TEACHERS UP TO DATE

Seminars, institutes, and workshops give teachers the opportunity to refresh and deepen their knowledge about the humanities through intense study. In the past three years, more than 2,500 college teachers and 7,000 schoolteachers have participated in NEH-supported programs, to the benefit of more than one million students.

REACHING ACROSS THE NATION

Last year state humanities councils, NEH’s affiliates in the fifty states, the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories put on 17,700 reading and discussion programs, 5,700 literacy programs, 5,800 speakers bureau presentations, 5,800 conferences, 2,300 Chautauqua events, 7,120 media programs, and 7,600 technology, preservation, and local history events. The 56 councils also sponsored 4,600 exhibitions.