



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities Oregon

Between 2006 and 2010, institutions and individuals in Oregon received \$7 million from the National Endowment for the Humanities and Oregon Humanities for projects that explore the human endeavor and preserve our cultural heritage. Below are some examples.

- As part of the **National Digital Newspaper Program**, an NEH–Library of Congress partnership, the University of Oregon, Eugene, is digitizing about 100,000 pages of historic newspapers such as the *Daily Morning Astorian* and the *Sumpter Miner* from 1860 to 1922. Supporting this work is a \$365,000 grant.
- **Humanity in Perspective**, a program of Oregon Humanities in collaboration with Reed College and Willamette University, is a college-level course in the humanities offered free to financially disadvantaged adults without a college education. Taught in Portland and in Salem, the course has also been offered at Eastern Oregon Correctional Institute.
- Andrew Schulz at the University of Oregon, Eugene, received a \$50,000 research grant to work on his book about **the influence of Muslim art and architecture on modern Spanish culture**.
- Aided by a \$144,000 grant, the **Oregon Historical Society** has developed the Oregon Time Web, a digital teaching resource. Students and teachers can access lesson material along with primary sources from the society's collection as they build their own Oregon history timelines.
- **Portland State University** received a \$150,000 collaborative research grant to analyze archeological findings from ten Native American households discovered along the Pacific coast on the sites of fur-trading communities dating back as far as the 1400s. Two books, scholarly papers, and public presentations are expected to result.
- The **Oregon Petrarch Open Book**, a project based at the University of Oregon, Eugene, assembles translations and contemporaneous commentaries related to a collection of the Renaissance Italian writer's poems, the *Canzoniere*. New enhancements, made possible in part by a \$50,000 digital startup grant, will strengthen the structure of this web-based resource to support international collaboration.
- The main branch of the **Lake County Library District, in Lakeview**, long ago outgrew its county courthouse home. Awarded a challenge grant of \$300,000, the district has raised \$900,000 for a new home for the library and its humanities collections.
- Nahuatl, an important Mexican indigenous language, retains only a small, aging population of speakers. It is the object of a new lexical database at the **University of Oregon, Eugene**, supported by a \$350,000 preservation grant. This online resource will include the language's first-ever monolingual dictionary and other materials documenting Nahuatl from its classical era to modern times.
- **Oregon Humanities** supports annual teachers' institutes at which secondary and high school teachers study with leading scholars on such important humanities topics as immigration in the United States, the history and future of work, and the cultural legacy of modern science.



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.