



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities New Hampshire

Between 2006 and 2010, institutions and individuals in New Hampshire received almost \$5 million from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the New Hampshire Humanities Council for projects that explore the human endeavor and preserve our cultural heritage. Below are some examples.

- Supported by a \$250,000 grant, scholars at Dartmouth College are preparing a digital edition and website of the works of the **Mohegan intertribal leader Samson Occom**. A student of Dartmouth's founder, Occom was one of the most important Native American intellectuals of the eighteenth century.
- The **New Hampshire State Library** has received two grants totaling \$10,850 to assess the conservation needs of its historical maps, atlases, and imprints. The imprints collection comprises 850 books produced between the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries, including Daniel Fowle's 1756 *Good News from a Far Country*, the first book ever printed in New Hampshire.
- With a \$199,740 education programs grant, **Keene State College** is developing five online teaching modules on the life and times of Helen Keller. The project, a collaborative effort of the college, Straight Ahead Pictures, and the Hampshire Education Collaborative, will create secondary and higher education materials and be disseminated in conjunction with a new public television documentary, *Becoming Helen Keller*.
- The **University of New Hampshire's Center for New England Culture and the Portsmouth Historical Society** are using a \$40,000 grant to develop an exhibition detailing the rich history of Portsmouth, expand the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail, and create a new Footsteps of Washington trail. The walking tours will connect historic sites and homes throughout the city.
- **Franklin Pierce Manse** in Concord, the only surviving home that the fourteenth president owned and lived in, has been awarded a \$4,700 grant to enhance its environmental monitoring system. Now a museum, it houses eighty-five artifacts that belonged to Pierce or his immediate family, and two hundred other objects dating from the 1840s.
- **Saint Anselm College** in Manchester has received a \$25,000 grant to plan and implement an undergraduate course on liberty and justice in the contemporary world. Students will read de Tocqueville, Rousseau, and Milton, among others, and participate in a community-based research project exploring real-world ramifications of their coursework.
- An interdisciplinary team at **Dartmouth** has created an open source electronic game for archival data systems called Metadata Games. The software, developed with the assistance of a \$49,015 digital humanities start-up grant, uses "crowdsourcing" to generate reliable descriptive tags for digitized archival materials.
- Over the last five years, **Humanities to Go**, the New Hampshire Humanities Council's speakers bureau, has received \$394,700 in grants. The program offers 180 different lectures and living history presentations, with topics ranging from "The Shaker Legacy" to "African American Submariners."
- Fences and Neighbors, a statewide initiative of the **New Hampshire Humanities Council**, is designed to increase understanding of the history of immigration in the state and provide opportunities for the public to examine current immigration issues. Programs benefitting from a \$225,000 grant include lectures, oral histories, and civic reflection forums.



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.