



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities & Maryland

Between 2006 and 2010, institutions and individuals in Maryland received \$15 million from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Maryland Humanities Council for projects that explore the human endeavor and preserve our cultural heritage. Below are some examples.

- At the University of Maryland, College Park, scholars with the Freedmen and Southern Society Project are working on volumes 6 and 7 of the nine-volume **Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation: 1861–1867**, which is based on letters and other accounts in the National Archives. NEH has provided two grants totaling \$351,000.
- **The National Council for the Traditional Arts**, Silver Spring, received \$250,000 to digitize 4,670 hours of original analog sound recordings of folk and traditional music from the 1960s to the present. Copies will go to the Library of Congress.
- Parchment to Pixel, a project at the **Walters Art Museum, Baltimore**, was awarded \$315,000 to preserve and digitize medieval manuscripts representing diverse Christian cultures. Nearly 39,000 pages of text and 3,500 images will become accessible via the museum's website.
- Twenty-five college faculty will participate in **Slaves, Soldiers, Rebels: Currents of Black Resistance in the Tropical Atlantic, 1760–1888**, a five-week summer institute developed by the Africana Studies Center, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. Hopkins received \$382,500 for this project and a 2009 institute on the same topic.
- A challenge grant of \$585,000 will help the C. V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience, **Washington College, Chestertown**, endow writing fellowships and acquisition of an eighteenth-century residence in Chestertown that will house visiting fellows writing about the American founding.
- Delis, Chinese food on Christmas, and regional delicacies such as matzo ball gumbo, latkes with maple syrup, and salmon gefilte fish will be explored in "Chosen Food: Cuisine, Culture, and American Jewish Identity," an exhibition supported by two grants totaling \$240,000 that will open at Baltimore's **Jewish Museum of Maryland**.
- With the help of a \$75,000 grant, sixty social studies teachers from the Baltimore City Public School System participated in **Baltimore: Portal to the American Identity**, a workshop to help educators use local resources to develop standards-based American history lesson plans.
- Living history presentations, workshops, and other programming helped Marylanders explore race relations and the civil rights movement in a two-year Maryland Humanities Council project called **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: Remembrance and Reconciliation**, which won the Helen and Martin Schwartz Prize for excellence in humanities programming.
- More than 500 middle and high school students addressed the theme of Innovation in History: Impact and Change at the 2010 Maryland History Day competition at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, Catonsville. The Maryland Humanities Council has coordinated observance of **Maryland History Day** since 1999.
- **One Maryland One Book**, a Maryland Humanities Council program, encourages communities statewide to read and participate in local discussions about one thought-provoking book each year. Maryland's giant "book club" most recently has read *A Hope in the Unseen* by Ron Suskind, *Song Yet Sung* by James McBride, and *Outcasts United* by Warren St. John.



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.