



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities Montana

Between 2006 and 2010, institutions and individuals in Montana received \$4.1 million from the National Endowment for the Humanities and Humanities Montana for projects that explore the human endeavor and preserve our cultural heritage. Below are some examples.

- The C. M. Russell Museum, Great Falls, received \$375,000 in 2007 for “**The Bison: American Icon, Heart of Plains Indian Culture.**” This exhibition uses recent scholarship on the West in interpreting artifacts from the Russell’s collection and provides context for visitors traveling to other institutions.
 - In 2008 and 2009, Fort Peck Community College, Poplar, received grants totaling \$130,000 for **workshops for college and public schoolteachers** on the history of the Nakona (Assiniboiné) and Dakota (Sioux) peoples.
 - The **Paris Gibson Square Museum in Great Falls** received a \$5,000 grant for continued assessment of its permanent collection. In addition to modern, contemporary, and self-taught art from the region, the museum, which is housed in a historic downtown building, features an outdoor sculpture garden.
 - In 2011, eighty schoolteachers will attend one-week workshops produced by the **Montana Historical Society** with a \$179,000 grant, to study the history and sociology of gold, silver, and copper mining in the American West, visiting mines in Virginia City, Helena, and Butte.
 - The Montana Preservation Alliance received a \$49,000 grant for **The Touchstone Project: Saving and Sharing Montana’s Community Heritage.** By collecting and digitizing historic materials and oral interviews, the project will make aspects of Montana’s community heritage available both in historical repositories and online.
 - The University of Montana received a \$25,000 grant to develop a **linguistic database of Blackfoot**, enabling researchers to study the phonology of this endangered language using examples of genuine recorded speech.
 - **The Yellowstone County Museum, Billings**, received a \$5,000 grant in 2006 for assessment, consultation, and training to improve care of artifacts, photographs, and archives. The 20,000-item collection includes a century-old chuckwagon and a diorama depicting the legend of Sacrifice Cliff.
- In 2009 Montana State University in Bozeman was awarded \$5,000 from Humanities Montana for two-day symposiums called **Living People’s Histories: Tribal Histories in Montana.**
- Montana Public Radio received a grant of \$8,000 from Humanities Montana for **The Write Question**,
- a weekly program that explores writing and publishing in the Western United States.
- KUSM–TV/Montana PBS in Bozeman received a grant of \$10,000 in 2010 for **Indian Relay**, a film
- about three Native American horse-racing families.



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.