



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities New York

Between 2006 and 2010, institutions and individuals in New York received \$67 million from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the New York Council for the Humanities for projects that explore the human achievement and preserve our cultural heritage. Below are some examples.

- The **Brooklyn Navy Yard Center**, situated inside the former Marine Commandant's residence, has received a \$350,000 grant to implement a long-term exhibition about the rise, decline, and revitalization of this well-known arsenal and its role in American history dating to the seventeenth century.
- The New-York Historical Society received a \$75,000 planning grant to develop "**Lincoln in New York**," which documented and explored the sixteenth president's fraught relationship with the country's burgeoning capital of commerce, then a stronghold of pro-slavery sentiment. The museum then developed, with a \$400,000 grant, a portable exhibition that traveled to libraries nationwide.
- Two hundred schoolteachers attended one-week scholar-led workshops devoted to "**FDR and the World Crisis: 1933 to 1945**" at the former Roosevelt residence in Hyde Park, using this national historic site as a lens through which to view this president's policies and decisionmaking from the Great Depression through World War II. The Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute received two separate grants totaling more than \$300,000 in support.
- The Greene County Historical Society in Catskill received a \$320,000 grant to establish a permanent exhibition at the **Thomas Cole National Historic Site**, the former home and studio of the founder of the Hudson School of painting, which includes a film, exhibition panels, docent tours, a website, and educational programming.
- The Gilder-Lehrman Institute of American History received a \$400,000 grant to develop a traveling exhibition for Abraham Lincoln's bicentennial, "**Abraham Lincoln: A Man for His Time, A Man for All Times**," which circulated to more than forty libraries nationwide and provided "history in a box" lesson plans to schools.
- In the early years of the Revolutionary War, Fort Ticonderoga was called the "key to the continent." With a \$160,000 grant, the fort is hosting eighty schoolteachers for one-week workshops devoted to the **American Revolution on the Northern Frontier**.
- **The Papers of Gouverneur Morris: Diaries Project**, supported with a grant of \$200,000, is the first modern effort to transcribe, annotate, and publish the personal papers of this Founding Father, contributor to the U.S. Constitution, minister to France, U.S. senator, and close friend of Alexander Hamilton.
- The forthcoming documentary **1812: The War We Forgot** promises to be the first significant television treatment of the first war declared by the United States of America. The film is being produced with the assistance of an \$800,000 production grant to the Western New York Public Broadcasting Association.
- 2009 marked a double anniversary: the bicentennial of Robert Fulton's steamboat voyage on the Hudson and the quadricentennial of the explorations of Henry Hudson and Samuel de Champlain. A \$253,000 grant funded speakers, conferences, and events marking the **400th anniversary of New York State**.
- A \$253,000 grant to the New York Council for the Humanities supported **Together—Book Talk for Kids and Parents**, a program for children ages 9 to 11 and their guardians to read and discuss books with humanities scholars.
- The Adirondack Museum in Hamilton County received a \$20,000 grant from the New York Council for the Humanities to support its exhibition **Common Threads: 150 Years of Adirondack Quilts and Comfort**, exploring local history through the artistry of quilts.



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.