Communities across the nation are turning to state and jurisdictional humanities councils now more than ever for support of their cultural infrastructure during the pandemic. Councils help make sense of issues facing our nation, like growing global concerns about democracy, and mark important historical moments like the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. To respond to this need and continue to provide both virtual and in-person humanities programming and much needed resources, a significant increase is requested for NEH and the humanities councils in FY 2023. The humanities councils, with programs in nearly every congressional district, are uniquely positioned to serve our nation.

We urge Congress to provide at least $204 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities including at least $66 million for the state and jurisdictional humanities councils in FY 2023.

**Funding History for the NEH and the State and Jurisdictional Humanities Councils (in millions of dollars)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
<th>FY 2019</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
<th>FY 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal/State Partnership</td>
<td>46.000</td>
<td>47.200</td>
<td>48.000</td>
<td>50.028</td>
<td>51.576</td>
<td>54.348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, NEH</td>
<td>149.848</td>
<td>152.848</td>
<td>155.000</td>
<td>162.250</td>
<td>167.500</td>
<td>180.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Communities across the nation are turning to state and jurisdictional humanities councils now more than ever for support of their cultural infrastructure during the pandemic. Councils help make sense of issues facing our nation, like growing global concerns about democracy, and mark important historical moments like the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. To respond to this need and continue to provide both virtual and in-person humanities programming and much needed resources, a significant increase is requested for NEH and the humanities councils in FY 2023. The humanities councils, with programs in nearly every congressional district, are uniquely positioned to serve our nation.

**How Humanities Councils Foster Vibrant Communities and Strengthen the Nation**

**Invest in Communities**
Councils serve **tens of thousands** of rural, suburban, and urban communities.
- ARP funding grants to more than 3,800 local cultural organizations in 2021
- CARES funding grants to more than 4,500 local cultural organizations in 2020
- 1000s of additional grants to small, local museums, libraries, & other organizations
- Community conversations that explore history, civics, the environment, and more
- Capacity-building
- Cultural tourism tools, such as online tours & folklife & book festivals

**Promote Literacy & K-12 Education**
Support access, development, and resources for students, families, and teachers through:
- Creating and funding family literacy programs to help children succeed in school & parents thrive in the workforce
- Providing professional support for teachers to improve student learning
- Developing and supplying online resources for students

**Reach Rural Residents**
Provide cultural resources to rural residents through:
- Traveling exhibits
- Speaker series
- Chautauquas
- Reading & discussion programs
- Television & radio programs on cultural & historical topics
- Resources to small cultural institutions

**Design Local & Statewide Programs**
Serve **nearly every congressional district**, working with and in diverse communities to develop:
- Humanities courses for incarcerated populations
- Virtual and in-person statewide reading programs
- Native youth leadership programs
- Podcasts on the history of voting
- Digital resources on racial disparities and public health

**Support Veterans**
Strengthen connections between veterans, their families, and their communities through:
- The collection of veterans’ oral histories
- Writing workshops
- Reading & discussion groups
- Programs to educate the public about challenges veterans & their families face
- Support for VA Hospital staff

**Protect & Preserve Local Heritage**
With **more than 8,800 local partners**, councils use their networks to:
- Present speakers & exhibitions on local history
- Fund oral history projects & documentaries
- Digitize cultural artifacts to ensure long-term stability
- Distribute emergency funds quickly after natural disasters