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ABSTRACT

The 200th anniversary of the United States Constitution offers a singular occasion for encouraging renewed scholarly interest in and public reflection about the principles and foundations of constitutional government. Toward that end, this publication presents categories and guidelines within each of the National Endowment for the Humanities regular grant-making divisions to promote and to solicit study and public appreciation of the history and principles of the Constitution. Contents include: "Topics of Special Interest," which lists eight suggested areas for history of the period, Constitutional principles, the United States Constitution and the world, individual rights, character of democracy, American Federalism, political institutions, and constitutional interpretation; "How to Apply"; "Division of Fellowships and Seminars," which describes the criteria for the various grants for bicentennial projects; "Division of Research Programs"; "Division of Education Programs"; "Division of General Programs"; "Office of Challenge Grants"; "Office of Preservation"; and "Division of State Programs." (TRS)

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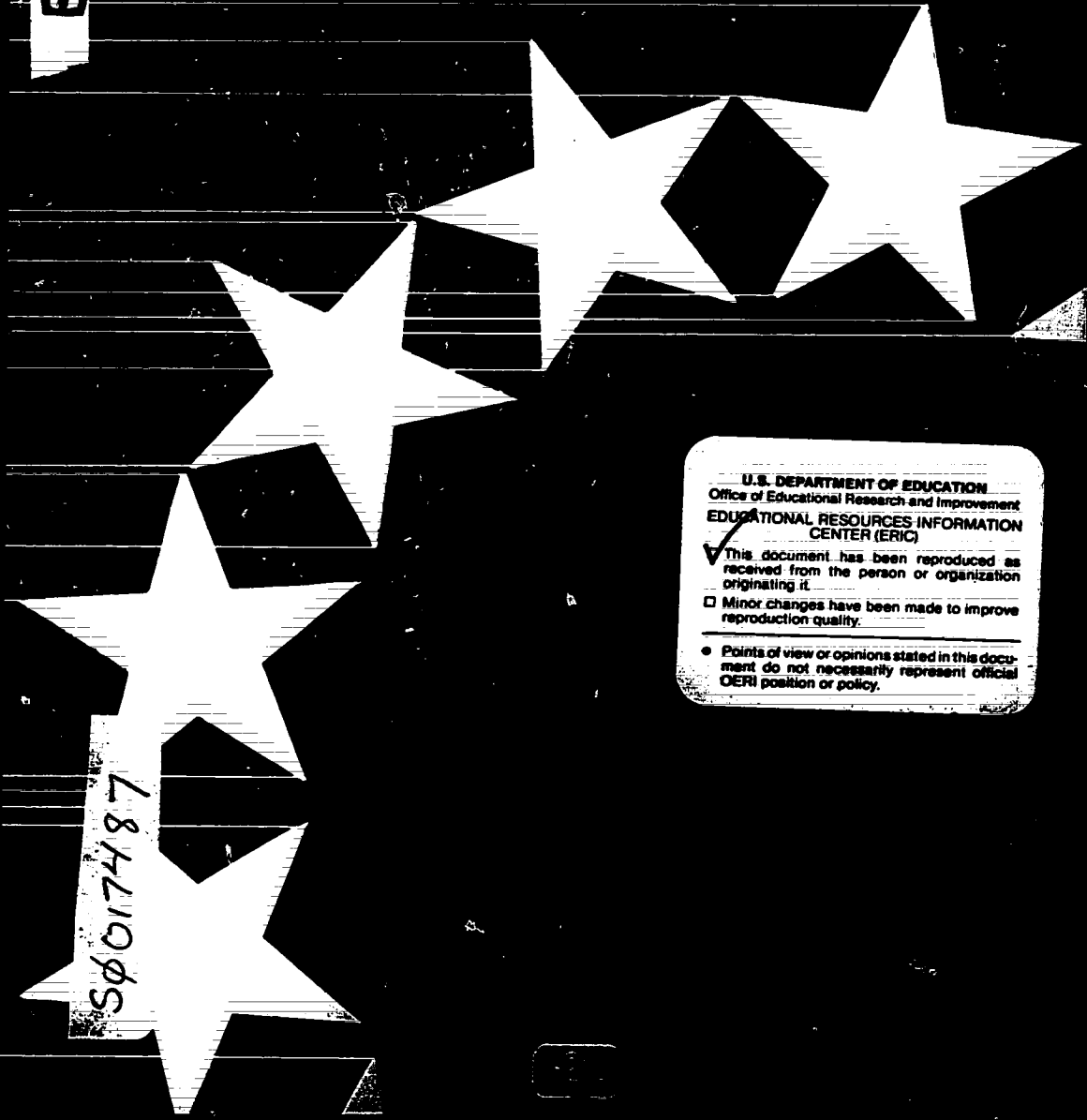
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Office of the  
Bicentennial of the  
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Constitution

ED276641

# Initiative for the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution



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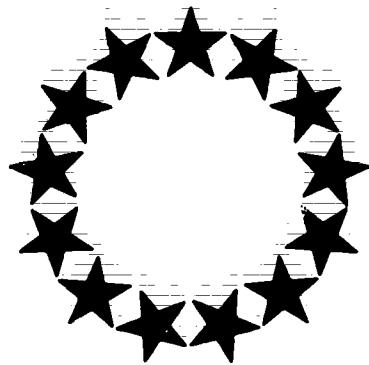
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## Initiative for the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution



The 200th anniversary of the United States Constitution offers a singular occasion for encouraging renewed scholarly interest in, and public reflection about, the principles and foundations of constitutional government. Toward this end, the Endowment has initiated a number of new categories within each of its regular grant-making divisions to promote the study and public appreciation of the history and principles of the Constitution.

Accordingly, the Endowment welcomes proposals involving studies by scholars over the whole range of philosophical and historical questions raised by the Constitution and the founding period. Moreover, the Endowment wishes to encourage the wide dissemination of the results of such studies as well as of the best work now existing through conferences, public lectures, and exhibitions; through television, radio, and motion picture productions; and through curricular and extracurricular programs engaging students at all levels, teachers, and general audiences.

Proposals are solicited on the philosophical, literary, historical, and political origins of the Constitution; the relation of the structure of the Constitution to American political, social, and intellectual culture; and the connection between self-government and the purposes of human life.

In the act that established the National Endowment for the Humanities, the term *humanities* includes, but is not limited to, the study of the following disciplines: history; philosophy; languages; linguistics; literature; archaeology; jurisprudence; the history, theory and criticism of the arts; ethics; comparative religion; and those aspects of the social sciences that employ historical or philosophical approaches.

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## Topics of Special Interest

(The following is not meant to restrict the areas in which applications will be accepted but is intended to indicate possible approaches to the study of the Constitution. Proposals are welcome from all fields of the humanities.)

### 1. History of the Period

This topic may include the Constitutional Convention and relevant events and documents that preceded and followed it such as the Articles of Confederation and the Annapolis Convention, the state ratification debates, *The Federalist* and Anti-Federalist Papers, and political and legal debates concerning the scope and meaning of the Constitution.

### 2. Constitutional Principles

Work in this area might include the theoretical antecedents—ancient, medieval, and modern—of the Constitution; the founders' understanding of human nature and its relevance to Constitutional politics; the character of the *novus ordo seculorum* that the Constitution was intended to inaugurate; the relation of civil to natural rights; and the founders' views respecting the connection between the Constitution and national character and culture.

### 3. The U.S. Constitution and the World

Under this heading, projects might explore similarities to and differences between the U.S. Constitution and the constitutions of other nations, as well as possible differences of principle and purpose among modern democratic countries that can be seen by a comparison of the U.S. Constitution with the constitutions and laws of other countries.

### 4. Individual Rights

Work here could include the relation of the original structure of the Constitution to the preservation of natural and civil liberties, the connection between the rights enumerated in the Bill of Rights and elaborated by the Supreme Court and the broader principles of republican government contained in the preamble and body of the Constitution, and the pursuit of individual happiness and the national well-being.

### 5. The Character of Democracy

This category includes the relation of current American life and culture to the Constitution and the principles underlying it; the connection between democratic government and the cultivation of human excellence; and the American character as it is revealed through American art and literature, and as seen through the eyes of non-American observers.

### 6. American Federalism

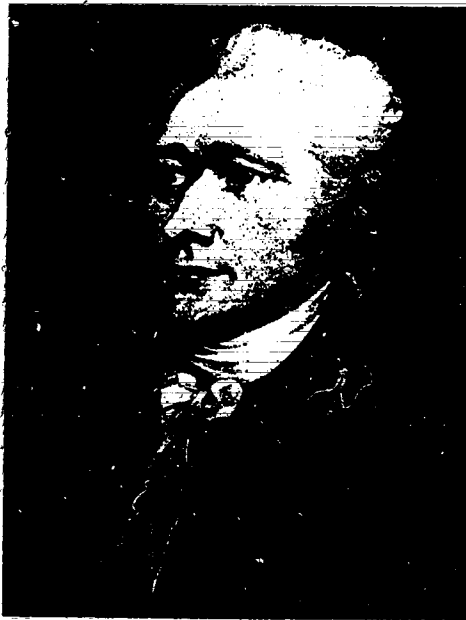
In this area, the Endowment encourages exploration of the principles of compact and agreement underlying the federal structure, the relation of state constitutions to the U.S. Constitution, and the intent and reality of federalism.

### 7. Political Institutions

Study here would include the institutions of the presidency, the Congress, and the Supreme Court as they are related to the whole of the Constitution and as seen through the disciplines of the humanities.

### 8. Constitutional Interpretation

This category includes projects that seek to examine the history of scholarly treatments and popular conceptions of the Constitution as well as projects that seek to understand the meaning of the text through legal, historical, and philosophical studies.



National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

*Alexander Hamilton*

## How to Apply

All divisions at the Endowment are participating in this special initiative for the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. Proposals are expected to meet the guidelines of the particular division that best fits the character of the project. Applications for fellowships, for instance, will be expected to meet guidelines for the Division of Fellowships and Seminars, while projects intended for a general audience should meet guidelines of the Division of General Programs. Projects that do not meet the guidelines of a specific program or that are aimed in part at general audiences and involve several programs will most often be received by the Division of General Programs. *Questions regarding the appropriate division to which a particular application should be submitted may be referred to the Office of the Bicentennial.*

Division guidelines may be obtained from the

Office of the Bicentennial  
Room 504  
National Endowment for the  
Humanities  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20506

Additional information and assistance may be obtained from the Public Affairs Office at 202/786-0438. Although the Public Affairs Office does not maintain a general mailing list, it can respond to specific requests for publications. Guidelines and application forms are generally available two months in advance of an application deadline. Faster service can be provided if a self-addressed mailing label is enclosed with a request for information.

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## Division of Fellowships and Seminars

Through its fellowship and summer stipend programs, NEH encourages and supports advanced study and research in disciplines of the humanities by people of diverse interests, backgrounds, and circumstances. Projects supported by Endowment fellowships and summer stipends may contribute to scholarly knowledge, to the conception and substance of individual courses in the humanities, or to the general public's understanding of the humanities. Projects may treat broad topics or consist of study and research in a specialized field.

In 1983 the division announced special competitions for Constitutional Fellowships and Summer Stipends, and in 1985 a special competition for younger scholars. These programs provide support for college and university teachers, independent scholars, and students to pursue study and research related to the U.S. Constitution. The division also welcomes applications to conduct summer seminars on bicentennial topics within its two seminar programs — one for college teachers and the other for secondary school teachers.

In the summer of 1986, the division will sponsor a series of three pilot Bicentennial Seminars for Law Professors focusing on the political, historical, and philosophical origins and intentions of the framers of the U.S. Constitution. The Endowment expects to continue this program in the coming years.

Scholars engaged in or planning research, writing, or teaching related to the Constitution are encouraged to call or write the division or the Office of the Bicentennial.

The following list of grants for bicentennial projects indicates the topics of projects funded by this program:

### Fellowships

Gerald Guntier

Stanford University

The Biography of Learned Hand:

The Judge and the Man

Michael G. Kammen

Cornell University

The Cultural Impact of the U.S.

Constitution, 1789 - Present

Russell A. Kirk

Unaffiliated

Edmund Burke and the American

Constitution

Drew McCoy

University of Texas at Austin

The Last of the Fathers: James

Madison and the Republican Legacy,  
1817-1836

Thomas L. Pangle

University of Toronto

The Philosophic Principles Informing  
the American Constitution

Jack Rakove

Stanford University

Original Meanings: Political

Experience and Thought in the

Framing of the Constitution

Harry N. Schieber

University of California, Berkeley

Federalism and Constitutional Values:

California and the Nation, 1849-1985

The following list of grants for bicentennial projects indicated the types of projects funded by the summer seminars for secondary school teachers or college teachers programs:

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**Summer Seminars for Secondary School Teachers**

**John Roche**

Tufts University, Fletcher School of Diplomacy

**Wise, Locke, and Adams: The American Constitution**

A close examination of Wise's *A Vindication of the Government of the New England Churches*, Locke's *Second Treatise*, and Adams' *Dissertation on the Cannon and Feudal Law*, revealing the religious and secular traditions of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries that resulted in the Constitution of 1787.

**Robert V. Remini**

University of Illinois, Chicago

**Locke, Madison and Tocqueville: Evolution of Democracy**

An intensive study of John Locke, *The Federalist*, and *Democracy in America*, showing the progress and evolution of democracy from the colonial period to the mid-nineteenth century in America.

**Summer Seminars for College Teachers**

**Wilson Carey McWilliams**

Rutgers University

**Federalists and Anti-Federalists**

An examination of the framing of the U.S. Constitution, focusing on the political philosophy of the proponents of the Constitution and their appeal to a "new science of politics" as contrasted with the theories and opinions of their Anti-Federalist opponents.

**Walter Murphy**

Princeton University

**Toward a Constitutional Jurisprudence**

An intensive study of constitutional jurisprudence focusing on the American Constitution as a humanistic, social, and political document.

**Division of Research Programs**

The division provides support for long-term and collaborative projects in the humanities, major research conferences, the preparation of reference works and editions, the organization of research materials, and the subvention of publication expenses. Scholars engaged in such activities as they relate to the Bicentennial are encouraged to call or write the division or the Office of the Bicentennial.

As a special initiative for the Bicentennial of the Constitution, the Endowment encourages proposals on the American political order, collections of the founding period's basic works and documents, and the publication of collections of public and private papers of the founding period.

The following list of grants for bicentennial projects indicates the types of projects funded by this division.

**Reference Works**

**Leonard W. Levy**

Claremont Graduate School

**The Encyclopedia of the American Constitution**

Research and publication of a four-volume encyclopedia containing 2,000 alphabetically arranged articles covering the history and present state of American constitutional law, ranging from abolitionism to John Peter Zenger's case.

**Philip Kurland and Ralph Lerner**  
University of Chicago

Publication of a collection of documents with commentaries by the editors from the earliest settlements of the American colonies from the seventeenth century to the 1830s, illustrating how the Constitution was

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conceived, ratified, and interpreted by the Founders.

John P. Kaminski

University of Wisconsin, Madison  
The Documentary History of the  
Ratification of the Constitution and  
the Bill of Rights

Research and publication of a collection of documents with annotations and indices recording the public and private debate from 1787 to 1791 over the ratification of the Constitution, the first elections under the new government, and the proposal and adoption of the Bill of Rights.

### **Division of Education Programs**

The division supports a wide variety of projects aimed at improving humanities education at all levels of instruction, both public and private. Projects in this division may address themselves to such activities as improving specific course offerings; sponsoring conferences, workshops, or institutes for teachers and professors; developing teaching materials; or planning collaborative ventures to link schools, colleges, universities, and other educational institutions in efforts to improve the humanities.

As a special initiative, the division particularly invites proposals from scholars interested in conducting institutes for secondary school teachers on the history and principles of the Constitution. These institutes provide opportunities for teachers of history, civics, American civilization, and social studies to learn more about the Constitution and the nature of constitutional government. Institutes are held either in the summer or during the school year, and they may

employ a variety of formats. Scholars interested in directing such institutes should call or write the division or the Office of the Bicentennial.

The following list of grants for bicentennial projects indicates the types of projects funded by this division:

**Humanities Instruction in  
Elementary and Secondary Schools**  
Harvey C. Mansfield, Jr.  
Harvard University

**The American Experience**  
A four-week summer institute for high school teachers on the meaning of the American Revolution and the "new political science" embodied in the Constitution. The institute features lectures and discussion of readings from Locke, Montesquieu, *The Federalist*, and Tocqueville.

Issac Kramnick  
Cornell University  
**The American Constitution: Its  
Origins and Evolution**

A summer institute for twenty-five high-school teachers on the history and intellectual development of the Constitution.

### **Division of General Programs**

The Division of General Programs supports projects designed to interpret for general audiences significant work and important themes within the humanities. The means for reaching general audiences include radio and television programming, interpretive exhibitions, lectures, conferences, publications, or any combination of these or other media. Applicants include museums and historical organizations, libraries, colleges and universities, television and radio



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producers, and a variety of other associations and institutions.

At present the division is especially interested in encouraging major efforts that have the potential to educate the general public on all facets of the history, principles, and nature of the American constitutional experience. Proposals that involve radio and television productions, public lectures, or any of the means mentioned above, or proposals that significantly involve the general public in university conferences, seminars or lecture series, should be directed to this program through the Office of the Bicentennial.

The following list of grants for bicentennial projects indicates the types of projects funded by this division:

**Humanities Projects for Adults**

**Sheilah Mann**

**American Political Science Association  
This Constitution: A Bicentennial  
Chronicle**

Publication of a magazine that chronicles the Bicentennial of the Constitution by providing scholarly articles, resources, practical information, and suggestions for program planners.

**Larry P. Arnn**

**Public Research, Syndicated  
The New Federalist Papers**

Production of a series of 216 articles written by constitutional scholars. Articles will be distributed to college, weekly, community, and daily papers across the country.

**Timothy G. O'Rourke**

**University of Virginia, Charlottesville  
The Constitution and Commonwealth:  
The Virginia Court Days Forums  
Twenty "court days" to be held in  
Virginia over a three year period, in a**

format like that used in the PBS series, "The Constitution: A Delicate Balance." Constitutional themes will be addressed by a panel of scholars who will also exchange ideas with a general audience.

**Humanities Projects in Media**

**Yuri Rasovsky**

**National Radio Theatre of Chicago  
Dateline 1787: The U.S.**

**Constitutional Convention  
Production of thirteen 30-minute  
radio programs examining the events,  
personalities, and issues that arose at  
the U.S. Constitutional Convention.**

**Jac Venza**

**Education Broadcasting Corporation  
Young James Madison**

The scripting of three 30-minute television programs for younger viewers on the life of James Madison.

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## Office of Challenge Grants

Through its Office of Challenge Grants, the Endowment supports non-profit educational and cultural institutions and organizations in order to increase financial stability, encourage long-range planning, and promote a diverse and continuing base of support for sustaining or improving the quality of programs and activities in the humanities.

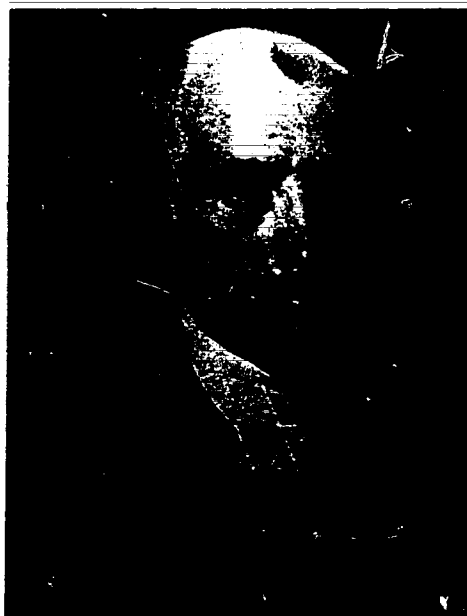
Institutions must raise three dollars in new or increased donations from nonfederal sources to receive each federal dollar.

The Office of Challenge Grants welcomes applications from institutions and organizations devoted to the study of the Constitution and its contexts. Applicants must meet the same criteria of eligibility established for all applicants to the Challenge Grants Program. Institutions solely devoted to the study of constitutionalism or of the U.S. Constitution, or institutions with major ongoing programs devoted to such studies, may request a matching ratio of two-to-one if it can be demonstrated that private support on the otherwise requisite three-to-one basis is not available.

In some instances, the Endowment will entertain a single application for concurrent project support and a Challenge Grant. The Endowment is offering the possibility of conjoined funding experimentally through the office of Challenge Grants and the Office of the Bicentennial. A proposal for conjoined project and Challenge funding must represent a coherent and compelling plan that meets the criteria for both the Bicentennial and Challenge Grant programs. An institution wishing to submit a single application for both types of grants should discuss its plans with the Office of the Bicentennial.

## Office of Preservation

This office supports projects that address the physical deterioration of humanities resources, i.e. books, journals, newspapers, manuscripts, documents, maps, drawings, plans, photographs, film, and tapes. The program emphasizes cooperative microfilming projects that guarantee national access. Because these materials are essential to all educational and scholarly projects in the humanities, the scope of this program includes Bicentennial interests. Moreover, as only a tiny fraction of what is at risk can be saved, materials relating to the constitution would rank high among selection criteria. The office's overall priority is for U.S. imprints and Americana.



*James Madison*

National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

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## **Division of State Programs**

State humanities councils in the fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands award grants to institutions and organizations within each state according to guidelines and application deadlines determined by each council. Many state councils are interested in funding projects related to the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. Additional information may be obtained directly from the appropriate state council. A list of the names and addresses of all state councils appears on the following pages.

### **State Humanities Councils**

**The Committee for the Humanities in  
Alabama**

Box A-40  
Birmingham-Southern College  
Birmingham, AL 35254  
205/324-1314

**Alaska Humanities Forum**  
Room 10  
943 West Sixth Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
907/272-5341

**Arizona Humanities Council**  
Suite 1290  
First Interstate Bank Plaza  
100 West Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85003  
602/257-0335

**Arkansas Endowment for the  
Humanities**  
Suite 102  
The Rimmel Building  
1010 West 3rd Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
501/372-2672

**California Council for the Humanities**  
Suite 601  
312 Sutter Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108  
415/391-1471

**Colorado Endowment for the  
Humanities**  
1836 Blake Street #100  
Denver, CO 82020  
303/292-4458

**Connecticut Humanities Council**  
41 Lawn Avenue  
Wesleyan Station  
Middletown, CT 06457  
203/347-6888

**Delaware Humanities Forum**  
2600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Wilmington, DE 19806  
302/573-4410

**D.C. Community Humanities Council**  
Suite 620  
1341 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202/347-1732

**Florida Endowment for the  
Humanities**  
LET 468  
University of South Florida  
Tampa, FL 33620  
813/974-4094

**Georgia Endowment for the  
Humanities**  
1589 Clifton Road, N.E.  
Emory University  
Atlanta, GA 30322  
404/727-7500

**Hawaii Committee for the Humanities**  
First Hawaiian Bank Building  
3599 Wai'alai Avenue, Room 23  
Honolulu, HI 96816  
808/732-5402

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The Association for the Humanities in  
Idaho

Room 300  
Len B. Jordan Building  
650 West State Street  
Boise, ID 83720  
208/345-5346

Illinois Humanities Council  
618 South Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60605  
312/939-5212

Indiana Committee for the  
Humanities  
3135 North Meridian Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46208  
317/925-5316

Iowa Humanities Board  
Oakdale Campus  
University of Iowa  
Iowa City, IA 52242  
319/353-6754

Kansas Committee for the Humanities  
Suite 210  
112 West Sixth Street  
Topeka, KS 66603  
913/357-0359

Kentucky Humanities Council, Inc.  
Ligon House  
University of Kentucky  
Lexington, KY 40508  
606/257-5932

Louisiana Endowment for the  
Humanities  
Suite 4407  
1001 Howard Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70113  
504/523-4352

Maine Humanities Council  
P.O. Box 7202  
Portland, ME 04112  
207/773-5051

Maryland Humanities Council  
516 North Charles Street, #201  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
301/625-4830

Massachusetts Foundation for the  
Humanities and Public Policy

One Woodbridge Street  
South Hadley, MA 01075  
413/536-1385

Michigan Council for the Humanities  
Suite 30

Nisbet Building  
1407 South Harrison Road  
East Lansing, MI 48824  
517/355-0160

Minnesota Humanities Commission  
580 Park Square Court  
Sixth and Sibley Streets  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
612/224-5739

Mississippi Committee for the  
Humanities

Room 111  
3825 Ridgewood Road  
Jackson, MS 39211  
601/982-6752

The Missouri Committee for the  
Humanities, Inc.

Suite 204  
Loberg Building  
11425 Dorsett Road  
Maryland Heights, MO 63043  
314/739-7368

Montana Committee for the  
Humanities

P.O. Box 8036  
HELLGATE STATION  
Missoula, MT 59807  
406/243-6022

Nebraska Committee for the  
Humanities

Suite 422  
Lincoln Center Building  
215 Centennial Mall South  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
402/474-2131

Nevada Humanities Committee

P.O. Box 8029  
Reno, NV 89507  
702/784-6587

**The New Hampshire Council for the Humanities**

112 South State Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
603/224-4071

**New Jersey Committee for the Humanities**

73 Easton Avenue  
New Brunswick, NJ 08903  
201/932-7726

**New Mexico Humanities Council**

Room 209  
Onate Hall  
University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, NM 87131  
505/277-3705

**New York Council for the Humanities**

33 West 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10036  
212/354-3040

**North Carolina Humanities Committee**

112 Foust Building  
UNC-Greensboro  
Greensboro, NC 27412  
919/379-5325

**North Dakota Humanities Council**

Box 2191  
Bismarck, ND 58502  
701/663-1948

**The Ohio Humanities Council**

760 Pleasant Ridge Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43209  
614/231-6879

**Oklahoma Foundation for the Humanities**

Suite 500  
Executive Terrace Building  
2809 Northwest Expressway  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112  
405/840-1721

**Oregon Committee for the Humanities**

Room 419  
418 S. W. Washington  
Portland, OR 97204  
503/241-0543

**Pennsylvania Humanities Council**

401 North Broad Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19108  
215/925-1005

**Fundacion Puertorriquena de las Humanidades**

Box S-4307  
Old San Juan, PR 00904  
809/721-2087

**Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities**

463 Broadway  
Providence, RI 02909  
401/273-2250

**South Carolina Committee for the Humanities**

P.O. 6925  
Columbia, SC 29260  
803/738-1850

**South Dakota Committee on the Humanities**

Box 7050  
University Station  
Brookings, SD 57007  
605/688-6113

**Tennessee Committee for the Humanities**

1001 18th Avenue South  
Nashville, TN 37212  
615/320-7001

**Texas Committee for the Humanities**

1604 Nueces  
Austin, TX 78701  
512/473-8585

**Utah Endowment for the Humanities**

Suite 900  
Broadway Building  
Ten West Broadway  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101  
301/531-7868

**Vermont Council on the Humanities  
and Public Issues**

P.O. Box 58  
Grant House  
Hyde Park, VT 05655  
802/888-3183

**Virginia Foundation for the  
Humanities and Public Policy**

1939 Ivy Road  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
804/924-3296

**Virgin Islands Humanities Council  
Market Square — Conrad Building  
#6 Torvet Straede/Fourth Floor —  
Suite #6**

P.O. Box 1829  
St. Thomas, VI 00801  
809/774-4044

**Washington Commission for the  
Humanities**

Olympia, WA 98505  
206/866-6510

**The Humanities Foundation of West  
Virginia**

Box 204  
Institute, WV 25112  
304/768-8869

**Wisconsin Humanities Committee**

716 Langdon Street  
Madison, WI 53706  
608/262-0706

**Wyoming Council for the Humanities  
Box 3972**

University Station  
Laramie, WY 82071-3972  
307/766-6496

**Equal Opportunity**

The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 45, Part 1110, implements provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and, along with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, provides that the National Endowment for the Humanities is responsible for ensuring compliance with and enforcement of public laws prohibiting discrimination because of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, and age in programs and activities receiving federal assistance from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility receiving federal assistance from the Endowment should write immediately to the director, Office of Equal Opportunity, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506.

**Note:**

If a proposed project relates to American Indians, Aleuts, Eskimos, or native Hawaiian people and artifacts, an applicant should obtain from the Endowment a copy of its Code of Ethics concerning native Americans. The code establishes certain standards of conduct in research, publication, and public programs involving native American peoples.

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