



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities New Jersey

Between 2006 and 2010, institutions and individuals in New Jersey received \$16 million from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the New Jersey Humanities Council for projects that explore the human endeavor and preserve our cultural heritage. Below are some examples.

- Rutgers University, New Brunswick, has received \$450,000 to support a multivolume edition of the **Papers of Thomas Edison**, drawing on an archive of more than five million pages.
- Twenty-five college instructors will spend four weeks in New Delhi exploring the culture and history of modern India. Developed by the **Community College Humanities Association** in Newark, this summer institute is supported by a \$226,000 grant.
- Scholars from Princeton University and Freie University, Berlin, are collaborating to **preserve and disseminate three private libraries of Yemeni documents on Islamic theology and law**. With a \$209,000 grant, the project will digitize and publish online 236 manuscripts relevant to the Zaydi or rationalist school of Islam.
- The Witherspoon Institute received a \$725,000 grant to support **Rediscovering Alexander Hamilton**, a documentary about our first Secretary of the Treasury, tracing Hamilton's life from the West Indies to his famous duel with Aaron Burr.
- With a \$230,000 grant, Princeton University Art Museum has developed **Gifts from the Ancestors: Ancient Ivories of the Bering Strait**, a traveling exhibition that includes 150 walrus tusk ivories carved in the first millennium CE.
- Supported by a \$200,000 grant, scholars at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, are editing the sixth and final volume of the selected papers of nineteenth-century women's rights movement leaders **Elizabeth Cady Stanton** and **Susan B. Anthony**.
- Six hospitals, including AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center in Atlantic City and Mountainside Hospital in Montclair, have participated in **Literature and Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care** since 2005. The award-winning reading and discussion program, directed by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, aims to improve communication skills, increase empathy for patients, and promote job satisfaction.
- The New Jersey Humanities Council's **Horizons Speakers Bureau** offers more than 170 lectures ranging from "Lenape Culture: An Introduction to American Indian Life in New Jersey" to "Responsibility for the Subprime Meltdown." Last year, over 250 programs were hosted statewide.
- Working with Bard College and the Jewish Renaissance Foundation, the New Jersey Humanities Council has launched a college-level course on "**American Freedom**" for talented young adults whose socio-economic circumstances have prevented them from pursuing higher education.
- Thirty-seven public libraries and over 1,100 New Jersey residents participated in the screening and discussion series **Justice: a Dialogue through Film**. The two documentaries shown, *Revolution '67* and *A Place Out of Time: The Bordentown School*, focused on the history of the African-American community in New Jersey.



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.