In 2015, the Humanities Council served tons of thousands of West Virginians with grants and programs in schools and colleges, libraries, museums, senior centers, and other locations statewide.

Our Haiti/Kiyo traveling exhibit visited Morgantown, Williamson, Brummett, Athens, Logan, and Huntington — plus Pocahontas and Ashland in Kentucky.

The Humanities Council’s initiative to start Little Libraries across the state continued with two new sites in Wayne County and one in Nicholas. We funded an exhibit at the old Darden Mill in Elkis showcasing Appalachian goods made at home and by hand.

The last of our Civil War Sesquicentennial speakers presented programs in Keyser, Union, New Martinsville, Huntersville, and Charleston.

We provided support to West Virginia Wesleyan College for the digitization of news film of the 1960 presidential primary election. This is an exciting new program for the Arts, which made this new position possible. This is an exciting new program, direction for us, and a promising new funding relationship.

As I am sure many of you are aware, the West Virginia Book Festival returned in 2015 after a two-year hiatus, with the Council serving as a principal sponsor. The 2015 Book Fest drew visitors from 95 communities from every state in the U.S., plus 180 other countries. And we expect visits to increase even further, now that it has been open to make it compatible with mobile devices.

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In 2015, The West Virginia Encyclopedia had visitors from every state in the U.S. and 180 other countries around the world. You may join them at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

**REVIEW**

**Net income**

The National Endowment for the Humanities provided $634,300 in support of library development and special exhibitions in 2015. The largest one-time grant was the $50,000 awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities to support the West Virginia Culture and History Foundation’s West Virginia Memory Project (WVMP). The WVMP, which is a collaboration between the West Virginia Humanities Council and the state’s public broadcasting system, West Virginia Public Broadcasting (WVMP), is a multimedia platform that collects, preserves, and digitizes a wide range of materials from West Virginia’s past and present. The WVMP also provides tools and resources for educators, historians, and the public to explore and understand West Virginia’s history and culture. The WVMP’s mission is to make West Virginia’s history accessible and meaningful to all.

**Operating expenses**

Total expenses for the year were $1,388,200, up 7.9 percent from 2014. The increase was primarily due to increases in personnel costs and depreciation expense.

**Endowment**

Total endowment balance at June 30, 2015, was $3,480,000, up 18 percent from the prior year.

**Investments**

Net investment income for the year was $85,021, down slightly from $86,888 in 2014.

**Surplus**

The endowment produced a surplus of $103,537, up 18 percent from $88,613 in 2014.

**Support**

A total of 1,612 donations were received during the fiscal year, resulting in $1,370,870 in contributions.

**Contributors and Sponsors**

A list of contributors and sponsors is available at www.wvencyclopedia.org.