In 2016, Humanities Council grants and programs served tens of thousands of West Virginians through lectures, traveling exhibits, living history programs, book festivals, research and travel grants, documentaries, publications, and e-WV. The West Virginia Encyclopedia online, and the first-ever Pearl Buck conference at WVU. We supported the Ohio River Festival of Books in Huntington, the Upper Ohio Valley Book Festival in Wheeling, and the West Virginia Book Festival in Charleston.

Our heltdfs & NExCs exhibit showed First Mountaineer, Ripley, Parkersburg, Bridgeport, Morgantown, Petersburg and Seneca Rocks — and Boyd County, Kentucky. Devil Anse (left) was a big part of it.

“West Virginia History” continued on West Virginia Public Radio with twice-daily features from e-WV. Humanities Council grants application went online, allowing the digital submission of proposals in all grant categories. We funded a music education program for John Marshall High School students in Glen Dale. A Council grant supports the exhibit, Richard III: The Tudor King: a new exhibition with over 400 artifacts at the WVU Libraries. We funded a music education program for John Marshall High School students in Glen Dale.

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Our finances

Central Region raised and succeeded in raising in 2016. Revenue totaled $1,151,329. 75% from gift and grant programs and 25% from membership. Our fiscal year ended June 30, 2016.

Where the money came from...

of Humanities, a federal agency, remains our largest source of revenue. The NEH provided $64,670, or 47 percent of total income in 2016, up from $53,900 in 2015. The West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts provided $45,000, the same as the previous year and 32 percent of total income. Remaining $301,699, or 21 percent, largely from the private sector, including individual gifts and corporation and foundation support plus a very welcome $35,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts, for our new funding model...

...and where the money went.

In 2016, 65 percent of Humanities Council expenses were spent on programs, 26 percent to administration costs, and seven percent to development. For our program expenses, a large part of the increase was the result of vigorous promotion and distribution of programs, and to pay the cost of a sustaining membership in the Virginia Department of Education and the West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts.

Looking back, while our success was overshadowed by state funding cuts to take effect after our 2016, 2016 was a good year for the Humanities in West Virginia. Our programs and grants activity expanded, both in dollars spent and as a percentage of overall expenditures.

Looking forward, with state funds cut by $100,000, our board of directors approved a budget of $634,500 for fiscal year 2017. In light of the need to maintain both tightening of expenses and our goal to continue full functioning as a way to work through this very difficult fiscal situation. DHEC is working toward the Virginia Department of Education and the West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts.

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