Charleston – The West Virginia Humanities Council announces citizen members recently elected to its program committee. The Humanities Council, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, serves West Virginia through grants and direct programs in the humanities.

Two members who now serve on the program committee were re-elected to a new term. They are Elizabeth Spangler of Lewisburg and Jason Gum of Glenville. Ms. Spangler has served on the board of directors of Carnegie Hall in Lewisburg, the Greenbrier Historical Society, and Greater Greenbrier Valley Community Foundation. Jason Gum is archivist and reference librarian at the Robert F. Kidd Library at Glenville State College.

The newly elected citizen members are H.G. Young of Wood County, a conductor, musicologist, and professor of music at West Virginia University-Parkersburg, and Jody Evans of Hardy County, a retired employee of the CIA. Ms. Evans has been involved with several international and intercultural programs dedicated to promoting peace and cross-cultural exchange, including the American Field Service and the ThaiCraft organization.

The new members will serve a three-year term from June 1, 2019, to June 1, 2022. The Humanities Council budgets more than $800,000 for grants and programs each year. The program committee recommends funding decisions to the Humanities Council board of directors. The 22-member committee includes 11 members drawn from the Council board and 11 citizen members who represent education and the public.

For more information about the West Virginia Humanities Council and its programs visit www.wvhumanities.org or call (304) 346-8500.

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The West Virginia Humanities Council is a nonprofit corporation governed by a board of directors whose members are drawn from all parts of West Virginia. It is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, supported by the NEH, the State of West Virginia, and by contributions from the private sector. The purposes of the West Virginia Humanities Council are educational, and its mission is to support a vigorous program in the humanities statewide in West Virginia.