The West Virginia Humanities Council, an independent nonpartisan nonprofit institution, is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. With the support of the NEH. the State of West Virginia, and contributions from the private sector, the Council's mission is to support a vigorous program in the humanities statewide in West Virginia.

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The next Board Meeting is April 17, 2020, in Wheeling and is open to the public.

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Visit the West Virginia Encyclopedia at www.wvencyclopedia.org

In 2019, Humanities Council grants and programs served tens of thousands of West Virginians through lectures, programs and events, the West Virginia Book Festival, scholarly research and travel, documentaries, publications and e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia.



Roadside marker in Talcott, WV

The Council funded a Civil War symposium at Independence Hall in Wheeling as part of the city's Sestercentennial

◆ The West Virginia Folklife Program launched the Legends and Lore Roadside Marker Program in partnership with The William G. Pomeroy Foundation, awarding first round grants for roadside markers commemorating local folklore in Summers County and Greenbrier County.

Council board and staff "visited" Germany, Gaza, and Afghanistan via Hardy County's Shared Studies Portal, a shipping container outfitted with immersive audiovisual technology.

Authors James Patterson, Salina Yoon, Anthony Harkins, and others appeared at the Humanities Council-sponsored West Virginia Book Festival.

> Our annual McCreight Lecture in the Humanities featured Denise Kiernan, New York Times Bestselling > author of The Girls Of Atomic City: The Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War II.

A minigrant brought the traveling Korean War Memorial to Ravenswood's Washington Riverfront Park.

The 75th anniversary celebration of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park took place with support from the Humanities Council.

In 2019 the Humanities Council awarded 52 grants in 24 counties throughout the state.



2019 McCreight Lecturer Denise Kiernan

A Council grant supported an archaeological dig at the French and Indian War site Ashby's Fort in Mineral County.

Council folklorist Emily Hilliard contributed to the collection *The Food We Eat, The* Stories We Tell: Contemporary Appalachian Tables, published by Ohio University Press in

Our Folklife program recorded interviews with 25 traditional artists,

Our popular Little Lecture series included talks on contemporary literature > from West Virginia, Philippi's Adaland Mansion, controversies in modern art, and the ratification of the 19th amendment.

We presented 150 History Alive! programs in 43 counties with portrayals of historical figures such as Benjamin Franklin and Harriet Tubman.

tradition bearers, and elders, in nine counties.

Nine fellowships were awarded to scholars in locations around the state, including Ansted, Huntington Parkersburg, and elsewhere.

Dr. Ann Serafin. Little Lecture

Council staff attended Friendraisers in conjunction with community events in Capon Bridge, Charleston, Huntington, and Lewisburg.

e-WV staff gave a tutorial to Cabell County West Virginia Studies teachers in Huntington, demonstrating the features of the website, its connected lesson plans, and how they can be used in the classroom.

The Council partnered with West Virginia Public Broadcasting on their new Inside Appalachia folkways reporting project.

With support from a Humanities Council major grant, the Amicus Curiae Lecture Series on Constitutional Democracy continued at Marshall University with presentations by historian Heather Cox Richardson, U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Robert L. Wilkins, former White House Director of Global Engagement Brett Bruen, and others.

◆ We wrapped the first year of our Folklife Apprenticeship Program with two free public showcases at the Humanities Council's MacFarland-Hubbard House.

Folklife Showcase featuring Doris Fields (aka Lady D) with apprentice Xavier Oglesby

Report Card

and Annual Honor Roll



Dear Friends:

As a new year begins, we look back on 2019 as one of the busiest in the Council's recent memory, full of benchmark achievements and new starts.

On June 20, the Council's annual West Virginia Day Open House event drew its largest attendance ever as we welcomed over a hundred guests to our home office, the historic MacFarland-Hubbard House in Charleston. In October historian

Denise Kiernan, our 2019 McCreight Lecturer in the Humanities, delivered one of the McCreight series' most enthusiastically received talks in a featured evening spot at the West Virginia Book Festival, speaking from her book *The Girls Of* Atomic City: The Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War II. And the Council's West Virginia Folklife Program mounted several "Folklife Apprenticeship" showcases, both at our home office and on the road, at which audiences were treated to discussions and performances of traditional old-time fiddling and blues/ black gospel song by our Master-Apprentice pairs.

September brought the year's fullest days, when our primary partners at the National Endowment for the Humanities in Washington D.C. traveled to the Mountain State as part of the Council's formal assessment and review process, conducted every five years. Over a three-day period our NEH visitors met with staff and board members, visited with grantees and program partners, traveled to view Council-funded projects, and undertook a deep examination of the Council's work throughout the state. We were humbled and gladdened to receive an excellent evaluation report from our NEH site visitors, who described the Council as a "wellloved, well-run organization" that "supports top-rate humanities programs that enrich West Virginia," singling out for particular praise our close partnerships with state government and humanities-based organizations throughout West Virginia.

In the midst of these initiatives, of course, grants and programming work remained our top priority. In 2019 we were able to award 52 grants and nine fellowships, and to support nearly 400 programs and events in 49 counties across West Virginia. The State of West Virginia once again dedicated \$250,000 to our work, matching contributions made in 2017 and 2018. A slight funding increase from the National Endowment for the Humanities allowed us to offer and support top-notch humanities projects and events on nearly every day of the calendar year.

But the chief credit for our achievements in 2019 goes to our friends and supporters, whose generosity brought the Council's work and programs to West Virginians all around the state, from its smallest communities to its largest cities. In the upcoming year, we hope you'll join us in our work. You'll find a contributions envelope bound with this report!

The humanities—history, literature, art, living traditions, and all the other pursuits that help us articulate and preserve our shared experiences—are essential not only to a free society, but to the quality of our daily lives. We look forward to supporting that work throughout West Virginia, in 2020 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Charles Delauder, President

Our work in 2019 was made possible by the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History, and many other organizations and individuals. Our donor honor roll follows.

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Our finances

The Council experienced a very "balanced" year in 2019. Revenues and expenses matched up to within nearly 1% of each other, allowing us to finish the year with a slight net income. Careful budgeting reduced overall expenses by over \$40,000 as compared to 2018, even as we committed more resources to grants and



New Board Members Kelli Johnson and Dan McCarthy

REVENUE National Endowment for the Humanities \$722.500 State of West Virginia \$250,000 All other sources \$256,542 \$1 220 O/2 **Total revenues**

iotai revenues	\$1,223,042
EXPENSES	
Programs & Grants	
grants	\$271,495
direct programs	\$379,153
related expenses	\$168,160
total programs and grants	\$818,808
Administrative	\$307,949
Development	\$ 88,704
	44 04 = 104

\$1,215,461 Total expenses

Net Income

State of West Virginia

All Other Sources

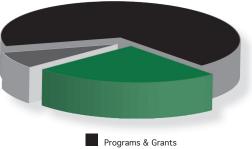
Where the money came from...

The National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency, remains our largest source of income. The NEH provided \$722,500 (59 percent) of total income in 2019, up from \$704,680 (58 percent) the previous year. The West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History provided \$250,000, equal to the amount given in 2018. The remaining \$256,542 (21 percent) came largely from the private sector, including individual gifts and corporation and foundation support, plus \$54,350 from the National Endowment for the Arts.

National Endowment for the Humanities

\$ 13,581

...and where the money went.



Administration

Development

In 2019, 68 percent of Humanities Council expenses went to programs and grants (up four percent from 2018), 25 percent to administration (down four percent), and seven percent to development (same as 2018). The decrease in administrative costs was attributable to staffing changes during the fiscal year.

Looking back, the Council lowered its administrative overhead while committing increased resources to grants and programs. Private-sector support from individuals and corporations/foundations remained strong, and our NEH funding was slightly increased.

Looking forward. with state support remaining at the level of \$250,000 for the fourth year, our Board approved a budget of \$1,414,500 for fiscal 2020, reducing the Council's overall budget by over \$60,000. Continued careful budgeting and monitoring of expenses will allow us to offer uninterrupted programming throughout the year.

The figures and charts shown here are based on actual, unaudited financial information as reported internally to management and the board of directors. The West Virginia Humanities Council is audited annually by an independent auditor, with each year's audit available for public inspection by April of the following year. Fiscal year 2019 ended October 31.

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