The West Virginia Humanities Council, an independent nonpartisan nonprofit, is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council is supported by the NEH, the State of West Virginia, and 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. The Council is governed by its Board of Directors.

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The next Board Meeting is April 11, 2025, in Elkins. It is open to the public.

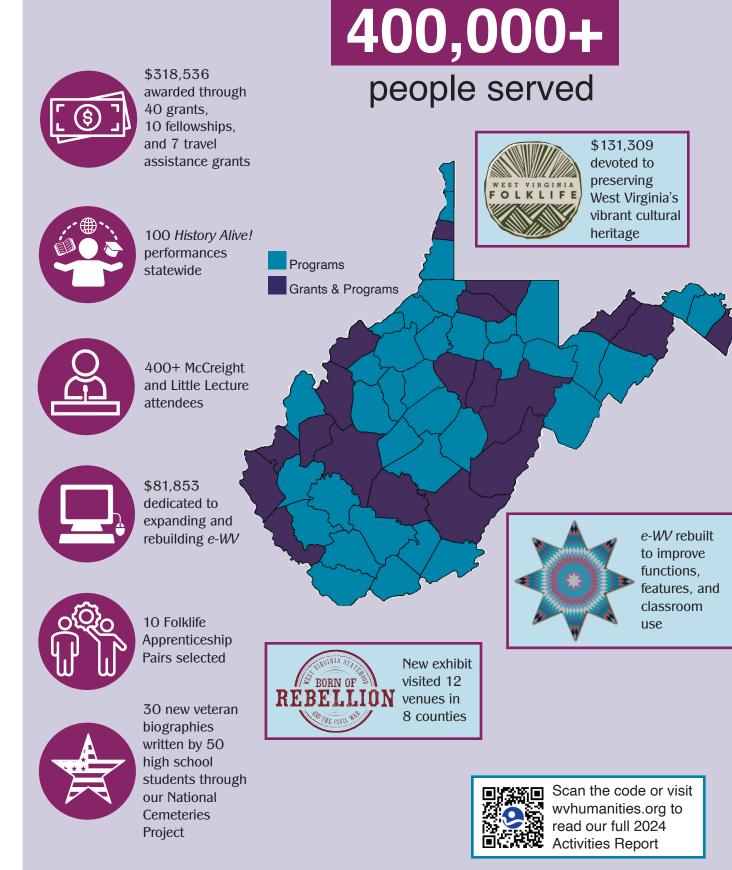
Artist William D. Goebel's 1999 rendition of our headquarters, the 1836 MacFarland Hubbard House in Charleston.



West Virginia Humanities Council 1310 Kanawha Boulevard, East Charleston, WV 25301 (304)346-8500 (304)346-8504 (fax) wvhuman@wvhumanities.org

Visit the West Virginia Humanities Council at wvhumanities.org





### Annual Report 2024

### West Virginia Humanities Council 2024

# Annual

## Annual Report and Donor Honor Roll



Dear Friends:

One year ago, the West Virginia Humanities Council was preparing an ambitious schedule to commemorate our golden anniversary of sustaining,

supporting, and growing West Virginia's cultural ecosystem. Looking back, we're reminded how fortunate we are to have a community of friends, partners, and collaborators who help us fulfill that work.

In 2024, we hosted anniversary celebrations throughout the state, showcasing our West Virginia Folklife Program and welcoming hundreds of grantees, partners, and supporters. Our wildly successful traveling exhibit Born of Rebellion: West Virginia Statehood and the Civil War toured a dozen stops in eight counties in towns of every size, hosted by libraries, arts and technical centers, historical societies, the Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History in Shepherdstown, and even the West Virginia State Capitol Rotunda for West Virginia's birthday week in June.

Through the National Endowment for the Humanities' United We Stand: Connecting Through Culture initiative, our springtime Little Lectures series featured national experts offering perspectives on state, national, and global conflicts. We partnered with the Stubblefield Institute for Civil Political Communication at Shepherd University for public conversations about topics ranging from online hate speech to new developments in West Virginia's economic and cultural climate.

We completed Phase I of our comprehensive improvement to e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia Online, making it more user friendly with a special emphasis on the next generation of students. And in October, our annual McCreight Lecture in the Humanities welcomed a packed house to Charleston's oldest existing theater to enjoy a memorable evening of reading and discussion with author Percival Everett.

In a way, it was a year of ordinary pursuits–grants, programs, and public events. But, for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we also swung for the fences by upgrading and expanding our beloved legacy programs and were rewarded with a gracious outpouring of support.

We are well set to build on that success in 2025. And we thank you, as always, for your belief in and friendship to our Council's work.

Sincerely. George Gib Brown

George "Gib" Brown, Board President

Our work in 2024 was made possible by the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture & History, and many other organizations and individuals. Our donor honor roll follows.

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thank you for supporting our 2024 giving campaign!

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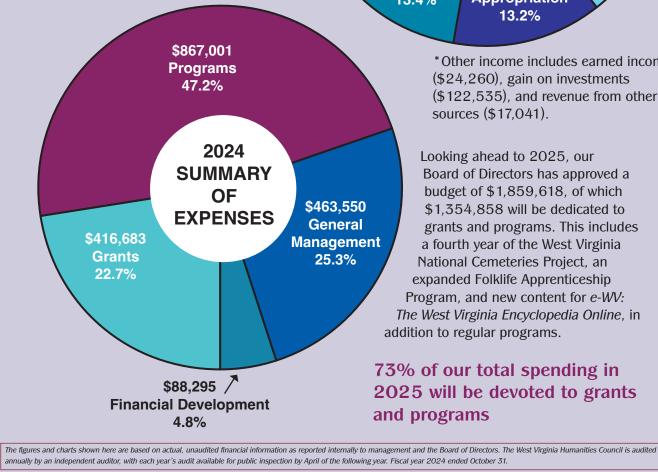
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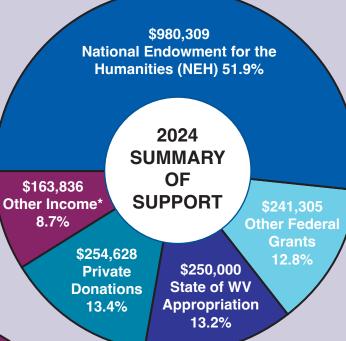
In 2024, the Council received slightly fewer grant requests than in previous years, allowing us to increase support for programming. Our primary revenue source was the National Endowment for the Humanities, followed by private donations, the State of West Virginia, other federal grants, and earned income and investment gains.

### Total Support: \$1,890,078 Total Expenses: \$1,835,529 Net Income: \$ 54.549

In our role as the official state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, in 2024, the Council brought \$980,309 in federal funding to West Virginia. We delivered an additional \$241,305 in funding from federal agencies and departments other than the NEH.



### **2024: OUR FINANCES**



\*Other income includes earned income (\$24,260), gain on investments (\$122,535), and revenue from other sources (\$17,041).

Looking ahead to 2025, our Board of Directors has approved a budget of \$1,859,618, of which \$1,354,858 will be dedicated to grants and programs. This includes a fourth year of the West Virginia National Cemeteries Project, an expanded Folklife Apprenticeship Program, and new content for *e-WV*: The West Virginia Encyclopedia Online, in addition to regular programs.

### 73% of our total spending in 2025 will be devoted to grants and programs

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