



NEBRASKA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

215 Centennial Mall South, Suite 330
Lincoln, NE 68508
Phone: (402) 474-2131 Fax: (402) 474-4852
E-mail: nhc@nebraskahumanities.org
Website: www.nebraskahumanities.org

N E W S R E L E A S E

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Contact: Mary Yager, (402) 474-2131, ext. 103

Humanities Council adds \$50,000 to grants budget

The Nebraska Humanities Council (NHC) has announced that it added \$50,000 to its grants budget to cover worthy projects during the current economic downturn.

“Because the council was presented with so very many strong proposals at its fall major grants round, its executive and finance committees approved adding \$50,000 from the council’s reserve fund to its regular grants budget so that as many valuable projects as possible could be funded,” said NHC Executive Director Jane Renner Hood.

To further sustain non-profit organizations that are important partners with the NHC in providing access to humanities programming for all Nebraskans during these difficult economic times, the NHC will continue the open-budget policy and suspension of repeat-funding requirements it announced in April, allowing partner organizations to focus on their mission and core programming.

The NHC recently awarded 25 grants totaling \$153,750. The grant recipients and the amount of each grant:

El Centro de las Americas, Lincoln, \$16,444 for “Preparatoria in Nebraska,” a feature-length documentary film that will examine the educational experiences of Hispanic/Latino students in Nebraska, with a focus on Crete, and ways to address the achievement gap.

Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, N.M., \$15,000 for the development and pre-production phases of “Savages and Scoundrels,” a documentary film and website project challenging the myth of America’s westward expansion with a focus on an 1851 treaty council convened in the Nebraska territory.

Omaha Public Library, \$12,984 for programming during “Pride and Passion: The African American Baseball Experience,” an exhibition at the W. Dale Clark Library, sponsored by the American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

KANEKO, Omaha, \$12,000 for a series of events through November that will focus on innovative methods and styles, particularly in journalism, of witnessing and responding to human distress and social injustice.

Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, \$10,375 for 2010 National History Day events for Nebraska students in grades six through 12.

Great Platte River Road Archway, Kearney, \$10,000 for “Dancers of the Plains 2010,” a June 18-19 Pow Wow celebrating Native American culture.

Sheldon Art Association, Lincoln, \$9,200 for presentations on the historical and cultural significance of two exhibitions at the Sheldon Museum of Art and for a jazz film series.

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Omaha Performing Arts, \$9,000 for “Bela Fleck and the Africa Project,” a series of workshops to introduce at-risk and multicultural students to the values, principles and history of African society and life through traditional storytelling, dance, drumming and music.

Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln, \$7,750 for an October author tour of 18 schools and libraries in Nebraska as part of the 2009-2010 One Book One Nebraska Kids.

Center for Great Plains Studies, Lincoln, \$7,382 for “Czech and Slovak Americans: International Perspectives from the Great Plains,” a symposium April 7-10 in conjunction with an exhibition of photographs of Nebraska immigrant, and a Czech opera presentation.

Grand Island Public Library Foundation, \$7,000 for “The Quilted Conscience,” a video documentary about Sudanese-American children whose refugee parents have made their home in Grand Island.

Willa Cather Pioneer Memorial and Educational Foundation, Red Cloud, \$6,400 for programming at the Red Cloud Opera House in 2010.

El Museo Latino, Omaha, \$5,175 for a series of five, monthly presentations on aspects of Carnival to complement the “NEH on the Road” Carnival exhibition, to be displayed at the museum through March.

Opera Omaha, \$5,000 for four Mozart 101 classes, nine Met Opera previews, several Opera Omaha performance previews, a poetry contest and master classes surrounding Mozart’s “The Marriage of Figaro” and other operas scheduled for the 2009-2010 season.

Grand Island Multicultural Coalition, \$4,170 for “The Road to Inclusive Communities,” a conference Oct. 20 on cultural diversity, featuring three keynote speakers.

Social Action Committee of the Unitarian Church, Lincoln, \$3,484 for a weekly lecture series Jan. 17-March 21 looking at both historical and modern Pakistan and Afghanistan.

John G. Neihardt Foundation, Bancroft, \$3,025 for the 29th Annual Spring Conference, April 24 at the Neihardt State Historical Site.

Omaha Summer Arts Festival, \$2,500 for two slam poetry workshops and two public performances, June 24-26.

Kearney Area Community Foundation, \$1,500 for Beth Horner’s participation as featured storyteller at the 14th Annual “Winter Tales” storytelling festival, Jan. 18-23.

Asian Community and Cultural Center, Lincoln, \$1,500 for English language and American culture classes for Burmese newcomers.

Strategic Air and Space Museum, Ashland, \$1,500 to reproduce the Institute for Holocaust Education’s “Portraits of Survival” as a permanent but moveable exhibition.

Nebraska Association of the Deaf, \$1,125 for an audism workshop Oct. 10 in Lincoln.

Hillside Elementary School, Omaha, \$500 to bring author James Solheim for a March 22 visit to the school.

Flatwater Shakespeare Company, Lincoln, \$400 for classes and rehearsals before youth productions of Shakespeare’s “Julius Caesar” at Wyuka Cemetery’s Swan Theatre.

Pine Ridge Job Corps, Chadron, \$336 for a Nov. 3 Hoop Dance performance by Dallas Chief Eagle.

NHC grant applications may now be submitted online at www.nebraskahumanities.org. In 2009 online submission is not required, but is strongly encouraged. Beginning Jan. 1, online submission will be required.

Major grants are for more than \$1,500 with two grant cycles a year. Application deadlines are March 1 and Aug. 1. Mini grants are for \$1,500 or less with six grant cycles. Application deadlines are Jan. 1, March 1, May 1, July 1, Sept. 1 and Nov. 1. Media and website/digital grant deadlines are Jan. 15 and June 15.

For details on applying for a grant, visit the website or call Mary Yager at (402) 474-2131 ext. 103 or Erika Hamilton at ext. 104.