



NEBRASKA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

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NEWS RELEASE

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Humanities Council awards grants totaling \$158,860

The Nebraska Humanities Council (NHC) recently awarded a \$30,000 media grant to the **Lincoln Arts Council** to produce "Stories of Home," a documentary film focusing on the visual arts component of the council's public art project, following the creation of 12 sculptures that tell the stories of diverse "families" in the Lincoln area. The film will look at interactions within the artist-family teams and the dynamic leadership of nationally known artistic director Pepon Osorio.

The NHC announced 35 grants totaling \$158,860. Other grant recipients and the amount of each grant:

Institute for Holocaust Education of the Jewish Federation of Omaha, \$16,375 for teacher workshops on "Echoes and Reflections: A Multi-media Curriculum on the Holocaust," a series of programs to be offered in the fall of 2007 in Lincoln, Kearney, Norfolk/Neligh and one other educational site.

NET Foundation for Television, Lincoln, a \$15,000 media grant for the "Public Hearing Project," which will organize, videotape and broadcast a program later this year on statewide NET Television. The broadcast will be culled from a citizen deliberation meeting focusing on major issues facing the state.

Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and Iowa, Macy, \$9,300 for the "He'dewachi Celebration of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and Iowa," beginning Aug. 9 with a traditional blessing and continuing Aug. 10-13 at the Omaha Tribe's powwow grounds in Macy. Scholars will discuss tribal history, songs, dances and rituals.

Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation, Lincoln, \$9,150 for "Nebraska History Day," an education program encouraging students grades 6-12 to study and discuss local history. The theme for the annual spring event at Nebraska Wesleyan University is "Taking a Stand in History: People, Ideas, Events."

Opera Omaha Inc., \$7,240 for the Wakonda's Dream Festival, a series of lectures, school programs, panel discussions, poetry readings and musical events in Omaha and Lincoln, leading to the March 2007 world premier of "Wakonda's Dream," an opera about a contemporary Ponca family affected by its heritage.

El Museo Latino, Omaha, \$6,860 for "Encuentros Culturales (Cultural Encounters)," a weeklong series of workshops, presentations and exchanges of culture, tradition, history and the arts, with local and visiting scholars at El Museo Latino.

Consultimate International Inc., Red Cloud, \$7,724 for "War and Peace in Afghanistan," with speakers in Red Cloud, Omaha and Lincoln sharing personal reflections of their experiences in Afghanistan, in conjunction with an exhibit of photographs taken in Afghanistan by Jonas Dovydenas.

Metropolitan Community College Foundation, Omaha, \$6,150 for the Great Plains Theatre Conference, a series of play labs, symposia, readings and theatrical productions at Metropolitan Community College. It is designed to present the critical aspects of plays and encourage dialogue on theater.

Center for Health Policy and Ethics, Omaha, \$6,131 for "The Facts Behind the Fiction," a lecture by novelist Jodi Picoult, author of "My Sister's Keeper," the story of a family who conceived a child to use as a donor to save another child in the family, 7 p.m. Sept. 12 at Lauritzen Gardens.

Plum Creek Children's Literacy Festival, Seward, \$6,000 for the three-day festival, Sept. 14-16 at Concordia University. The event enables children to interact with nationally known authors, illustrators and storytellers. Adults have access to those specialists, as well as literacy educators.

Homestead National Monument of American, Beatrice, \$4,080 for Homestead Days, based on the origins of pioneers and immigrants as the relatively young United States began to expand westward.

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Flatwater Shakespeare Co., Lincoln, \$4,020 for classes and workshops for youth at the Lincoln Community Playhouse and at the Swan Theatre. Shakespeare scholar Stephen Buhler and others will participate.

McCook Community College, McCook, \$3,825 for “Wind on the Buffalo Grass” young writers camp, a weeklong event to provide youth with the opportunity to explore the history of southwestern Nebraska and deepen their understanding of Native American and pioneer influences on our culture.

Nebraska Shakespeare Festival, Omaha, \$3,000 for “Shakespeare Unbound” pre-show seminars, scholars forums and the Anne Dittrick Sonnet-Writing Contest.

Homestead National Monument of America, Beatrice, \$1,500 for “The Heartland Experience,” a literary event featuring nationally recognized authors and scholars.

University of Nebraska History Graduate Students Association, Lincoln, \$1,500 for the James A. Rawley Graduate Conference in the Humanities at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

NET Foundation for Television, Lincoln, \$1,500 for “Afghan Journey,” a program featuring interviews with Nebraska journalist Matthew Hansen and photographer Dior Azcuay, who spent two weeks on assignment in Afghanistan.

Nebraska Repertory Theatre, Lincoln, \$1,500 for “Local Wonders: The Play,” a dramatic adaptation of U.S. Poet Laureate Ted Kooser’s book “Local Wonders.”

El Museo Latino, Omaha, \$1,500 for “Café y Concierto (Coffee & Concert),” a monthly series featuring the music of Mexico, Chile, Guatemala and Cuba, in conjunction with the Smithsonian exhibition “Key Ingredients: America by Food.”

University of Nebraska at Omaha, \$1,500 for the 2006 Women of Color Awards Luncheon, with the theme “Connections: Linking the Past, the Present and the Future.”

UNL Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Lincoln, \$1,500 for “The Elderquest in Today’s Movies and Novels,” using recent film and fiction as catalysts for discoveries about aging in contemporary society.

Nebraska Art Association/Sheldon Art Gallery, Lincoln, \$1,200 for a series of presentations in conjunction with “Coming Home: Enrique Martinez Celaya,” a multidisciplinary installation at Sheldon.

Educational Service Unit #16, Ogallala, \$1,180 for a World Cultural Fair at Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte.

Hastings Museum of Natural and Cultural History, Hastings, \$1,100 for a presentation Sept. 15 by the Fast Horse Native Dance Ensemble.

North Bend Chamber of Commerce, North Bend, \$1,100 for the celebration of North Bend’s 150th birthday, with history exhibits, storytelling and demonstrations.

Genoa U.S. Indian School Foundation, Genoa, \$1,098 for a reunion and celebration Aug. 12, featuring tours, displays and film presenting the story of the Genoa Indian School.

University of Nebraska at Omaha, \$1,061 for an evening of poetry featuring Nebraska poets Jim Reese and Mark Scott.

Buffalo Commons Storytelling Festival, McCook, \$1,000 for the two-day festival showcasing four scholars from the Plains and a philosopher and theologian from Philadelphia.

Nebraska Archaeological Society, Lincoln, \$1,000 for the Nebraska Artifact Show, an event designed to educate the public about the rich cultural pre-history of Nebraska, Aug. 26 in Seward.

Analog, Omaha, \$1,000 for “Acting with a Metronome: A Discussion of Samuel Beckett’s Dramatic Composition and Musical Form,” Sept. 8 at Strauss Performing Arts Center in Omaha.

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, Lincoln, \$1,000 for the Hey-tho-Shka Celebration Aug. 18-20 at the Ponca tribal powwow grounds near Niobrara. Two humanities scholars are scheduled to appear.

City of Lincoln, \$1,000 for the Mayor’s Abraham Lincoln Celebration, featuring a reenactment of the historic Lincoln-Douglass Congressional debates, with scholars portraying the debaters.

Trailblazer RC&D, Red Cloud, \$966 for the Nebraska Resource Conservation and Development State Association annual meeting, Oct. 3 at the Red Cloud Opera House.

Northeast Nebraska RC&D, Plainview, \$800 for St. James Cowboy Poet Gathering in St. James.

Major grants are for more than \$1,500 and there are two grant cycles a year. Applications must be postmarked by March 1 or Aug. 1. Mini grants are for \$1,500 or less and there are six grant cycles a year. Applications must be postmarked by Jan. 1, March 1, May 1, July 1, Sept. 1 or Nov. 1.

For details on applying for a grant, call Raymond Screws at (402) 474-2131 ext. 103 or Erika Hamilton at ext. 104, or visit the NHC website at www.nebraskahumanities.org.