



New Hampshire Humanities Focus Grant

New Hampshire Humanities is pleased to announce a new Focus Grant initiative. Focus grants will provide grant funds to support public humanities programs on a selected theme or area of focus.

The inaugural Focus Grant, developed in conjunction with United States Poet Laureate Joy Harjo's May 2021 visit to New Hampshire Humanities, will provide up to \$1,000 to fund public humanities programs focused on indigenous studies, poetry, or literature. We invite applications from both non-profit organizations or individual scholars that propose creative and engaging public humanities programs exploring a topic within the following fields: indigenous studies, poetry, or literature. We particularly encourage proposals for programs that will focus on indigenous stories; incorporate analytical perspectives of race, class, or gender; explore questions surrounding identity; highlight transnational literature; or engage with the digital humanities.

Applicants may request up to \$1,000 in grant funds; there is no matching funds requirement for this grant. All applications are due by June 10, 2021. All grant-supported events must occur between July 1 - October 15, 2021.

For more information and to access the application materials, refer to the Focus Grant page on the NHH Website. If you have any additional questions or would like to discuss your program idea, please contact NHH Community Project Grant Program Manager, Agnes Burt (aburt@nhhumanities.org).

Award Information:

Award Amount: up to \$1000

Award Period: July 1, 2021 – October 15, 2021. All events and program-related expenses must occur within this period. Final Reports will be due by October 31, 2021.

Application Deadline: June 10, 2021

Required Application Materials:

- Online Application Form
- Narrative Proposal and Budget
- Letter of support from an outside party
- Resumes or CVs for any individual paid with NHH grant funds.

Eligible Applicants: Individuals or registered non-profit organizations.

Program Criteria

Successful applications must meet the following criteria.

Budget:

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- All programs must be free and open to the public.
- If your program costs exceed \$1,000 you must demonstrate how you will cover the remaining expenses. If awarded a grant, be prepared to submit financial records confirming any cash or in-kind contributions (volunteer labor, or donated goods and services) made in support of the project.
- All expenses must occur within the award period. NHH cannot retroactively fund projects.

Proposed Program:

- **Topic:** The proposed program must clearly relate to at least one of the focus themes: indigenous studies, poetry, or literature.
- **The program must qualify as a humanities program.** Humanities programs deploy an analytical approach; the program's structure often seeks to *interpret* or educate participants about a chosen topic or issue. Successful proposals will demonstrate how their program will encourage participants to *explore or learn* about its subject. Humanities programs frequently take the form of public lectures or panel presentations and exhibits. We have also awarded grants for walking tours, videos, digital humanities projects, or book groups and encourage applicants to think creatively when developing their program.
 - **Note:** We cannot fund predominantly art- or performance-based programs. Programs can include an artistic component or performance, but the applicant must make clear how this aspect helps the program meet the criteria of a "humanities program. (Example: a poetry reading that formed the foundation for a group discussion.
- **Event Dates:** All events must occur between July 1 – October 15, 2021.
- **Expertise:** The project must involve at least one individual with scholarly expertise in the program's subject matter. A scholar's expertise may result from an advanced academic degree (MA, ABD, or PhD) in a relevant field or from serving as the keeper of community traditions and knowledge. Examples of scholars include but are not limited to tribal elders or historians, advanced graduate students, or a professor at a university.
- **COVID-19 Safety:** Applicants are encouraged to develop creative and innovative programs that align with public health and social distancing recommendations.

Restrictions on Funds:

NHH grants cannot be used for any of the following purposes:

- To advocate for a political ideology policy, cause, or party.
- To advocate for a particular religion.
- To fund predominantly art or performance-based programs.
- To provide social services.
- To offer scholarships or prize money.
- To cover general operating expenses.
- To purchase and supply alcohol, food, or refreshments.

Evaluation and Award

NHH Staff will evaluate proposals and fund in accordance with the following criteria:

- Whether the proposed program aligns with the Focus Grant's stated themes.
- Whether the applicant and associated individuals have the expertise to knowledgeably explore the subject at hand.

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- Whether the program will engage audience members in its subject matter.
- Whether the applicant appears able to successfully execute the proposed program.
- Whether the proposed budget is reasonable.

Reporting:

Award recipients will be required to submit a Final Report and Budget to New Hampshire Humanities no later than October 31, 2021.