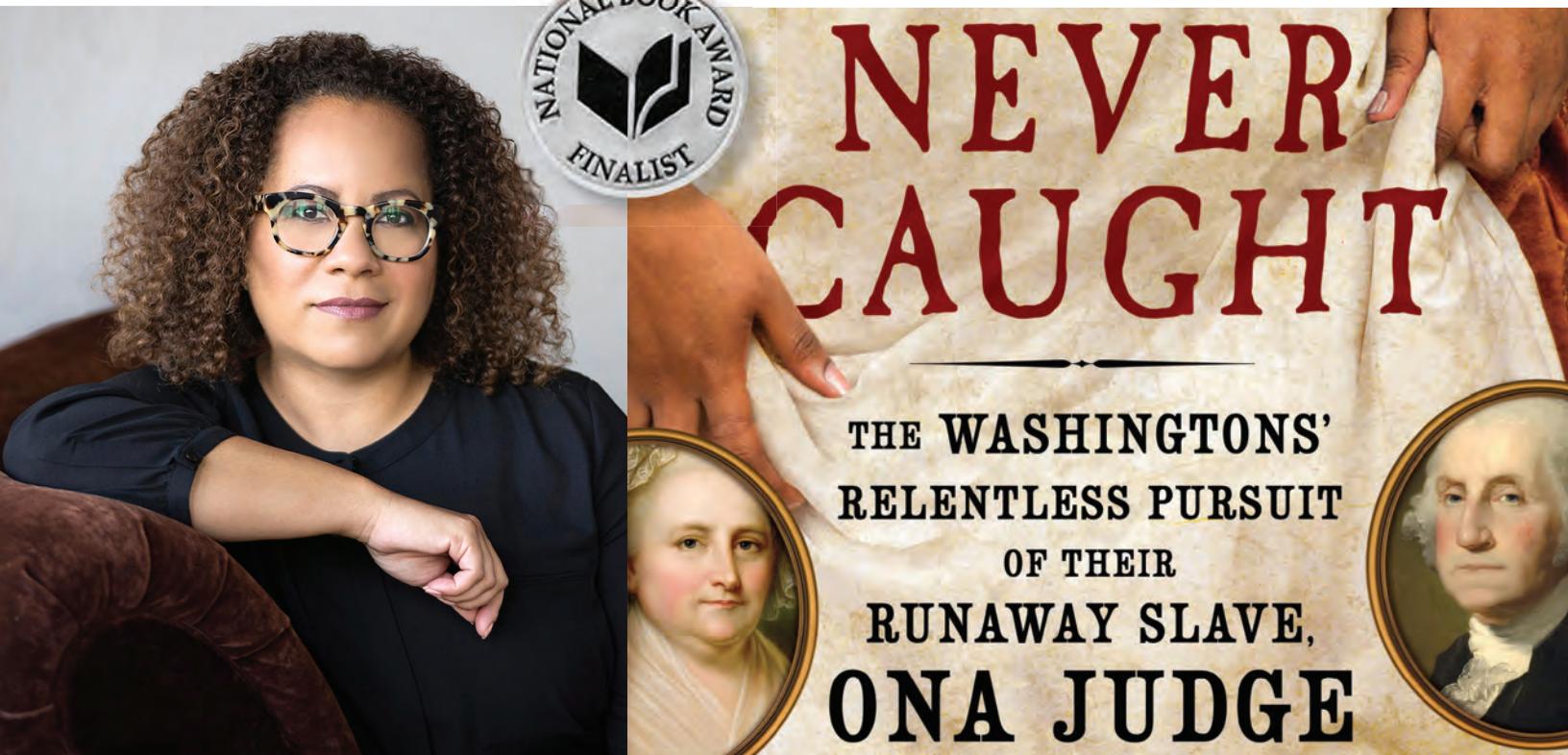


December 2017

Calendar

A monthly publication from New Hampshire Humanities



Rethinking Resistance:

Ona Judge, the Washingtons' runaway slave, and the meanings of escape

National Book Award finalist Erica Armstrong Dunbar to speak at Saint Anselm College Dana Center on January 23

Why do we remember some stories about the past while passively “forgetting” or actively erasing others? The story of a courageous young woman who resisted her shackles and left everything she knew to find freedom is told by Dr. Erica Armstrong Dunbar in her new book, *Never Caught: The Washingtons’ Relentless Pursuit of Their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge*, which was nominated for a 2017 National Book Award. On January 23, the public is invited to hear Dunbar speak at an event supported by New Hampshire Humanities and hosted by Saint Anselm College at the Dana Center for the Humanities, followed by a moderated panel discussion.

Dunbar’s work beautifully demonstrates the power of the humanities to help us grapple with the complexity of

American identity and resistance in the life of Oney Judge. Born into slavery at Mount Vernon, Judge fled to New Hampshire in her '20s and lived there as a fugitive until her death at 75. George Washington so feared the impact of her freedom story on his reputation that he went to great lengths to ensure her return, seeking political favors while New Hampshire officials deftly misdirected these requests. The divide between “complicity” and “resistance” in the lives of Judge, New Hampshire politicians, and the Washingtons seem absolute; Dr. Dunbar’s talk urges us to challenge our assumptions and consider questions that are pressing today. What did it mean to resist and be complicit in the slaveholding ideology of the late 18th and early 19th centuries?

(Continued)

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How does New England's slave-holding past shape its present? And how can considering the ways citizens and slaves in this story understood their ethical responsibilities shape our own sense of responsibility as a citizen?

Ona Judge's story was once widely known. Her rediscovery speaks to our modern willingness to see our national heroes in a more complex light, as slaveholders but also as people concerned about their personal and historical image. It also speaks to our need for a wider, and more diverse, pantheon of heroes and heroines who seem to represent both human and national values of freedom, courage, and determination. We all agree that all human beings deserve freedom, but what is our responsibility to enable that freedom? Dr. Dunbar's talk will be followed by a moderated panel discussion led by Saint Anselm College faculty Dr. Jennifer Thorn and Dr. Beth Salerno. Earlier in the day, Dr. Dunbar will hold a campus workshop for students and faculty on working with primary documents.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Erica Armstrong Dunbar focuses on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century African American women's history. Her first book, *A Fragile Freedom: African American Women and Emancipation in the Antebellum City* (2008), was the first book to chronicle the lives of African American women in the North during the early years of the Republic and the years leading to the Civil War. A Philadelphia native, Dunbar was formerly the Blue and Gold Professor of Black Studies and History at the University of Delaware, and has recently joined the faculty at Rutgers University where she was named the Charles and Mary Beard Professor of History.

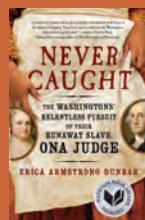
Please join us!

LECTURE • PANEL DISCUSSION • BOOK SIGNING

An Evening with Erica Armstrong Dunbar

Tuesday, January 23, 7:00 pm
The Dana Center for the Humanities
at Saint Anselm College, Manchester

Free and open to the public.
Dr. Dunbar's book, *Never Caught*,
will be available for purchase and
signing following the event.



GRANITE FREEMAN

Washington's Runaway Slave.

There is now living, in the borders of the town of Greenland N. H., a runaway slave of GEN. WASHINGTON, at present supported by the County of Rockingham. Her name, at the time of her elopement was ONA MARIA JUDGE. She is not able to give the year of her escape but says that she came from Philadelphia, just after the close of Washington's second term of the Presidency, which must fix it somewhere in the first part of the year 1797. Being a waiting maid of Mrs. Washington, she was not exposed to any peculiar hardships. If asked why she did not remain in his service, she gives two reasons, first, that she wanted to be free, secondly, that she understood that after the decease of her master and mistress, she was to become the property of a granddaughter of theirs, by the name of Custis, and that she was determined never to be her slave.

"It is an honor and an obligation to give a voice to the unknown," said Dr. Dunbar. "As an historian, I spend countless hours rescuing women from historical anonymity and while I wrote *Never Caught* for multiple reasons, the driving force was to introduce Ona Judge and her life to the world. She was one of the millions of enslaved women who found a way to survive, to live, and to love under the brutality of slavery. It became immediately clear to me that *Never Caught* could also tell the incredible story of the founding of the nation through the eyes of the enslaved. By centering on a black woman's experiences, readers have an opportunity to reimagine our American narrative."

~ Erica Armstrong Dunbar



28th Annual Dinner a memorable celebration of humanities

At the 28th Annual Dinner in late October, New Hampshire Humanities continued a long tradition of hosting nationally and internationally-recognized keynote speakers as we welcomed author and cognitive scientist, Steven Pinker, who spoke on themes from his new book, *Enlightenment Now: The Case for The Case for Reason, Science, Humanism, and Progress*.

In addition to our illustrious keynote, the evening included a fond farewell to Debbie Watrous, New Hampshire Humanities' long-time executive director, and a celebration of her 24 years of service that has left a lasting legacy on the humanities and culture in the Granite State. In her farewell message, Debbie announced the completion of the *Campaign for the Humanities*, a \$2.1 million campaign to ensure the humanities remain accessible to future generations of New Hampshire citizens.

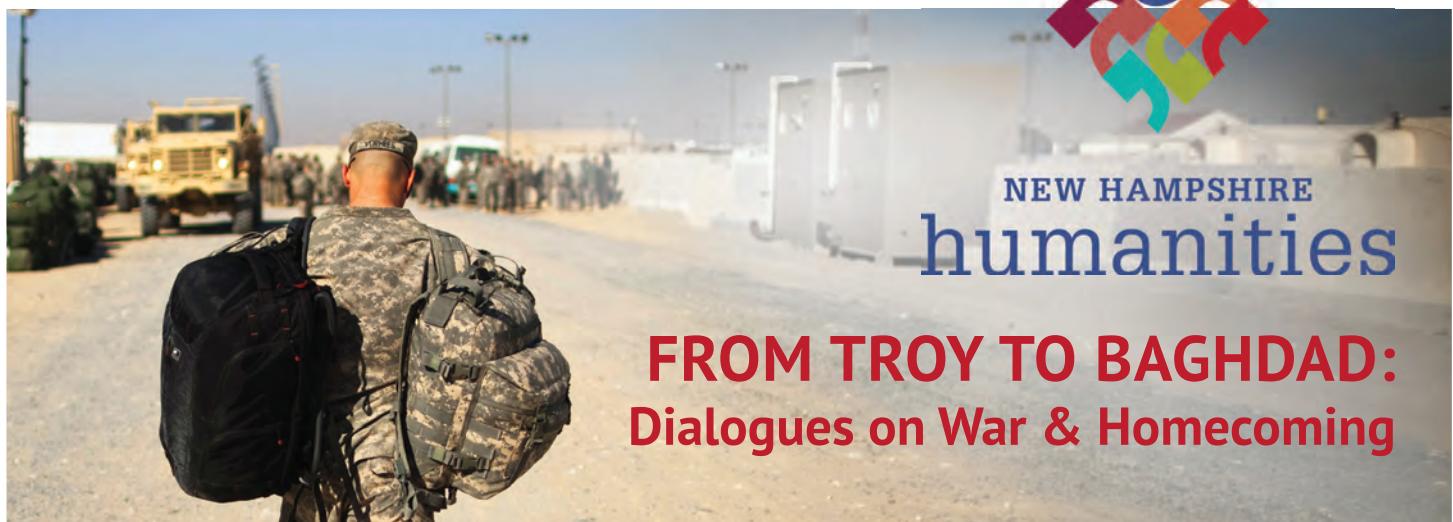
"Debbie Watrous is a crusader for the public humanities," wrote Dr. Kathy Mathis, project director for New Hampshire Humanities, in a tribute to Debbie. "For the past 24 years she has conceived and cultivated ideas that germinate into reflective experience, new knowledge, and longstanding cultural partnerships. She's trodden through the weeds of program development, endured threats to fiscal stability, and answered with visionary shrewdness doubts about the value of philosophy, literature, and history... Hers will be a difficult role to fill, but she has left behind a clear and aspirational legacy that, if it cannot be matched, can be emulated."

Thank you to our generous Annual Dinner sponsors for supporting this major statewide celebration of the humanities. If you missed the event, you can listen to the keynote address on our YouTube channel at www.YouTube.com/nhhumanities, or see photos at www.facebook.com/newhampshirehumanities.

LEAD SPONSOR: **Dartmouth**

Photos by Deb Cram

NEW GROUP STARTING SOON IN PORTSMOUTH



NEW HAMPSHIRE
humanities

FROM TROY TO BAGHDAD: Dialogues on War & Homecoming

For veterans, family members and friends of veterans:

*Has the road to “homecoming” and adjustment back to civilian life been harder and longer than you expected? As a spouse or family member, have you struggled with changes created by deployment and homecoming? The ancient tale of Odysseus’ epic 10-year journey home from the Trojan War has much to tell us about the challenges of homecoming for today’s veterans, their families, and friends. The *Odyssey* reveals timeless and universal truths about trauma, duty and honor, personal sacrifice, life at home, and readjustment. Veterans, current service members, family members, and friends are invited to attend this 10-week reading and discussion group co-led by a veteran, clinician, and literature facilitator. Free copies of the book will be provided to participants at the first session. Limited seating; please RSVP today.*

PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY • Wednesdays, February 7 - April 11, 2018 • 6:30 - 8:00 pm

This program is free and open to all veterans, family members, and friends of veterans (pre-registration required).

FACILITATED BY: Stephen Trzaskoma, Classics Professor, UNH
Brendan O’Byrne, Student, UNH; Combat Veteran, Afghanistan
Al Porsche, Retired Counselor; Combat Veteran, Vietnam

Register at www.nhhumanities.org/veterans. For more information, contact Dr. Kathy Mathis at New Hampshire Humanities at (603) 224-4071 or kmathis@nhhumanities.org.



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What could your community do with a humanities grant?

Community Project Grants are New Hampshire Humanities’ way of supporting your efforts to share knowledge and spark conversations about topics that interest your community.

Quarterly Grants (up to \$10,000) are the heart of New Hampshire Humanities grant making, enabling nonprofits and educational institutions to design and carry out multi-faceted projects. Proposals are accepted four times a year. Upcoming deadlines:

<u>First draft</u>	<u>Full proposal</u>	<u>Notification by</u>	<u>First public event</u>
Jan. 5, 2018	Feb. 1, 2018	Mid March	May 1, 2018
Apr. 2, 2018	May 1, 2018	Mid June	Aug. 1, 2018
July 2, 2018	Aug. 1, 2018	Mid September	Nov. 1, 2018

Quick Grants (up to \$1,000) support single events or short series and are available in as little as six weeks from submission deadline to first public event. Proposals are accepted six times a year. Upcoming deadlines:

<u>Apply by</u>	<u>Notification by</u>	<u>Earliest date of public event</u>
Jan. 5, 2018	Feb. 1, 2018	Mar. 1, 2018
Mar. 1, 2018	Apr. 1, 2018	May 1, 2018
May 1, 2018	June 1, 2018	July 1, 2018



To learn more about Community Project Grants, please contact Susan Hatem at 603-224-4071 or shatem@nhhumanities.org with your questions and ideas!



What are we reading?

Each year, our board and staff have a tradition of sharing their recent reads. Here are this year's recommendations (for your holiday gift giving consideration!)

A Gentleman in Moscow, Amor Towles

All Quiet on the Western Front

Erich Maria Remarque

Beneath a Scarlet Sky, Mark Sullivan

Between Them, Richard Ford

The Big Fish, Daniel Wallace

Britt-Marie Was Here, Fredrik Backman

The Circle, Dave Eggers

Crash of the Titans, Greg Farrell

The Cuban Affair, Nelson DeMille

Eleanor Roosevelt (Vol. 3) 1939-1962

Blanche Wiesen Cook

Everything I Never Told You, Celeste Ng

Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World, by Jack Weatherford

The Hate U Give, Angie Thomas

Hue 1968, Mark Bowden

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks
Rebecca Skloot

Lincoln in the Bardo, George Saunders

Look to the Mountain, LeGrand Cannon, Jr.

Longitude, Dava Sobel

Manic, A Memoir, Terri Cheney

Smile, Roddy Doyle

Soul Catcher, Michael White

Tomboy Bride, Harriet Fish Backus

The Underground Railroad
Colson Whitehead

Wentworth by the Sea: The Life and Times of a Grand Hotel, J. Dennis Robinson

World War I and American Art, published by the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts



Laurie Lalish (second from right) with three of her Bhutanese students in Laconia, 2010

For Laurie, a Welcoming New Hampshire Story

By Terry Farish, *Connections* Adult Literacy Coordinator

In 2010, Laurie Lalish of Lutheran Social Services, now Ascentria, conducted a visual arts project with her ESL (English as a Second Language) class in Laconia who created imagery of their homeland. They continued drawing images of home when Jo Radner and I were invited by Laurie to work with her class to do a folktale project. This was New Hampshire Humanities' Bilingual Folktale Project conducted through the *Connections* Adult Literacy program.

All of Laurie's students were Nepali-speaking parents and grandparents who had been exiled from their homes in Bhutan. They had lived as refugees in Nepal for 20 years before coming to New Hampshire. Laurie was their first English teacher. She brought sheets of white paper and markers to her students who spoke little English but told stories with their art.

They continued to draw after Jo and I, with interpreter Nilhari Bhandari, listened to many of their stories. After the tellings, they drew landscapes from home, their farmhouses, their animals, the temples of their country.

After the project, the students, including Jay Jogi and Kamal Dangal, gave their illustrations to Laurie out of appreciation and respect for their first English teacher.

Soon after the project, Laurie had

to stop teaching because she was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. A few years later, she contacted me. She invited me to her house. She lives on a mountainside and it was a beautiful, sunny December day. She showed me all the Bhutanese students' drawings and offered them to me so that they might be known about and seen. I showed them to Kayla Schweitzer, Heritage and Traditional Arts Coordinator of the NH State Council on the Arts.

A few months ago we both agreed on how to honor the artwork. As part of Welcoming New Hampshire, some of the art created by Bhutanese-Americans in Laurie's class was featured in a new gallery and meeting space in Concord called CreatingCommunity.

CreatingCommunity is part of Welcoming New Hampshire, Weaving Cultures, Building Communities. They are working hand in hand with the national program Welcoming America.



Learn more at www.WelcomingNH.org.

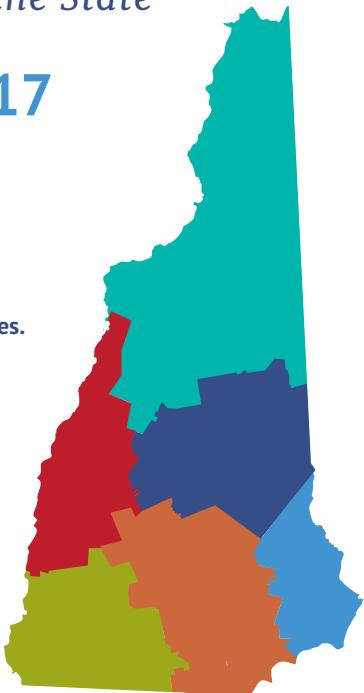
Humanities in New Hampshire

Your Monthly Guide to Programs Around the State

December 2017

All the events listed in this calendar are funded in whole or part by New Hampshire Humanities.

Humanities to Go programs are made possible in part by the generous support of:



4 GRANTHAM

Monday, 7:00 pm, The Center at Eastman, 6 Club House Lane

Preview Screening and Community Discussion of *The Vietnam War*

For details about this program, see the article on page 8.
Contact: Richard Wren, 863-7355

For the most up-to-date program listings and weather cancellations, please check our online event calendar at www.nhhumanities.org/event-calendar.



7 NASHUA

Thursday, 7:00 pm, Nashua Community College Gregg Hall, 505 Amherst St.

Uprooted: Heartache and Hope in New Hampshire

Uprooted is a 30-minute documentary based on interviews collected during the New Hampshire Humanities' *Fences & Neighbors* initiative on immigration. It tells the story of five refugees who escaped from war-torn countries to resettle in New Hampshire. The film explores what it means to be a refugee and how it feels to make a new life in a strange place, often without English language skills, family, a job, or community contacts. The film leaves us pondering questions of belonging and citizenship. What does it mean to be an American? Once a refugee, are you destined always to be a refugee? What are our responsibilities toward one another? Sara Withers introduces the film and leads a post-film discussion. Contact: Sally Bashalany, 578-6876

9 HOOKSETT

Saturday, 10:30 am, Hooksett Library - Village Depot Room, 31 Mount Saint Mary's Way

Family Stories: How and Why to Remember and Tell Them

Telling personal and family stories is fun - and much more. Storytelling connects

strangers,
strengthens
links between
generations,
and gives
children
the self-
knowledge
to carry them
through
hard times.

Knowledge of family history has even been linked to better teen behavior and mental health. In this active and interactive program, storyteller Jo Radner shares foolproof ways to mine memories and interview relatives for meaningful stories. Participants practice finding, developing, and telling their own tales. Contact: Mary Jane Peabody, 785-8950





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...a season
for kindling
the fire of
hospitality
in the hall,
the genial
fire of
charity in
the heart.

Washington Irving

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Check enclosed (payable to New Hampshire Humanities)

Please charge my: MC Visa Discover AMEX

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Card number _____

Exp. date _____ CVC _____

Signature _____

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Please return to New Hampshire Humanities, 117 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301 or
give securely on our website at www.nhhumanities.org/Give.

If you'd like more information on ways you can support our work, please contact
Development Officer Lynn Douillette at 603-224-4071, ext. 120 or ldouillette@nhhumanities.org.



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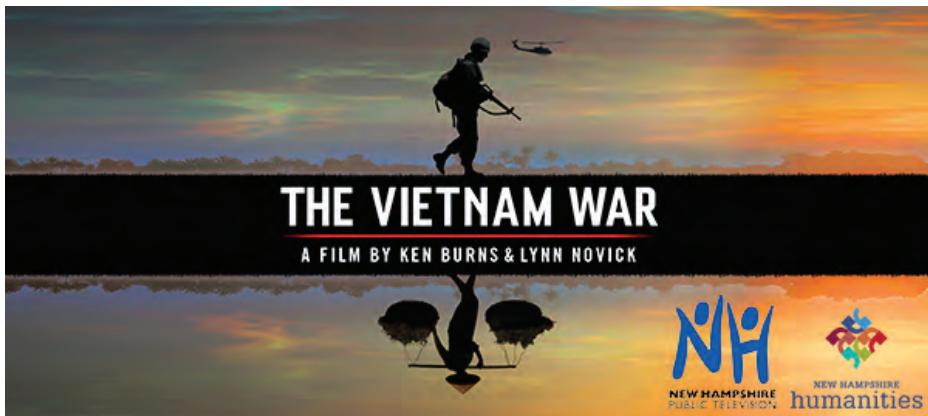
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wishes you the happiest of
holidays, and a new year filled
with learning and wonder.



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expressed in these programs do not necessarily represent
those of the NEH or New Hampshire Humanities.



NH Humanities presents a preview screening & community discussion of *The Vietnam War*

NH Humanities and NH Public Television present another in our series of community screenings & discussions of Ken Burns' documentary, *The Vietnam War*, on December 4 in Grantham. *THE VIETNAM WAR* tells the

epic story of one of the most consequential, divisive, and controversial events in American history, explores the human dimensions of the war through testimony of nearly 80 witnesses from all sides—Americans who fought in the war and others who opposed it—as well as combatants and civilians from North and South Vietnam. New Hampshire Humanities also offers community grant opportunities. Visit www.nhhumanities.org/vietnam to learn more.

JOIN US!

MONDAY, DEC. 4,
7:00 PM
The Center at Eastman
6 Club House Lane,
Grantham

Free and open to the public
(no tickets needed)

Thank you for
your support!

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voice for the
humanities in
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