

new hampshire humanities

Engage.

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- Ideas on Tap in 2020: Higher Education, Climate Change & More
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I am prepared to sacrifice every so-called privilege I possess in order to have a few rights.

~ Inez Milholland, Suffragist

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Are you ready? *Civics engagement a top priority this year*

Civic engagement - working to make a difference in and for one's community – is the means by which individuals acknowledge they are part of something larger than themselves and take action to contribute to a greater good. The humanities are critical in preparing us to engage as citizens. History, ethics, political philosophy, and literature teach us what we need to know, to consider, to remember, to ask. They give us the skills to communicate and to participate.



Susan Hatem, Director of Programs & Grant Making

In the year ahead, our nation is commemorating the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote, carrying out the 2020 Census,

and holding momentous elections. Through our partnerships, programs, and grants, **New Hampshire Humanities** will be exploring all things "civ-", from the nuts and bolts of civics education, to the stories and accomplishments of civilizations, to the power and possibilities of civic engagement. We can't do this alone. No one can. Check our website for events and resources to get ready and get engaged!

A few examples of programs...

Humanities to Go Public Programs

• Votes for Women: A History of the Suffrage Movement, presented by Liz Tentarelli

• A History of the New Hampshire Presidential Primary, presented by John Gfroerer

• *Open Questions* philosophical conversations, presented by Kiki Berk, Josh Tepley, Max Latona, Timm Triplett, and Maria Sanders

• Moved and Seconded: Town Meeting in NH,

presented by Rebecca Rule www.nhhumanities.org/humanitiestogo

Connections Discussion Themes

- How Women Won the Right to Vote
- The Right to Be
- Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness
- What Does Democracy Look Like?

www.nhhumanities.org/connections

Community Project Grants

• Organize a film series like NH Institute for Civics Education's *Lights, Camera, Civics!*

• Invite a speaker or a whole panel of thinkers like Black Heritage Trail of NH's *Tea Talks* raising awareness of NH's Black history

 Start community conversations like the Currier Art Museum's For Freedoms exhibit and town hall meetings
www.nhhumanities.org/grants

Education is the foundation



"As a librarian, I find it imperative not only to provide access to information that will help create an engaged public, but also feel called to encourage people to use resources they may not realize are available to them."



spotlight on Women's history

New Hampshire women who challenged the social norms of their day are highlighted in our new *Humanities* to Go programs, "Jennie Powers: The Woman Who Dares" and "Mary Baker Eddy: New Hampshire's Most Important Religious Thinker." Jennie Powers was a humane society agent and deputy sheriff in Keene cited by *The Boston Post* in 1906 for having arrested more men than any other woman in the United States. Mary Baker Eddy, born in 1821 in Bow, founded the Church of Christ, Scientist and played an important role on the national stage as an author and religious leader.

The story of Sarah Roberts is revealed by UNH professor Kabria Baumgartner in the program **"A Practical Experiment: School Desegregation on Trial in Antebellum Boston."** Roberts was a five-year old Black girl in Boston involved in a court case that ultimately resulted in Massachusetts prohibiting racial discrimination in public schools in 1855– although the story does not end there. Changes in the law do not always bring about equality. With the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment happening in 2020, **"Votes for Women: A History of the Suffrage Movement"** provides important context for this centennial. Even after the long campaign for the 19th Amendment ended in 1920, many women were still prevented from exercising their right to vote for decades.

Visual representations of women and ideas about art have changed dramatically over time. In **"Fierce Females: Women**

in Art," Jane Oneail explores the ways that women have been both the subjects and the creators of art from the Renaissance to today. This program examines the history of women in art and then explores the lives, careers, and works of several major women artists.

- Dr. Tricia Peone



(L-R) HTG presenters Kabria Baumgartner, Jenna Carroll, Jane Oneail, Nicole Ruane, Liz Tentarelli

- DR. KABRIA BAUMGARTNER: A Practical Experiment: School Desegregation on Trial in Antebellum Boston
- JENNA CARROLL: Jennie Powers: The Woman Who Dares
- JANE ONEAIL: Fierce Females: Women in Art
- **DR.NICOLE RUANE**: Mary Baker Eddy: New Hampshire's Most Important Religious Thinker
- LIZ TENTARELLI: Votes for Women: A History of the Suffrage Movement

For information about hosting or attending one of these programs, please visit www.nhhumanities.org/humanitiestogo.



What's on tap?

Ideas on Tap, our popular series of "pintsized conversations about big ideas," offers lively community conversations on a wide variety of contemporary issues, in casual pub settings around the state. Coming right up in 2020:

Higher Education: The Great Equalizer?

Monday, January 13, 5:30-7:30 pm Area 23, Concord

With student debt, contingent faculty, rising tuition, admissions scandals, and low unemployment rates, is a college education still worth it? Let's talk about the value of a degree in the humanities and explore alternatives to the classic liberal arts education. Join the conversation about the current academic landscape in New Hampshire and the future of higher education.

The Heat Is On: New Hampshire & Climate Change

Monday, March 16, 5:30-7:30 pm Area 23, Concord

Mind the Gap: The Impact of Income Inequality on Our Democracy

Tuesday, April 14, 5:30-7:30 pm Six Burner Bistro, Plymouth

Real or Fake? Making Our Way in Post-Fact America

Tuesday, June 16, 5:30-7:30 pm Stark Brewing Company, Manchester

Tickets are \$15 per person and include appetizers and one beverage (beer, wine, or non-alcoholic beverage). To register, visit www.nhhumanities.org/ideas.

Ideas on Tap is generously sponsored by:





Mary Nolin, New Hampshire Humanities' new Connections Program Manager

Welcome, Mary!

"Then we have to do Connections..."

That simple sentence was my first introduction to the *Connections* program by my co-teacher at Second Start. I have used the program in my English as a Second Language (ESOL) classroom for the past two years. Experiencing *Connections* as both a teacher and participant first has brought an invaluable perspective on the impacts that the program can have on people. Coming from the public-school environment as a former social studies teacher, I had always used stories as a way to engage my students in historical content. *Connections* was something different. Students were captivated by the stories, beautiful illustrations, and powerful themes for discussion, even in the simplest of picture books. It provided an opportunity for students to practice their English skills in a safe and welcoming environment. But more importantly, my students were building a sense of community and deeper reflection on their own life experiences through the books. I am hoping to use this perspective and positive experience in my new role as manager of the *Connections* program.

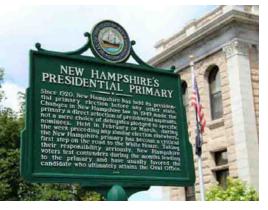
Since coming to New Hampshire Humanities in August, I have had the opportunity to use my own life and educational experience in the *Connections* program. My bachelor's in history and master's in education have fueled my intellectual curiosity for the humanities and now I get to apply that knowledge as a teacher and program manager. As a former Peace Corps Volunteer in Sierra Leone, West Africa, I am able to continue my love for working with and learning from people from around the world through my work with the *Connections* program. Having a young son at home, books and stories have become a centerpiece of our family life. I am hoping to encourage this culture of reading to individuals and families across New Hampshire.

- Mary Nolin, Connections Program Manager



December

12/5 LINCOLN | 6:00 PM A History of the New Hampshire **Presidential Primary** Lincoln Public Library, 22 Church Street Presenter: John Gfroerer Contact: Carol Riley, 745-8159



12/8 PLYMOUTH | 2:00PM

Land, Wealth and Policies of Marginalization Pease Public Library, 1 Russell Street Presented by the Black Heritage Trail of NH Contact: JerriAnne Boggis, 570-8469

12/8 MANCHESTER | 2:00PM

For Freedoms: Compassion Versus Punishment: **Can Addiction Be Destigmatized?** Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash Street Contact: Currier Museum, 669-6144

12/8 KEENE | 3:00 PM

Jennie Powers: The Woman Who Dares Congregation Ahavas Achim, 84 Hastings Ave. Presenter: Jennifer Carroll Contact: Daniella Yitzchak, 352-6747

12/12 ATKINSON | 6:30 PM

Yankee Ingenuity: Stories of Headstrong and Resourceful People Kimball Public Library, 5 Academy Road Presenter: Jo Radner Contact: Atkinson Historical Society, 362-9317

12/17 HAMPTON | 6:30PM

The Real Witches of New Hampshire Lane Memorial Library, 2 Academy Avenue Presenters: Justine Paradis, NHPR reporter, and Dr. Tricia Peone, historian and New Hampshire Humanities Public Programs Manager (see p. 7) Contact: Stacy Mazur, 926-3368



Shaded boxes indicate events funded by a NH Humanities

January

1/5 HENNIKER | 2:00 PM Votes for Women: A History of the Suffrage Movement Tucker Free Library, 31 Western Avenue Presenter: Liz Tentarelli Contact: Tucker Free Library, 428-3471

1/9 LINCOLN | 6:00 PM

Votes for Women: A History of the Suffrage Movement Lincoln Public Library, 22 Church Street Presenter: Liz Tentarelli Contact: Carol Riley, 745-8159

1/11 CONCORD | 2:00 PM

Jennie Powers: The Woman Who Dares NH Historical Society, 30 Park Street Presenter: Jennifer Carroll Contact: New Hampshire Historical Society, 228-6688

1/11 JAFFREY | 1:00 PM

Hooked: Narratives of Addiction, Recovery, and Redemption Jaffrey Public Library, 38 Main Street Presenter: Kate Gaudet Contact: Julie Perrin, 532-7301

1/12 NASHUA | 2:00PM

In the Beginning, There was the Word Nashua Public Library, 2 Court Street Presented by the Black Heritage Trail of NH Contact: JerriAnne Boggis, 570-8469



New Hampshire Humanities (NHH) programs are made possible in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this these programs do not

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:

Consolidated[®] communications

The dates and towns on this list are color coded by region. For complete program descriptions, we invite you to view our online calendar at www.nhhumanities.ora/ calendar-events.

1/13 CONCORD | 5:30PM **IDEAS ON TAP:**



Higher Education: The Great Equalizer? Area 23, 254 North State Street, Unit H Contact: New Hampshire Humanities, 224-4071

1/13 STRATHAM | 7:00 PM

Songs of Old New Hampshire Stratham Fire Station. 4 Winnicutt Road Presenter: Jeff Warner Contact: Pam Dziama, 772-4118

1/15 PLYMOUTH | 6:30 PM

Songs of Emigration: Storytelling Through **Traditional Irish Music**

Pease Public Library, 1 Russell Street Presenter: Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Contact: Pease Public Library, 536-2616

1/15 BARTLETT | 7:00 PM

A History of the New Hampshire **Presidential Primary** Bartlett Elementary School, Route 302 Presenter: John Gfroerer Contact: Norman Head, 986-6278

1/19 HUDSON | 2:00 PM

A History of the New Hampshire **Presidential Primary** Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road Presenter: John Gfroerer Contact: Amy Friedman, 886-6030



1/20 MANCHESTER | 2:00PM For Freedoms: Accessibility in the Arts: Is Expression Really Free to All? Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash Street Contact: Currier Museum, 669-6144

Jackie Robinson



1/20 HOOKSETT | 3:00 PM All Eyes Are Upon Us: Racial Struggles in the Northeast, from Jackie Robinson to Deval Patrick Hooksett Library, 31 Mount Saint Mary's Way Presenter: Jason Sokol Contact: Anne Meyers, 485-6092

1/23 BROOKLINE | 6:30 PM

A History of the New Hampshire Presidential Primary Brookline Public Library, 16 Main Street Presenter: John Gfroerer

Contact: Keith Thompson, 673-3330

1/25 ERROLL | 1:00 PM Harnessing History: On the Trail of New Hampshire's State Dog, the Chinook Erroll Town Hall, 33 Main Street Presenter: Bob Cottrell Contact: Deb Freedman, 482-3884

1/26 AMHERST | 4:00 PM

Songs of Old New Hampshire Amherst Congregational Church Sanctuary 11 Church Street Presenter: Jeff Warner Contact: Anne Krantz, 673-9684

1/28 NEW IPSWICH | 6:30 PM Votes for Women:

A History of the Suffrage Movement New Ipswich Library, 6 Main Street Presenter: Liz Tentarelli Contact: Margaret Lee, 878-1187 1/29 MADBURY | 7:00 PM A History of the New Hampshire Presidential Primary Madbury Public Library, 11 Town Hall Road Presenter: John Gfroerer Contact: Madbury Public Library, 743-1400

February

2/6 MANCHESTER | 5:30PM

For Freedoms: Freedom of Worship Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash Street Contact: Currier Museum, 669-6144



2/6 LACONIA | 6:30 PM Russian Daily Life and Culture Laconia Public Library, 695 Main Street Presenter: Marina Forbes Contact: Laconia Public Library, 524-4775

2/9 HENNIKER | 2:00 PM

Granite State Gallery: New Hampshire Art and Artists through the Years Tucker Free Library, 31 Western Avenue Presenter: Jane Oneail Contact: Tucker Free Library, 428-3471

2/11 CONCORD | 5:30 PM A History of the New Hampshire Presidential Primary

Woman's Club of Concord, 44 Pleasant Street Presenter: John Gfroerer Contact: Linda Gilbert, 225-4609

Shaded boxes indicate events funded by a NH Humanities Community Project Grant. 

2/16 HUDSON | 2:00 PM Votes for Women: A History of the Suffrage Movement Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road Presenter: Liz Tentarelli Contact: Amy Friedman, 886-6030

2/29 MONT VERNON | 1:00 PM

Moved and Seconded: Town Meeting in New Hampshire Mont Vernon Village School, 10 Harwood Road Presenter: Rebecca Rule Contact: Bonnie Angulas, 673-7888

2/29 CONCORD | 2:00 PM

Abby Hutchinson's Sweet Freedom Songs: Songs and Stories of the Struggle for Abolition and Woman Suffrage NH Historical Society, 30 Park Street Presenter: Deborah A. Goss Contact: NH Historical Society, 228-6688

All programs are subject to change, especially during our unpredictable New England weather! Please check cancellations on our online calendar before heading out.



"Past Lives" Podcast launched!

This fall New Hampshire Humanities launched a new podcast series called *Past Lives* that explores the more unusual chapters of New Hampshire's history, from witchcraft to UFOs, along with compelling stories about the lives of Granite Staters.

The first story is presented in a three-part series: *The Real Witches of New Hampshire*, a collaboration between New Hampshire Public Radio (NHPR) and New Hampshire Humanities. The series explores historical cases of witchcraft in New Hampshire along with the stories of modern witches, in order to understand how our idea of the witch has changed over time. *The Real Witches of New Hampshire* is hosted by New Hampshire Humanities' Public Programs



humanities nhpr

Manager, Dr. Tricia Peone, and NHPR reporter, Justine Paradis. Listen to all three episodes at www.nhhumanities.org/podcast, or get it wherever you listen to podcasts by subscribing to NHPR's new podcast: *Second Greatest Show on Earth*.





Dr. Tricia Peone

Peone

Join us for a special live event!

The Real Witches of New Hampshire Tuesday, December 17, 6:30 pm • Lane Memorial Library, Hampton

The Real Witches of New Hampshire begins with the story of Eunice Cole in Hampton, the only person convicted of witchcraft in the state. Join Justine and Tricia for a special live presentation on the podcast series and Hampton history, and a conversation about why these stories matter. **Free and open to the public.**

Steve Taylor and Terry Farish honored

At this year's Annual Dinner, New Hampshire Humanities presented the *Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities Award* to Steve Taylor and the *Creative Achievement in the Humanities Award* to Terry Farish.

STEVE TAYLOR, founding director of this organization, exemplifies so much of what makes New Hampshire special - his love of the land, his knowledge of agricultural history and how it shaped our landscape and culture, and his service to the state as Commissioner of Agriculture for a quarter of a century. He has led a storied career as a farmer, journalist, and longtime public official, while remaining an active partner with his sons in the family dairy and maple farm in Meriden. He continues to be one of our most popular Humanities to Go presenters, with talks on the impact of cows and sheep on New Hampshire's economy and landscape, to histories of grange halls, one-room schoolhouses, agricultural fairs, poor houses, and roads.



Sen. Jeanne Shaheen and NHH Board Chair Bill Glahn presented awards to Steve Taylor (L) and Terry Farish (R).

Over and over listeners call him a true, irreplaceable "New Hampshire treasure."

TERRY FARISH, former *Connections* program manager, is an award-winning poet and an author of children's picture books and young adult novels, many of them influenced by her early work with the Red Cross in Vietnam. Perhaps one of Terry Farish's greatest gifts is the ability to gently coax and nurture words and images from those who don't know how to tell their stories – or believe that their stories even matter. In addition to leading the *Connections* program, last year Terry conceived of "A Year of New Voices," a program in which ELL students and professional writers worked together and presented their poems and stories at public readings. Writing gave refugees the chance to heal from unspeakable horrors, and immigrants a way to adjust to a new home and a new language. This fall, Terry left her post with us to devote herself to her writing life and other projects.

Congratulations, Steve and Terry!



Grants available for humanitiesbased projects in *your* community!

New Hampshire Humanities invites nonprofit organizations serving people in New Hampshire to submit proposals for humanities-based Community Project Grants. We're eager to work with new as well as repeat applicant organizations and reach diverse audiences. Events may include talks, panels, group discussions of books, films, or other media, walking tours, community conversations, or other public program formats. Working with a humanities scholar, planners should ensure that their projects are designed to explore issues or ideas from a variety of perspectives and help participants think about how and why the subject matter connects to their own lives and community.

Need ideas?

• Books. Books. Lists upon lists of the "Best Books of the Year" are coming out in time for holiday giving. What better time to choose a novel and design a "community read"? Build in a film screening and podcast-listen, too!

- Choose a Humanities to Go program as a centerpiece and create a series around it.
- In recognition of the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, and of the 2020 elections, what about a project exploring voting rights and representation?
- Speaking of representation, every ten years the government conducts a population count of everyone in the United States. Wouldn't it be interesting to know more about census-taking over the centuries and around the world?
- Pick one of the topics explored in our *Ideas on Tap* programs and create an event in your community. Readings on these topics are posted on our website.
- Consider a project in the realm of the environmental humanities. Pick a book, film, or podcast (or all three) for group discussion of values that shape human beings' relation to the environment.

Mini Grants are for requests up to \$1,000, while Major Grants are for more involved projects ranging up to \$10,000. Visit www.nhhumanities.org/grants for descriptions of recently-funded projects, deadlines, and guidelines. The next deadline is Jan. 2. Please contact Susan Hatem at shatem@nhhumanities.org or 603-224-4071 with your ideas and questions!

Thank you to our generous *Connections* funders

The following foundations and corporations have provided critical support to New Hampshire Humanities' *Connections* adult literacy program this year. We thank the following for their generous support:

> Ella F. Anderson Trust, BNY Mellon, N.A., Trustee

> > **Bar Harbor Bank**

Ann DeNicola Trust, Citizens Bank, N.A., Trustee

Lincoln Financial Foundation

New Hampshire Women's Foundation

Connections is offered in partnership with adult basic education and ESOL classes, prisons, and refugee resettlement organizations, serving both native speakers and new Americans. The program uses quality children's literature and NHH-trained facilitators to promote English language skills; foster a culture of reading; nurture conversation in which readers contribute their own ideas, stories, and interpretations; and reinforce family literacy.

For long-time citizens and new Americans, *Connections* links adult students to the world through literature and other print media, stimulates thinking and discussion, and helps create a foundation for economic opportunity. For more information, visit www.nhhumanities.org/ connections.

Call for Board Nominations

New Hampshire Humanities (NHH) invites nominations for our Board of Directors. Members attend six meetings per year, serve on committees, and help shape policy and NHH directives. Nominees should have a passion for the humanities, dedication to public service, and a commitment to providing cultural enrichment opportunities for Granite Staters. Submit your nomination to Anthony Poore at apoore@nhhumanities.org.





Rachel Avery, New Hampshire Humanities' program intern, at the 2019 Annual Dinner. Photo by Deb Cram.

Meet Rachel Avery, Program Intern

For the past two months, I've had the pleasure of interning at New Hampshire Humanities with Dr. Tricia Peone and her work on public programs. I'm a student at the University of New Hampshire in Manchester, where I dual major in English and history and work in the Office of Student Engagement. Having sought real-world public history experience in my senior year, I was excited when UNH Manchester Professor Kristen Woytonik connected me with Dr. Peone. At New Hampshire Humanities, I've been privileged to work as a program intern during the fall semester and have traveled throughout the state to attend ten *Humanities to Go* programs, three Community Project Grant programs, a *Connections* book discussion, and an *Ideas on Tap* event. Through lectures, walking tours, material culture, living history, music, and conversations, I've engaged with themes of power, race, and gender; investigated challenging issues of memory, war, and identity; and learned so much about New England history.

Working with Dr. Peone has allowed me to apply my studies in practical ways, producing reports on my observations and focusing on inclusivity, accessibility, and engagement as frameworks for evaluating public history and humanities. I've been able to research existing digital history and humanities content and compile resources on fellow humanities councils' initiatives. At a simple level, one of my favorite experiences has been visiting local towns and hearing community members' thoughts and opinions.

I believe that access to humanities and opportunities to learn are fundamental to an engaged community, and experiencing the bold and compelling programming facilitated by New Hampshire Humanities has only solidified this view. As citizens and people, we must do the work of examining our own histories, cultures, and assumptions – we can't afford to ignore the experiences of people different from ourselves. I look forward to applying the skills and ideas I've learned from my time here to future work that emphasizes equity and access.



For Freedoms Exhibit & **Town Hall Conversations** at the Currier Museum

Founded in 2016 by artists Eric Gottesman (a NH native) and Hank Willis Thomas, For Freedoms is an artist-led platform for civic engagement, discourse, and action that seeks to highlight America's diversity through anti-partisan artistic interventions.

For Freedoms inspired by Rockwell's 1943 of the four universal by Franklin D.



Roosevelt in 1941 - freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. As part of *We Are For Freedoms*, the Currier Museum has been hosting a series of town hall discussions. Free and open to all, these conversations allow for an active, collaborative, and inclusive experience. Join us for these upcoming topics:

Monday, January 20, 2:00 pm FREEDOM OF SPEECH: Accessibility in the Arts: Is Expression Really Free to All?

Thursday, February 6, 5:30 pm FREEDOM OF WORSHIP: Sacred Spaces/ Sacred Lands

For more details, visit www.curriermuseum.org.

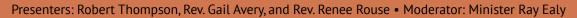
Black Heritage Trail of NH continues Tea Talks series

The Elinor Williams Hooker Tea Talk series is supported in part by New Hampshire Humanities, and serves as a catalyst for deeper excavating of New Hampshire's Black history.

In the Beginning, There Was the Word

Sunday, January 12, 2:00 pm • Nashua Public Library, Nashua

The relationship between religion and race in American is complex. Twentieth-century scholars ranked world religions on an evolutionary scale. Not surprisingly, many of the religions deemed "primitive" were also those practiced by indigenous, non-White populations. This evolutionary ranking plays a role in the construction, deconstruction, and transgression of racial identities and religious boundaries in the country today. A panel of theologians will explore the relationship between church, race, and state and the role the church could play in healing the soul of the nation.





For more details, please visit www.blackheritagetrailnh.org.

Donor Spotlight: Kate Hanna

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Several years ago, our former Board member, capital campaign committee member, and long-time supporter, Kate Hanna, shared her "humanities story" with the Board. We came across the article recently and asked her permission to share it publicly. Perhaps her story will inspire you to share <u>your</u> humanities story with us!

When I was given the daunting task of describing in 15 minutes how the humanities have affected my life, one topic immediately came to mind. I would speak about the poetry of Robert Frost. But how I would I distill that subject into a bitesize piece? "It's all in how you say a thing," says Frost.

I decided to start by describing how the humanities managed to seep into a life like mine and stay the course. A nonacademic life, I mean, perhaps similar to the lives of at least half the people who populate this board. A life that is often noisy and over-scheduled and not reflective enough-and therefore seemingly unreceptive to the quiet consideration of ideas which have no immediate relevance to the issues at hand... getting a kid to the next lacrosse game on time, making that deadline for submission of a court pleading, scrounging up those last few votes for a candidate, working on yet another set of bylaws for a not for profit.

Then I thought about New Hampshire Humanities' tagline, "Connecting people with ideas." And I realized that it nicely encapsulates my experience with the humanities.

I am decidedly not an ascetic. Nor monastic. Have never been accused of being an ivory tower intellectual.

Yet I am intellectually curious. I thrive on the interconnections of life. While I have drawn my greatest inspiration from the people I have encountered in my life-not from the books I have discovered on my own-I realize that it is the sharing of ideas with those people that has brought me the most fulfillment and excitement in life. Whether it is a mentor introducing me to a favorite poem, my son or daughter bubbling over about a new-found author, or a friend exposing me for the first time to a classical music piece, I respond.



That's what makes me tick. And I take equal thrill in the prospect that I might be able to turn the soil back under and cross fertilize. That is, that at least occasionally, I may be able to introduce a new idea, a favorite book, an inspiring essay-to people I love or admire.

So it was that my odyssey with Robert Frost's poetry began.

As a youth, I was introduced to the poet by my neighbor from across the street in Keene, a gentle businessman and farmer, whom I very much admired. He gave me a volume of Frost's complete poetry, which bore this inscription: "Katie, I hope you will enjoy Robert Frost as much as I have, and do." It was the first book I'd ever received with a personal inscription. It meant a lot to me. It inspired me to read the book inside and out, and to learn as much as I possibly could about this poet.

By this seemingly simple gesture, my neighbor connected another person in this world with ideas. And, as Frost would say, "That has made all the difference."

The voice of Robert Frost has stayed with me throughout my life–informing me, guiding me, and delighting me.

There's more to this story! Please visit www.nhhumanities.org/ news to enjoy the rest of Kate's humanities story.

small gifts= **BIG IMPACT**

New Hampshire Humanities connects people and communities by offering programs that cultivate curiosity and appreciation of the people, places, and history of the Granite State. Your support makes it all possible! Please consider becoming a monthly donor by visiting www.nhhumanities. org/Give to set up an amount that's comfortable for your budget. For more information about giving options, please contact Lynn Douillette, Director of Annual Giving, at 603-224-4071 or ldouillette@nhhumanities.org. Thank you!



Monthly Giving



117 Pleasant Street Concord, NH 03301-0375 Phone: 603-224-4071 www.nhhumanities.org



"To me history ought to be a source of pleasure. It isn't just part of our civic responsibility. To me it's an enlargement of the experience of being alive, just the way literature or art or music is."

~ David McCullough

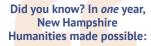
New Hampshire Humanities wishes you the happiest of holidays, and a new year filled with learning and wonder.

Bring quality humanities programs and a world of ideas into your workplace!

Did you know that skills learned through the humanities are the *same* qualities that make top-notch employees—the ability to think critically and creatively, innovate, analyze data, solve complex problems, write well, and communicate effectively? Our *Humanities@Work* programs help employers bring high quality, innovative humanities programs into the workplace, enriching employees' engagement and quality of life in and outside of work, a key part of any company's employee retention strategy. To learn more, visit www.nhhumanities.org/HAW.



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