



## Role of the Project Humanities Expert

The role of the humanities expert is to help shape the intellectual content of the project. New Hampshire Humanities seeks to fund projects whose activities raise questions of human meaning inherent in the subject matter and provide opportunities for people to learn and reflect about their world and themselves. Someone who is trained in a humanities discipline related to the subject matter of the project, typically holding a Master's degree or Ph.D., can help identify these kinds of ideas and shape discussion about them. Subject matter experts and community experts who may not have advanced degrees but have particularly pertinent knowledge are valuable, too. If you need help assembling the right team, talk to Agnes Burt, Program Manager - Community Project Grants, at [CPG@nhhumanities.org](mailto:CPG@nhhumanities.org).

Be sure to share these guidelines with your expert(s).

**In Mini/Quick Grant proposals**, the humanities expert helps the project director plan the project and draft the grant proposal by identifying the ideas and questions that will be incorporated in the proposal narrative. The humanities expert also gives feedback to the project director to be included in the final report to New Hampshire Humanities.

**In Major/Quarterly Grant projects**, the humanities expert is asked to articulate the animating ideas and questions in a **short essay** included in the grant application; to help the project director craft an **audience evaluation form or other tool** specific to the project or program; and to provide a **written evaluation** of the intellectual content and impact to the Project Director for the final report to New Hampshire Humanities.

The humanities expert may also be invited to participate as a speaker, panelist, workshop leader, discussion facilitator, and/or evaluator of specific aspects of the project such as a script, exhibition text, or another speaker or panel. **New Hampshire Humanities encourages planners to include a stipend and mileage for the humanities expert in the proposed project budget.** The proposal must also include the Humanities Expert's name, address, phone number and email address, and a short form (2-page) resume or CV.

### Humanities Expert Statement

The humanities expert does not merely endorse the project or provide a letter of commitment. Rather, in a short essay (no more than 1,000 words/2 pages) the expert discusses the following:

1. What are the project's intellectual goals? What ideas about culture and human meaning animate it? What is the historic or literary or philosophical context out of which this topic arises? How does the story told or the issue addressed go beyond the specific or individual to the universal?
2. What kinds of questions stemming from the subject matter would you or other speaker/facilitator/material involved in the project pose to audience members?
3. What would define success for this project in terms of "connecting people with ideas"? How will you and the project director evaluate that?