



NEW HAMPSHIRE  
humanities



*Connecting people with ideas*

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT • FY2020

*New Hampshire Humanities harnesses the power of the humanities to support lifelong learning and foster civic engagement and discourse by offering programs and grant opportunities for all New Hampshire residents.*



# What does it mean to be ‘human’?



Has there ever been a year in which we needed the humanities more than 2020? In addition to defining the “humanities” as branches of learning, Webster’s Dictionary defines “humanities” as “human attributes or qualities” and “humanity” as “the state or quality of being human.” Perhaps more than ever, last year taught us the importance of a handshake, a hug, or a pat on the back. The loss of ability to see our friends, our colleagues, our parents, and even our children has served as a constant reminder of the “quality of being human.” New Hampshire Humanities has always strived to connect people with ideas; in 2020, we realized the critical importance of connecting people with *people*.


More than a year ago, we wondered how we might increase the diversity of our programming by offering more virtual and varied programs to a wider audience. In mid-March 2020, this was no longer an aspiration, but a necessity. Our staff shifted immediately, and seamlessly, to virtual programs with an unexpected benefit. *Humanities to Go* programs that once attracted about 30 participants in local libraries were now viewed by thousands. Our pivot to a virtual annual event meant that for the first time, we were able to share speaker Dr. Russell Muirhead’s talk on the intersection of public discourse and the humanities with thousands of high school students.

In the pages that follow, you will see the breadth and impact of our programming by the numbers, by the stories of new Americans who participated in the *Connections* adult literacy program, by the depth and scope of new program ventures—including *Humanities@Work*, the *Black Thought* and *Epidemics & the Humanities* series, and *Humanities to Go Online*— and through the innovative local programs we have been able to fund through our Community Project Grants. If challenge brings opportunity, New Hampshire Humanities rose to the occasion. Still more opportunities lie ahead: implementing a new strategic plan, seeking new partners to help us share the humanities with expanded audiences, bringing greater diversity to our programs, and finding a post-pandemic balance between face-to-face and virtual offerings.

Our sincere thanks to all of you who participate in our programs or support our work. We look forward to meeting any future challenges with the same spirit of adaptability and collaboration, and to engaging all Granite Staters with programs that challenge, intrigue, enlighten, and heal.

Wilbur Glahn, III, Chair  
Board of Directors

Marcia J. Kelly, Vice Chair  
Board of Directors



**“Jane Oneail’s presentation of *Granite State Gallery: New Hampshire Art & Artists Through the Years* to the Washington Historical Society was awesome. Several people commented that Jane’s was the best presentation we’ve ever booked. It was a great response for our first online event ever.”**

*- Washington Historical Society*

**JANE ONEAIL** is one of our newest presenters and offers three new programs: *Fierce Females: Women in Art*, *Heroes and Homecomings: Norman Rockwell and World War II*, and *Granite State Gallery: New Hampshire Art and Artists Through the Years*.



# Humanities to Go

Through *Humanities to Go* (HTG), our statewide speakers bureau, nonprofit organizations and community groups can offer high quality cultural programming that is free and open to the public. In 2019-2020, New Hampshire Humanities (NHH) sponsored a total of 287 HTG programs that were attended by 11,391 people in 191 communities. In 2019-2020, we added twenty new presentations to our catalogue. The programs discuss important themes in the history of New Hampshire and the United States – race, immigration, voting rights, and religious pluralism; and the stories of the New Hampshire primary, Mary Baker Eddy, the Irish diaspora, and school desegregation – and focus on concerns of our current moment, with discussions about storytelling in the digital age, sustainability, and the opioid crisis.

In April of 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the cancellation of our in-person programming, NHH began hosting a new series of virtual presentations: *Humanities to Go Online*. We have seen astonishing participation in these online programs from all corners of the Granite State. These online presentations were watched by 3,216 people.

*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 these programs do not necessarily represent those of the NEH or NHH.*



“I can't pull out just one thread, as the whole fabric of the talk was delightful, informative, and fascinating!”

– HTG attendee, Alstead

# Ideas on Tap

**“New Hampshire Humanities does a critically good job advancing dialogue and engagement.”**

*- Ideas on Tap participant*

*Ideas on Tap* explores timely topics to generate “pint-sized conversations about big ideas.” Prior to the pandemic, attendees gathered in the relaxed atmosphere of local pubs around the state to participate in dynamic conversations with New Hampshire Humanities staff and a panel of guest speakers and humanities experts. Topics included higher education in the Granite State, fake news, marijuana legalization, and artificial intelligence. In June 2020 we hosted our first virtual *Ideas on Tap* event in an online discussion format with 150 participants.



## ***Stoned in the Granite State: The Debate Over Marijuana Legalization***

**September 2019, Area 23, Concord**

In this session, we discussed the historical context of prohibition, how attitudes towards marijuana have changed, and the potential impact of legalization.

*Co-sponsored by Area 23.*

## ***Artificial Intelligence: Is There a Ghost in the Machine?***

**November 2019, Martha's Exchange Restaurant  
& Brewing Co., Nashua**

In this program we explored the history and ethical challenges surrounding AI, the risks and benefits, and who gets to decide which is which.

## ***Higher Education: The Great Equalizer?***

**January 2020, Area 23, Concord**

With student debt, contingent faculty, rising tuition, and low unemployment, is a college education still worth it? In this session we looked at the academic landscape in NH and the future of higher education.

*Co-sponsored by ACLU-NH and Currier Museum of Art*

## ***Real or Fake? Making Our Way in Post Fact America***

**June 2020 (Virtual)**

In this program, we looked at the impact of “fake news” and how we as citizens can remain educated, thoughtful, discerning consumers of information.

*2019-2020 Series Sponsors were Cambridge Trust and  
the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation*



**“I’ve attended many humanities events but this one was ‘way different’ from programs presented at the public libraries. I’ve enjoyed many topics presented at libraries, senior centers, etc. but ‘Ideas on Tap’ is a whole new venue I thoroughly enjoyed.”**

*- Ideas on Tap participant*

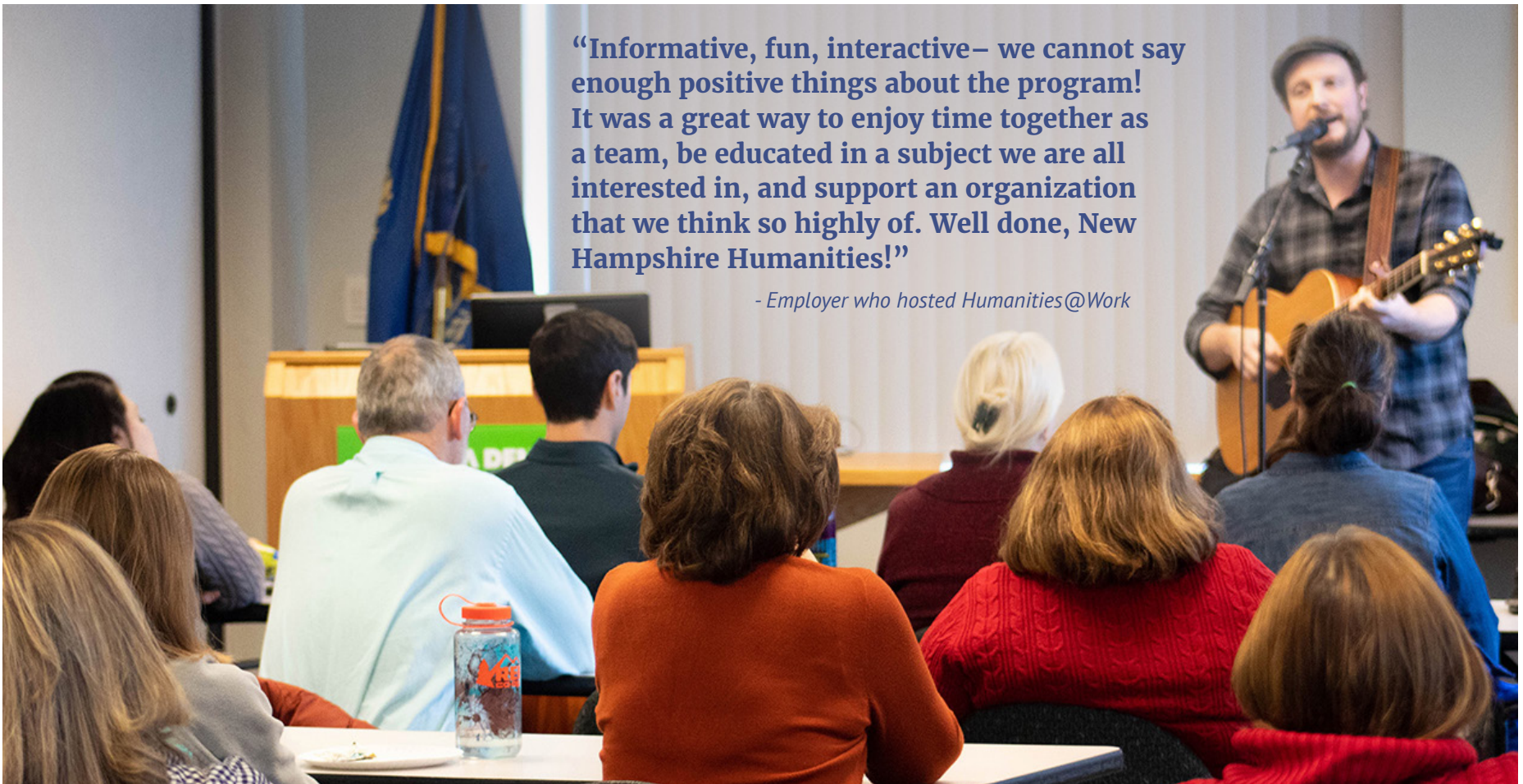
# Humanities@Work



*Humanities@Work* is a new initiative that brings high-quality, innovative humanities programs into the workplace. *Humanities@Work* was the recipient of a 2020 Best of Business Award for "Best Way to Bring Culture into the Workplace." Through *Humanities@Work*, employers can choose from a list of available *Humanities to Go* offerings or request customized programs to fit their needs. Our programs can be used as part of team-building exercises, diversity training, or personal development and enrichment efforts. In 2019-2020 thirteen programs brought life-enhancing humanities content to workplaces throughout New Hampshire, impacting more than 500 employees.

**"Informative, fun, interactive– we cannot say enough positive things about the program! It was a great way to enjoy time together as a team, be educated in a subject we are all interested in, and support an organization that we think so highly of. Well done, New Hampshire Humanities!"**

*- Employer who hosted Humanities@Work*



# Black Thought

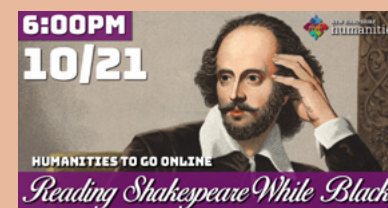
In 2020, New Hampshire Humanities developed *Black Thought*, a new series that explores Black perspectives on the humanities and highlights the work of Black scholars. Spring programs explored the history of Juneteenth in partnership with the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire; discussed representations of race in medieval Christian religious iconography; and compared the 1793 Yellow Fever epidemic and the 2020 Coronavirus pandemic. In the fall of 2020, we held four more programs: “From Civil Rights to Black Lives Matter,” “Reading Shakespeare While Black,” “Reparations: Its History and Impact: Why Now?” and “Awakening to Racism as a Public Health Issue, A Historical Perspective.” Recordings of these programs and additional resources remain available on our *Black Thought* web page.



**“I appreciate the racial equity series – difficult topic, intelligently and provocatively presented.”**

*- Black Thought participant*

## 2019 & 2020s talks in the *Black Thought* series:



**“I like that these programs are available to everyone in the state, not just a town library. I like that [the speaker] was so thoroughly prepared and passionate, and was able to go beyond the topic to other related events in Black history. I like that you are making the effort to focus on improving the U.S. by recognizing the problem and promoting little and big actions.”**

*- Black Thought participant*

**“I liked that it was a New Hampshire lens on national historical issues, led by a local expert.”**

*- Black Thought participant*

# Special Projects: *Past Lives* Podcast



In the fall of 2019, New Hampshire Humanities launched a new podcast series called *Past Lives*. For our first story, we presented a three-part series: *The Real Witches of New Hampshire*, a collaboration between New Hampshire Public Radio (NHPR) and New Hampshire Humanities. *The Real Witches of New Hampshire* aired in October and November of 2019 with a live event at the Lane Memorial Library in Hampton in January 2020.

In this series, we explored 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* was produced and hosted by Dr. Tricia Peone, historian and Public Programs Director at New Hampshire Humanities, and Justine Paradis, producer and reporter for New Hampshire Public Radio's Creative Production Unit, most often *Word of Mouth* and *Outside/In*.



*"The Real Witches of New Hampshire" live event was held at Hampton's Lane Memorial Library in January 2020.*

*The Goody Cole memorial in Hampton, NH*

*The Real Witches of NH logo courtesy of NH Public Radio and designed by Sara Plourde.*

# Humanities to Go Online & Human Ties

In March 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we adapted our live, face-to-face programs to a virtual model and launched *Humanities to Go Online* (HTGO), delivered virtually via Zoom. We also created a weekly outreach email, *Human Ties*, that curated engaging humanities content and included invitations to upcoming programs and events.

## Jennie Powers: The Woman Who Dares

Presented by Jenna Carroll on April 3, 2020

## A Walk Back in Time: The Secrets of Cellar Holes

Presented by Adair Mulligan on April 17, 2020

## Mindful Writing

Presented by Dr. Alex Peary on April 24, 2020

## A Walk Back in Time: The Secrets of Cellar Holes

Presented by Adair Mulligan on May 1, 2020

## Brewing in NH: An Informal History of Beer in the Granite State

Presented by Glenn Knoblock on May 8, 2020

**“The event was great. Well moderated, good questions from the audience, and the panelists had a lot of respect for each other and shared the time very well. Being up north, I like the access that putting this on the web provides.”** – HTGO participant

## Yankee Ingenuity: Stories of Headstrong and Resourceful People

Presented by Dr. Jo Radner on May 15, 2020

## How Fresh Water Shaped New Hampshire

Presented by Jim Rousmaniere on May 22, 2020

## Marion Stoddart: The Work of 1000

Presented on May 29, 2020

## Ireland's Great Famine in Irish- American History: Fateful Memory, Indelible Legacy

Presented by Dr. Mary Kelly on June 5, 2020



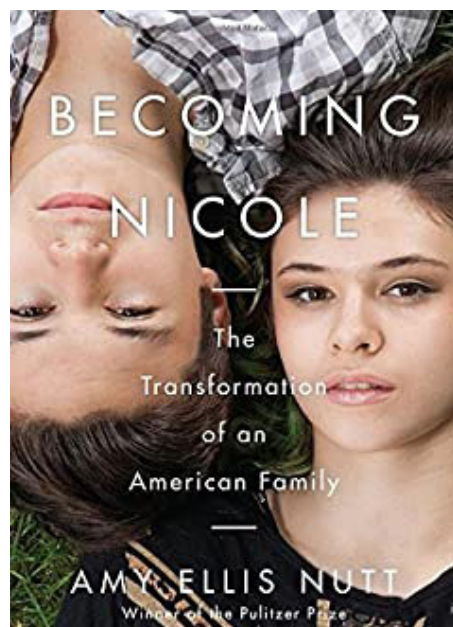
**“Having lived in Zoom world now seemingly forever, the folks at New Hampshire Humanities have figured this all out better than most. I guess that's what smart people drawn to the humanities do.”** – HTGO participant

# Community Project Grants

## One Book, One Valley

Organized through the cooperative efforts of libraries, schools, and organizations in the Mount Washington Valley, One Book, One Valley is an annual community reading program that aims to strengthen community ties, promote literacy, and encourage discussion of a common book across the region. For 2019, the program's 14th anniversary, conveners selected *Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of An American Family* by journalist Amy Ellis Nutt, which explores one family's experience with the transition of their son to a girl named Nicole. The organizers selected this book to initiate conversations about transgender people's lived experiences and more broadly, to prompt individuals of all genders to reflect on their gender and gender identity.

During the fall of 2019, 368 people participated in the range of programs hosted by the partner libraries and organizations. These included a Gender 101 lecture, a film screening, and community discussions with transgender people. The series culminated with a talk by author Amy Ellis Nutt. Throughout the series, participants expressed their appreciation for the program and how they gained a "better understanding of another slice of the human experience."



**“The most meaningful outcome [from this program] has been the deep gratitude of local transgender persons and their families. I have heard from a transgender woman who expressed how much this year’s program made her feel accepted and gave a natural way for her to share information about what it means to be a transgender woman. One grandmother of a transgender teen was grateful for the education component and the conversations that were informed by the reading of the book. One longtime member of the community, a transgender woman, told one of our librarians how she felt “seen” for the first time. One grandfather who had just learned that his grandchild came out as transgender came to a program looking for information on what that means.”**

– Mary Cronin, Project Director

# Community Project Grants



## Major Grants (Major Grants provide up to \$10,000)

### ANDOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY\*

#### ***All Aboard! Economic, Social and Environmental Change During New Hampshire's Railroad Era***

A multi-town, multi-event collaboration that explored the social, economic, and environmental impact of railroads' construction in rural towns and on Native American society. \$2,902

### BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

#### ***Tea Talks Expansion: Raising Awareness of New Hampshire's Black History to Build Inclusive Communities Today***

A three-event program that brought the Black Heritage Trail's successful *Tea Talks* community discussions to Nashua, Keene, and Plymouth. \$6,550

### CURRIER MUSEUM OF ART

#### ***For Freedoms at the Currier Museum of Art: Town Hall Conversations***

The Currier Museum of Art, in collaboration with the artist group For Freedoms, organized four town hall events inspired by the four human rights that President Roosevelt named in his 1941 State of the Union Address: freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. \$7,500

### FRIENDS OF COOK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

#### ***One Book One Valley 2019***

In its 14th year, One Book One Valley chose *Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family* for its community reading program, using the book as a launching point discuss the experiences of transgender people and gender identity. \$3,000

### NH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

#### ***New Hampshire History Institute: Elementary Social Studies Teacher Training***

Three virtual workshops introduced social studies teachers to the NH Historical Society's "Moose on the Loose" curriculum and offered additional resources for teaching the American Revolution. \$6,000

### NH LISTENS & URBAN RURAL ACTION

#### ***Deepening Connection and Understanding Across New Hampshire's Urban Rural Divide***

A collaboration between NH Listens and Urban Rural Action, a series of interactive gatherings focused on constructive conversation across differences brought residents of New Hampshire together and laid the foundation for participants to work together to strengthen their communities. \$10,000

### PLYMOUTH STATE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF THE WHITE MOUNTAINS\*

#### ***Speaker Series for Wayfinding: Maps of the White Mountains***

A 10-event series featuring speakers talking about the history and current practices of maps and map making in the White Mountains, to accompany the exhibition, "Wayfinding: Maps of the White Mountains." \$2,850

### PONTINE THEATRE

#### ***Plains Speaking: Portsmouth's 1696 Massacre in Fact & Fiction***

A four-event series hosted by the Pontine Theatre Pontine Theatre that explored the history and legacy of the 1696 Portsmouth Plains massacre. (See the story on the next page) \$4,850

### RACIAL UNITY TEAM

#### ***It's More Than Skin Deep: Skin Color and Its Impact on Children***

An examination of how our collective history as well as societal and parental influence have made an impact on children's perception of themselves and others based solely on skin color; how that perception affects children's wellbeing and eventual role in our changing society. \$3,000



\*Indicates awards granted in FY2020 whose program were delayed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Community Project Grants

## Plains Speaking: Portsmouth's 1696 Massacre in Fact and Fiction

The Pontine Theatre developed and led this four-part program, *Plains Speaking: Portsmouth's 1696 Massacre in Fact and Fiction*, which explored the history and legacy of a 1696 massacre that occurred on the Portsmouth Plains. A New Hampshire State Marker (#75) located at the site reads: "In the pre-dawn hours of June 26, 1696, Indians attacked the settlement here. Fourteen persons were killed, and others taken captive. Five houses and nine barns were burned." Few historical documents verify this account, however. Despite local historians' efforts to challenge the marker's record, which generally reiterates a narrative shaped by European colonists' perspectives and interests, little effort had been made to contextualize the day's events.

*Plains Speaking* aimed to elucidate the facts of the raid and explore the broader context in which it developed – rising tensions between the Wabanaki people and the area's colonial settlers – to expand the public's appreciation for the various perspectives that shaped the conflict, and explore the legacy of such Colonial-era conflicts for present-day Seacoast residents. Attended by 243 people, the program featured scholars and historians of Abenaki and colonial English society and included two lectures, a panel discussion, and a walking tour of the Portsmouth Plains. Together, these events prompted participants to reflect on the marker's account and question how historical narratives are written.



**"...The project was a resounding success in engaging Seacoast residents with the topics of cultural conflict and historical interpretation. The series brought new history to light, particularly from a Native perspective. ... The walking tour was a huge success, not only in terms of doubled participation, but also in the interest it sparked on the part of the city of Portsmouth to include historical interpretation in the development of a permanent recreational trail along the tour route."**

– Nina Mauer, Old Berwick Historical Society, Project Humanist

# Community Project Grants



## Mini Grants (Mini Grants provide up to \$2,000 in funds)

### HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CHESHIRE COUNTY

#### *Empowered People and the Power of Voting Rights*

A multi-event program exploring the history of voting rights. \$1,000

### LAKE SUNAPEE REGION CENTER FOR THE ARTS

#### *Courage to Create: "Mending Broken Things"*

An author talk and reading by the poet Wes McNair. \$950

### NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

#### *Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport*

A public lecture delivered by *New York Times* bestselling author Kenneth C. Davis that explored how social studies curriculum in schools promotes democratic ideals for children. \$1,000

### PORTSMOUTH POET LAUREATE PROGRAM

#### *Poetry as a Bridge to Japan*

A series of writing workshops followed by a scholar talk to introduce participants to traditional Japanese poetry and visual art forms. \$1,000

### SAINT ANSELM COLLEGE

#### *Alexa Miller: smArt in Medicine - A New Era*

An interdisciplinary talk that explored how healthcare practitioners can improve their care for patients through engagement with the methods and approaches of art criticism. \$1,000

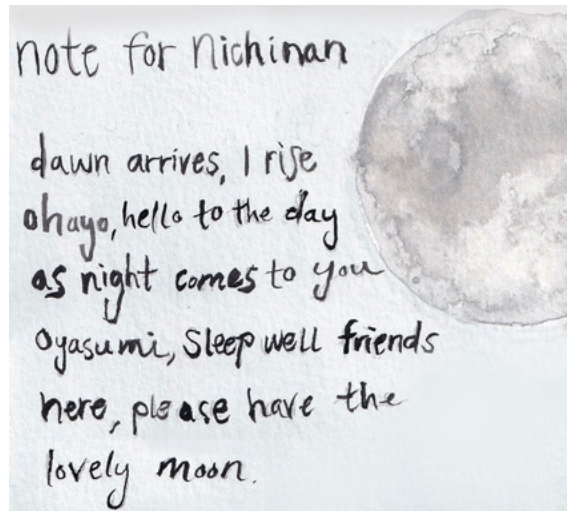
### THE FRIENDS OF THE KINGSTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY

#### *One Community, One Book 2019: The Devil in the White City*

A multi-event community reading program that used the book, *The Devil in the White City*, to explore the history and legacy of 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. \$700



Author Alexa Miller



Poem from Poetry as a Bridge to Japan



Poet Wes McNair (L) speaks with event guests in Newport.

\*Indicates awards granted in FY2020 whose program were delayed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Connections

## What Does It Mean to Be an American?

By Barbara Visciano

"Liberty and Justice for All"  
"All Men are Created Equal"

For all Americans, these words ring true as the promises made in the founding of our country.

For those who seek to learn about America, the understanding of what these words mean and how they are demonstrated in our culture is fundamental.

In a recent New Hampshire Humanities *Connections* program requested by Barbara Visciano, teacher of the ESL Civics Reading and Discussion Class at the Dover Adult Learning Center, the concept of liberty and justice in our history was the topic of exploration. Using four picture books during the four week series, facilitator Bill Badgley took these students on an historical journey to four periods in American history during which there were struggles to live up to ideals set forth in our founding documents. He posed the essential question: What is an American?

In the first class, students read *Elizabeth Leads the Way: Elizabeth Cady Stanton* by Tanya Lee Stone and were introduced to this early suffragette and her role in securing the vote for women. Following that, the role of the Underground Railroad and the injustices of

slavery were discussed using *Follow the Drinking Gourd* by Jeanette Winter. The need to continue addressing the full inclusion of African Americans was brought to light in reading *Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down* by Andrea Pinkney. *How Baseball Saved Us* by Ken Mochizuki gave students a look at the issue of Japanese Internment in WWII from the perspective of a young boy. Students were delighted to learn that this NHH *Connections* program allowed them to keep these books to add to their personal libraries.

Discussions led by Bill during the program were rich and probing. Students brought perspective from their native countries and were quick to point out the universal quest for freedom and dignity. They grappled with the question of civil disobedience in the face of cruelty and injustice as during the times of slavery and racial discrimination. "I really like these books because the other books I read say in the United States all men are created equal, but these books tell more of American history," said one student.

**"I really like these books because the other books I read say in the United States all men are created equal, but these books tell more of American history."**

- *Connections* participant



They recognized the impact of marginalizing groups of people and dismissing the cultures of those who may come from other places. "It's not just the Japanese that needed to be saved. America needed to be saved to be able to include everyone," was the response of one student after reading *Baseball Saved Us*. "Being in a Japanese internment camp broke their culture," reflected another.

(continued)

# Connections

## *What Does It Mean to Be an American? (continued)*

Some students read the books to their children and saw in their reactions the suffering of those who were not treated with respect because of their differences. “My children are Chinese children and here in school in America. I read the books to them and my young son cried when he heard about how the Japanese boy in the story was treated. I like when my children learn from the books about everyone being the same,” shared student, Lin Huang, in evaluating the program. Another student, Yaling Liu, is

anxious to give her books to her son when she returns to her native country in order to help him understand America.

In answer to the question: What is an American? Tereza Leite, a newly-naturalized American citizen, commented, “When we feel welcome and a part of the community, we are American. If I don’t feel welcome, I will never really be an American.” One could not ask for a simpler or more important truth. 🌈

**“When we feel welcome and a part of the community, we are American. If I don’t feel welcome, I will never really be an American.”**

- Tereza Leite, *Connections* participant

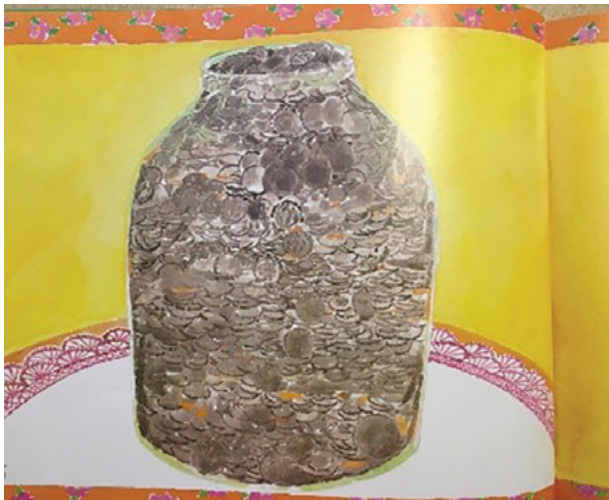


# Connections

## More Than Data

By Mary Nolin, Program Manager - *Connections*

An interviewer once asked of the *Connections* program, “If we can’t measure your impact, what is the point of doing it?” In a world driven by data and the need for measurable impacts, the pressures on programs to report out metrics, demographics, or skills gain are realities of our modern society. Grant funding and philanthropic support often depend on it. This need for data is important. But it can sometimes be difficult for a program that is also based so much on personal stories, heart-felt emotions, and learning experiences lead by participant discussion. Below are stories that reflect some of the deeper impacts of the *Connections* program from New Hampshire Humanities.



“I wish I could write books, but I don’t have that ability; instead, I’m glad I’m a reader.”

- *Connections* participant

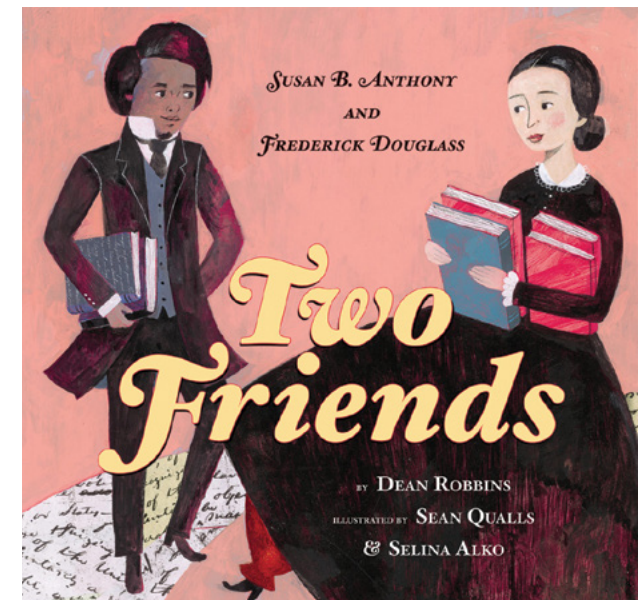


For Meena, a refugee from Bhutan living in Concord, her moment came while reading a *Connections* book, *A Chair For My Mother* by Vera B. Williams, in a financial unit of her English class. In the story, a mother, daughter, and grandmother save money in

a big jar to buy a comfortable armchair after their life’s belongings were lost in a fire. When asked to share a page from the book that was important to her, she chose the illustration at left. Meena said that her own family saves money like this. Everyone contributes to buy clothes and things they need. She then promptly sent a picture of her own money jar in her class’ group text (above). This prompted a larger discussion about the role of money and savings in countries around the world. A commonality amongst all students was the money jar and its unique ability to collect our coins.

For Miryam, another *Connections* participant, her moment played a more practical role in her life and came during a naturalization test for United States citizenship. Coming from Sudan in 2014, Miryam has been dedicated to learning all the necessary civic values, systems of government, and U.S. history required for U.S. citizenship. She has done this through unwavering dedication to English class, a private tutor, and listening to citizenship questions daily on her television. She also read the *Connections* book *Two Friends: The Story of Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass*

(continued)



by Dean Robbins with her English class at Second Start in the days leading up to her citizenship exam. She thrived in group conversation around American history and easily answered practice citizenship questions. In her written reflection on the book she wrote, “Susan B. Anthony was important because she was a teacher and speaker around the country, and she fought for women’s rights too.” On December 18th, 2020, Miryam received U.S. citizenship! When asked by her teachers if they asked a question about Susan B. Anthony on her citizenship test, she responded, “Yes they did, and I knew the answer.”

Finally, just as life changed for so many in 2020, the *Connections* program has also changed with a transition to the virtual space in response to COVID-19. Many adult education centers have stayed remote since March, forcing participants



An illustration from *A Chair For My Mother* read by a recent *Connections* class.



An illustration from *Two Friends: The Story of Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass*.

to learn from home online. For an immigrant family from Romania, their moment happened as a family in a virtual *Connections* series at Derry Adult Education led by longtime *Connections* facilitator, Maren Tirabassi. Alina, Marius, and their 10-year-old son Andrei all attended the online book discussion. They learned about themes of working together in friendship, humans’ relationship with nature, and the impact of technology on the environment. Alina reflected on her experience reading the three books below in their online, class community.

**“Even if the presentation of the books was done with the help of the ZOOM platform, the effect was very good. I almost didn’t feel the difference, and this is Maren’s merit. I really enjoy reading, especially biographies and nonfiction books and this little Book Club, as I like to call it, gave me the chance to discover reading in a different**

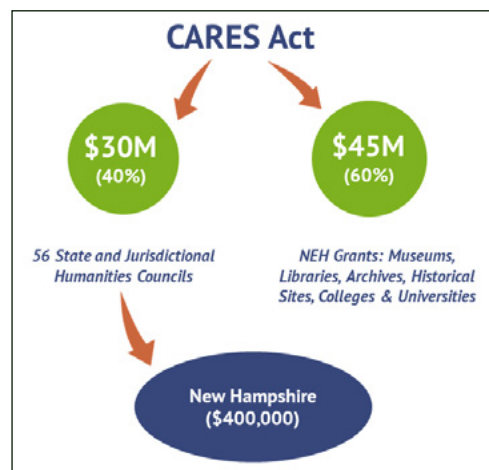
**language. The books presented by Maren in this session had interesting, current topics that can be useful in our daily lives. The world of books is fascinating and unpredictable, and the imagination of writers without borders. I wish I could write books, but I don’t have that ability; instead I’m glad I’m a reader.”**

To return to the initial question of “What’s the point in doing something if we can’t measure it?” The answer is simple. Some impacts cannot always be measured. Literature, even in the simplest of children’s books, can hold tremendous power and create some of our fondest life memories. Sometimes stories, and the way they make us think or feel, cannot be captured by a spreadsheet or a datapoint. However, that does not make them less important. In fact, it makes them more important. For they reveal the true heart of the *Connections* program. 🌈

# CARES Act Grants



In April 2020, Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) which provided \$75 million in supplemental funding to assist cultural institutions affected by the coronavirus. \$30 million of that was allocated to our state and jurisdictional humanities organizations to support grants to eligible nonprofits for humanities programming and general operating support.



As a result, New Hampshire Humanities (NHH) received \$420,200 in supplemental funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and launched our CARES Act General Operating Support Grants Program on May 1st, making available \$400,000 in general operating support grants to eligible New Hampshire-based cultural nonprofits and public libraries ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000. NHH retained \$20,200 (5%) of the award for administrative overhead.

While we anticipated a high level of demand, the depth and breadth of financial need was overwhelming, with 80% of the applicant organizations indicating they are applying for additional sources of financial support to sustain and maintain operations to the extent possible through the current pandemic and into the foreseeable future.

On Friday, May 1st, NHH launched our CARES Act General Operating Support Grant Program and over the span of 13 business days committed all available grant dollars. In total, NHH received 89 CARES Act General Operating Support Grant applications and after careful review, funded 64 applications totaling \$400,000, positively impacting 47 communities throughout the Granite State.

*“Words cannot express the joy and gratitude I feel. We whole heartedly thank you for this grant award. When I shared the news with our founder, through tears, smiles, and excitement I said, ‘We are going to survive 2020, our 20th anniversary!’ You will never know how much this means to our organization as we redefine our existence and our future through this new normal.”*

~ CARES Act Grant Recipient

# CARES Act Grants

## Belknap County

Belknap Mill Society

## Carroll County

Cook Memorial Library  
Freedom Public Library  
Friends of the Conway Public Library  
Jackson Public Library  
New Hampshire Boat Museum  
North Conway Public Library  
Samuel H. Wentworth Library  
Tamworth History Center  
Cheshire County  
Cathedral of the Pines  
Fitzwilliam Town Library  
Historical Society of Cheshire County  
Mill Hollow Heritage Association  
Mt. Caesar Union Library  
Shedd-Porter Memorial Library

## Coos County

Berlin & Coos County Historical Society  
Berlin Public Library  
Jefferson Historical Society  
Lancaster Historical Society  
Poore Family Foundation for  
North Country Conservancy  
Grafton County  
Hanover Historical Society  
Lincoln Public Library  
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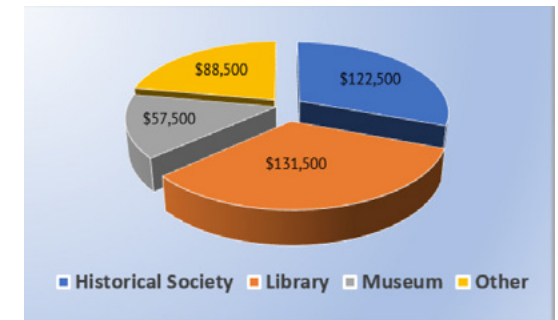
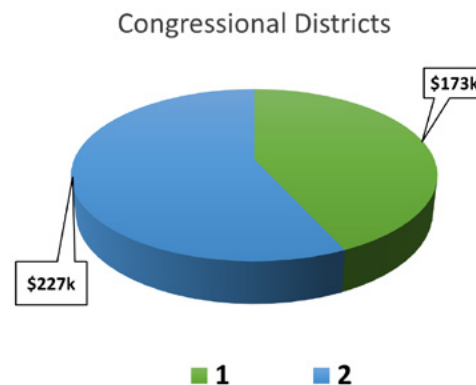
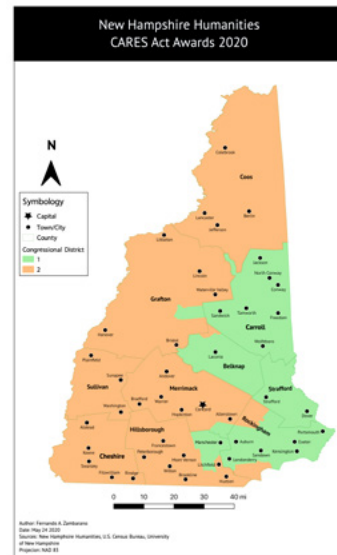
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Dr. Rosemary A. Zurawel Jahnke  
Ruth & Rodman Zwirner

***“This organization is  
a voice of humanity,  
history, and perspective.  
We need to sustain it.”***

~ Annual Fund donor

## In-Kind Gifts

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## Matching Gifts

Bank of America  
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# Humanities Endowments

Endowment funds help ensure the future of New Hampshire Humanities. They are integral to our ability to fulfill our mission of connecting people with ideas through high-quality humanities programs. The New Hampshire Humanities Board of Directors oversees all investment activity with assistance from an investment advisory committee. To support humanities programming in perpetuity by making a gift to one of our endowments, please contact our Development office at 603-224-4071, ext. 113.

## Endowment Funds (as of June 2020)

**The Osborne Fund for Education:** Restricted to programs that further K-12 learning in the humanities \$1,168,764

**The Bickford Fund for Innovation:** Restricted to supporting innovative programming in the humanities throughout New Hampshire. \$481,347

**The Merrill Fund:** Restricted to supporting humanities programs in Rockingham County. \$217,629

**The Humanities to Go Fund:** Restricted to partially offset the costs of a new *Humanities to Go* staff position dedicated to expanding *Humanities to Go* programming by reaching new audiences in new ways. \$1,121,310

## NHH Unrestricted Investment Account

**\$413,497**

New Hampshire Humanities is the beneficiary of three endowment funds held by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.

Education Fund	\$99,693
NH Legacy Fund	\$299,642
William Dunfey Fund	\$14,163

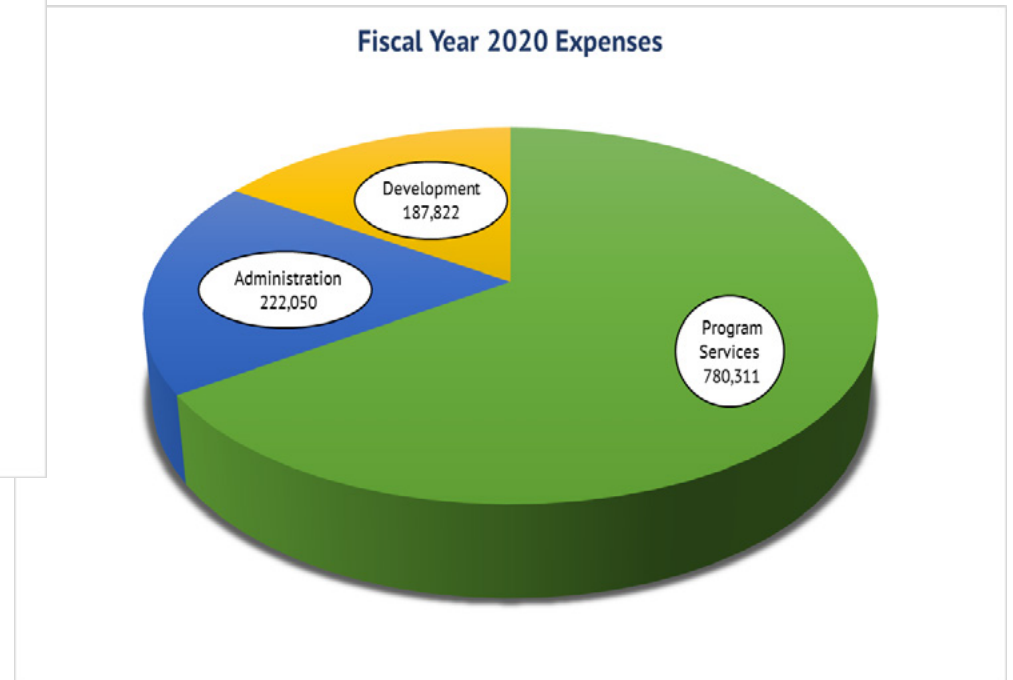
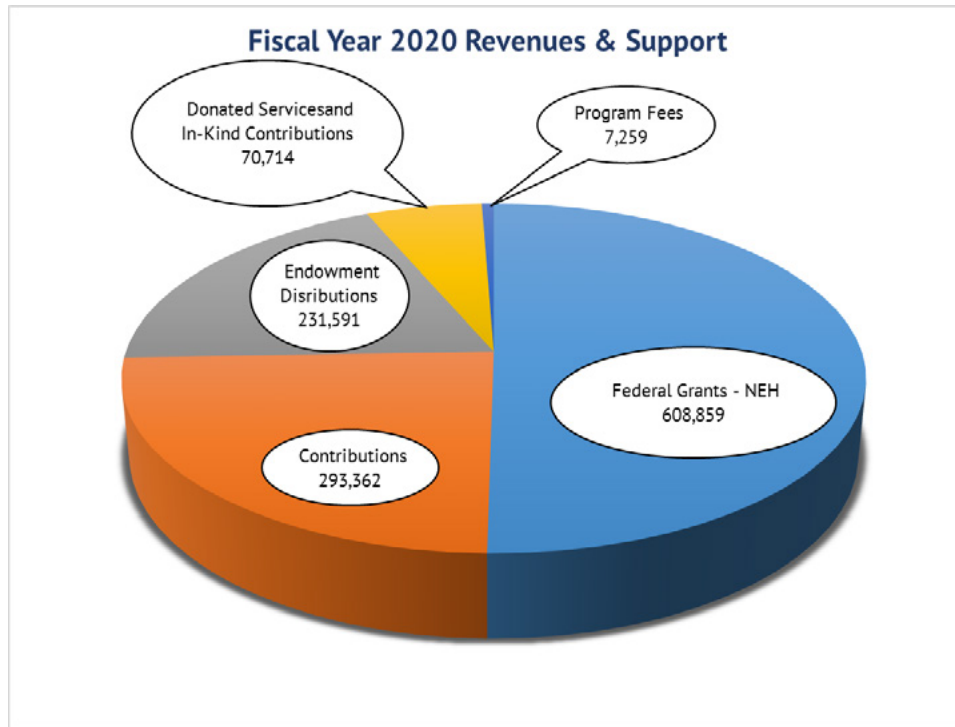
## Program Sponsors for 2020 – *Ideas on Tap*

ACLU-NH  
Currier Museum of Art  
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***“Education is the only antidote to poverty.***

***I think education is not just getting rid of poverty, but also for being an integrated human being with a broad horizon.”*** ~ New Hampshire Humanities supporter

# Fiscal Year 2020 Revenues & Support



NATIONAL  
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*New Hampshire Humanities 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 necessarily represent those of the NEH or New Hampshire Humanities.*

# Annual Celebration 2019 “Tell Us Your Story”

For decades New Hampshire Humanities Annual Celebration has provided a cornerstone of support for excellence in humanities programming and remains our sole fundraising event. This signature event attracts 500-plus leaders from corporate, civic, academic, government, nonprofit, and philanthropic sectors, and allows our programs to remain free and open to all. To mark our 30th annual event, rather than featuring a celebrity author or humanist as in years past, we turned the spotlight on the people we serve. Our theme, “Tell Us Your Story,” featured participants whose lives have been impacted by the work of New Hampshire Humanities, sharing their unique stories through storytelling, music, poetry, and more. New Hampshire Humanities thanks the following sponsors who made the 2019 Annual Celebration a successful celebration of the humanities:

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Dartmouth College

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Bangor Savings Bank  
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## Civic Champion Sponsors

Hypertherm, Inc.  
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NH Business Committee for the Arts  
NHTI-Concord's Community College  
Sleek Consulting LLC  
Speedy Printing of NH

*Special thanks to the Currier Museum of Art*

*L-R: Evan Czyzowski, Tricia Rose Burt, Ewa Chrusciel, Gwendoyne Quezaire-Prezutti, and Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki*



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humanities  
Connecting people with ideas

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# The transformative power of the humanities

For more than four decades, New Hampshire Humanities has led hundreds of thousands of Granite Staters on journeys of discovery; inviting people of all ages to think, learn, and connect with one another in meaningful and sometimes surprising ways.

Each year, in partnership with more than 300 local organizations, New Hampshire Humanities brings opportunities for learning, reflection,

and civil conversation to Granite Staters through free public programs and broadcasts held in 150 different communities in every corner of the state.

These live, face-to-face encounters enhance our capacity to discern, reflect, listen, and converse thoughtfully and respectfully. They reinforce the obligations of citizenship. And they build trust and connect neighbors, nearby and around the globe.



NEW HAMPSHIRE  
humanities

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