Humanities to Go

Reviewer Guidelines

New Hampshire Humanities' speakers bureau *Humanities to Go* provides organizations and their constituents with the opportunity to discuss, listen, and learn from humanities scholars about a range of subjects, from world, American and NH history to literature, philosophy, and ethics.

Humanities to Go programs typically feature an expert presenting on a specific topic for 60-90 minutes, followed by a question & answer session with the audience. The aim of this program is to provide high quality programs that encourage the audience to ask questions and start discussions with the presenter and then encourage conversation among attendees. Within that model, there is and can be significant variation; for example, presenters can prepare a lecture or interactive workshop for their program. It should be clear from the proposal how the program will be accomplished by the presenter within this model.

This document is intended to provide general information about the review process and the criteria to consider when evaluating a proposed program. NHH seeks high quality programs —thoroughly researched, organized, and engaging – that will be of interest to potential HTG attendees and encourage them to advance their knowledge or understanding of a particular topic. We are especially interested in potential programs that draw on fields and topics that are not covered in our catalog. We also hope to add programs that will appeal to or reach new audiences, such as programs for families. Your feedback and recommendations will help us as we determine which programs will be added to the catalogue for the upcoming year.

Proposed Presentations

All applicants were asked to respond to the following prompts and provide their credentials. Applicants were also given the option to submit supplemental materials, such as presentation samples or a 5–7-minute video sample demonstrating their presentation style.

1. **Title.** The proposed title should be catchy – to interest potential participants – and succinctly capture the presentation's focus.
2. **Program Description.** The program description should summarize the program, including the main argument and its core points, organization, and significance. Please note, the title and description will be used in the HTG catalog should the proposal be accepted.
3. **Research.** This section of the application should explain how the presentation was researched and developed. The sources, primary or secondary, that were used during research should be identified. A full bibliography or works cited is not expected.

4. **Learning goals**. What will participants gain from the presentation? This section should identify at least one learning goal—knowledge, skills, or abilities that participants will gain or practice through your program. It should clearly explain how the presentation is designed to facilitate these goals.
5. **Experience.** The presenter should summarize their prior experience presenting publicly or teaching, as well as their approach to delivering public presentations.

Evaluation Criteria

As a reviewer, you will evaluate the applicant's written responses to the above questions and any additional material submitted. Each proposal should be evaluated and scored against the following criteria.

- The degree to which the proposed presentation is grounded in the humanities; it draws on at least one humanities discipline and uses concepts and methods from the humanities.
- The degree to which the presentation has a clear focus and organization that will allow the audience to learn about the topic.
- The degree to which the presentation is grounded in substantive research and draws upon current, respected scholarship.
- The degree to which the presenter articulates clear learning goals for the program and has structured the program in such a way to achieve these learning goals.
- The degree to which the presenter is qualified to speak on the proposed topic and can provide an informative and engaging presentation that is appropriate for its intended audience.
- The degree to which the presentation's subject will interest HTG audiences or the degree to which the program would expand the current HTG catalog and grow the reach or appeal of HTG.

Definition of "the humanities"

All HTG programs must be grounded in the humanities. This means that the presentation must draw at least one humanities field to explore it's subject. Humanities fields include but are not limited to: history, literature, philosophy, anthropology, archeology, art history linguistics, classics, and legal, cultural, religious, gender or sexuality, race or ethnic studies.

HTG speakers and presentations cannot advocate for or endorse a political platform, policy, legislation, social cause, ideology, or religion. The proposed presentation should explore its subject through an analytical and objective lens.

Use this scale to rate each proposal according to the criteria outlined in the rubric:

- Exemplary: The proposal meets all requirements and is highly compelling. The proposed program would be a good fit for HTG while covering a new topic or field. The program will meet its learning goals and positively impact its participants. There are no questions or corrections necessary.
- Above Average: The proposal meets all requirements and is likely to provide a quality program. The proposed program fits the HTG model, as defined above, and will likely meet its learning goals. Concerns are few, relatively minor, and likely able to be easily addressed.
- Average: The proposal meets all requirements and is likely to provide an acceptable program. The proposed program fits the HTG model and may meet its learning goals. There are more concerns and questions that could be addressed with revisions.
- Below Average: Concerns outweigh strengths. The proposal does not meet all the requirements and there are significant questions about the quality of program that would follow from this application. The proposed program does not quite fit the HTG model, or it is unlikely to meet its learning goals. This proposal might be acceptable with significant revisions.
- Poor: Concerns are substantial and fundamental, especially as it concerns the humanities content of the proposal. The proposed program does not fit the HTG model and is unlikely to meet its learning goals. This proposal cannot be revised to be a suitable program.