



NEW HAMPSHIRE
humanities

CONNECTING PEOPLE AND IDEAS • FALL 2024

Engage!

2024 Annual
Celebration of
the Humanities!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 7 PM
TUPELO MUSIC HALL, DERRY



FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER
GREGORY MAGUIRE, AUTHOR OF *WICKED*

*Confessions of a
Wicked Writer*



A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Inheriting the leadership of a 50-year-old institution comes with a lot of mythology and lore. Celebrating New Hampshire Humanities' 50th anniversary has given me the opportunity to hear

many favorite NHH experiences. I've heard stories of amazing programs developed for poetry at Laconia Motorcycle week and decades-old debates about whether or not a documentary by then young filmmaker Ken Burns counted as the humanities (see page 4 for a chance to preview his latest).

The big truths and, perhaps, smidgen of fiction in these stories come not just from our fading memories of the last 50 years but also from how we choose to tell these stories. Retelling the stories of New Hampshire Humanities, like all good mythologies, gives us the chance to say something about who we are today, what ideas we bring with us from the past, and how we have grown and changed. As our anniversary year closes, the stories we share nurture New Hampshire Humanities as we begin our next 50 years.

Who better to help celebrate the end of our anniversary year but Gregory Maguire? Maguire's magic as an author comes from his ability to draw from the deep well of stories that we half know, imagine, and remember. Anchored in his deep knowledge and love of children's literature, Maguire understands the human desire to return to these stories with fresh eyes. This same urge powers pop culture's need to return again and again to Middle Earth and the Enterprise. We want to tell and retell the stories of Odysseus and Sherlock Holmes but this time from a perspective all our own.

Done badly, retellings retread the stories without insight but, in the hands of an exceptional author like Maguire, our return to Oz can shine. Maguire's *Wicked Witch* not only shows how society labels the freedom fighter a villain, she also becomes a role model for those who felt defined as outsiders by the color of their skin, differing abilities, or personal convictions.

Reflecting on mythology and storytelling also prepares us for the approaching 250th anniversary of America's Declaration of Independence, again inviting us to contemplate who we as Granite Staters are today, reconsider the ideas we've brought with us from the past, and mark the ways we as a nation have grown and changed. In short, the work of the humanities encourages us to retell the stories of independence, revolution, and the future of the state/country. Join NHH as we continue to rewrite the stories of New Hampshire over the coming year.

Michael Haley Goldman

Michael Haley Goldman, Executive Director
mhaleygoldman@nhhumanities.org

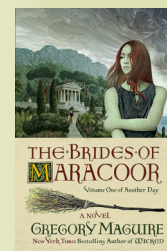
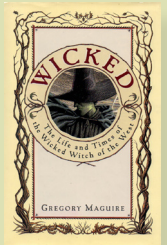
Haven't read Gregory Maguire yet, or would like to learn more?

Here are a few suggestions to get you started!

To get a sense of Maguire as a writer, you have many great books to explore. Remember that up until the publication of *Wicked* in 1995, Maguire's focus as an author and academic was on children's literature. Themes of children and childhood, folklore and mythology, and parenthood and parental absence all play a role in Maguire's stories whether intended for older or younger audiences. This list will get you started in the territory Maguire has explored beyond Oz. From Tooth Fairies to Ebenezer Scrooge, from Alice to Snow White, Maguire manages to both celebrate and irreverently expand the stories we think we know.

Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West (1995) -

Before exploring *BEYOND* Oz, you might want to start with Maguire's best known novel – also his first novel aimed at an adult audience. If you are only familiar with the musical, buckle in for something much more epic, nuanced, and dark.

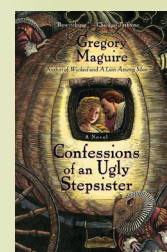
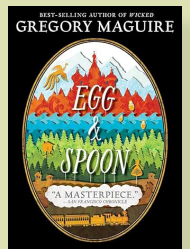


The Brides of Maracoor (2021) -

Following quite literally on the last of Maguire's OZ books, *Out of Oz*, *Brides* brings characters from the *Wicked Years* series to a new land, new lore, and new challenges. Tonally different from the earlier series but equally raising questions of how we choose to act or let ourselves be acted upon.

Egg and Spoon (2014) -

If you've somehow missed the joys of reading literature for younger audiences, Maguire's take on Russian Folklore is a wonderful place to start. His rendition of the classic Slavic witch, Baba Yaga, with her chicken footed house is possibly my favorite witch ever (but don't tell Elphaba).



Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister

(1999) - Like *Wicked*, Maguire clearly wrote *Confessions* for adults. As always, Maguire gives depth to the characters we've learned to write off as cruel or stupid. I was particularly drawn to the portrayal of a family seeking to lift itself out of poverty and despair.

- Michael Haley Goldman

Share your story of the humanities in New Hampshire. Record your favorite memories connected to the humanities on a simple and fun tool anyone can use! Go to www.nhhumanities.org/stories



2024 Annual Celebration of the Humanities Wednesday, October 16 at 7:00 pm

PUBLIC RECEPTION, PROGRAM & BOOK SIGNING
Tupelo Music Hall, 10 A Street, Derry, NH

FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER GREGORY MAGUIRE, AUTHOR OF *WICKED*

Confessions of a Wicked Writer

Join us for an intimate conversation with **Gregory Maguire, author of *Wicked*, inspiration for the smash Broadway musical and soon-to-be-released movie.** He will be joined onstage by **Jaed Coffin**, professor of Creative Fiction and Non-Fiction at the University of New Hampshire. Together, we will learn how Maguire's life, childhood, and love of children's literature shaped him as an author and storyteller.

Your purchase of tickets to the Annual Celebration of the Humanities **directly supports hundreds of free programs** that bring residents together to explore our shared cultures and values that bind us together. Celebrate with us and connect with new ideas and those who share your passion for the humanities. Reserve your seats today!

www.nhhumanities.org/celebrate

Tickets

Emerald City: \$150*

No Place Like Home: \$50

Yellow Brick Road: \$75

Poppy Fields: \$35

**Includes entry to a special 5:00 pm reception with keynote Gregory Maguire*

Presented by

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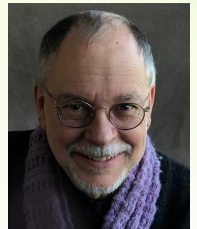
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GREGORY MAGUIRE

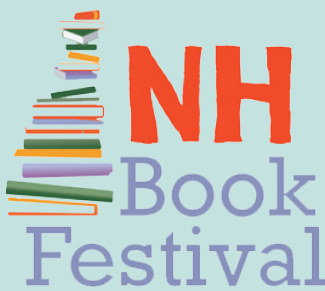
had been an author of children's books for almost two decades when, in 1995, he published his first novel for adults, *Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West*. The novel initially sold 500,000 copies before the 2003 opening of the blockbuster Broadway adaptation. By 2005, ten years after its original publication, *Wicked* spent six months on *The New York Times* bestseller list. The stage adaptation of his book will be released as a movie on November 22.



JAED COFFIN

is an assistant professor of creative writing (fiction & nonfiction) at the University of New Hampshire. His first book, *A Chant to Soothe Wild Elephants* (2008), chronicles the summer he spent as a Buddhist monk in his mother's village in central Thailand. His next book, *Roughhouse Friday* (2019), explored the year he won the middleweight title of a barroom boxing show in Juneau, Alaska. Coffin served as the Wilson Fellow in Creative Writing at Deerfield Academy, the William Sloane Fellow at the Bread Loaf Writers Conference, and was a storyteller on the *MOTH Radio Hour*.





NH Book Festival coming to Concord Oct. 4-5

A first-ever statewide celebration of authors, conversation, and community will come to historic downtown Concord this fall in a two-day festival of live presentations, panel discussions, and book signings by more than 40 nationally known authors, supported in part by a New Hampshire Humanities Community Project Grant. Mark your calendars for the NH Book Festival on **Friday and Saturday, October 4-5!**

Designed for all ages, the festival features a keynote for school children with super-star author Kate DiCamillo on Friday morning and an evening keynote by best-selling author Jean Hanff Korelitz Friday evening. Saturday's events include a full day of free author panels and book signings, contemporaneous street festival with books galore, and conclude with a one-of-a-kind Book-to-Screen program and film with Kate Dicamillo. **For details and the schedule, please visit www.nhbookfestival.org.**



Join us for a film premiere & conversation with Ken Burns

Inside The Mind of a Genius: Leonardo daVinci September 12 in Manchester

In partnership with **New Hampshire Humanities** and **New Hampshire Public Television**, the **Gregory J. Grappone Humanities Institute, Saint Anselm College** is pleased to announce that we will be welcoming **Ken Burns** to the Saint Anselm campus on the evening of **Thursday, September 12th** at 7:30 pm in the Dana Center for a premiere of upcoming new documentary on Leonardo da Vinci.

Telling the story of one of the European Renaissance's most fascinating and impactful artists, inventors, and humanists, this new film has been described as a departure in approach and style from any of the films Ken has done. Join us for this special premiere and a conversation with the filmmaker about the content and production. **We expect this event to sell out! Get your tickets at nhhumanities.org.**



What does “rural America” mean?

And how have our small towns changed?

The celebration of New Hampshire Humanities' 50th anniversary continues with a new initiative that will bring Granite Staters and our neighbors in Vermont together to explore our shared history– in particular, how our small towns have evolved and what makes these places unique. Partnering with the **Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street** program, New Hampshire Humanities and Vermont Humanities present a traveling exhibit, **Crossroads: Change in Rural America**, in six small towns through August 2025.

Despite economic and demographic shifts, America's rural communities continue to find new creative opportunities for economic innovation and cultural life. *Crossroads* encourages discussion about how these changes impacted small towns and the ways that they continue to be important assets to the nation.

To build on local partnerships and encourage community members to get involved, each of the six host sites will offer a series of public events to accompany the *Crossroads* exhibit, each one unique to its location. Please join us at any or all the locations hosting *Crossroads*.

TOUR DATES:

- Aug. 23 - Oct. 26, 2024
St. Albans Museum, St. Albans City, VT
Oct. 12 – Dec. 1, 2024
- River Valley Community College, Claremont, NH
Feb. 8 – March 23, 2025
- Chandler Center for the Arts, Randolph, VT
March 29 – May 11, 2025
- Jefferson Historical Society, Jefferson, NH
May 31 - July 12, 2025
- Museum of the White Mountains, Plymouth, NH
July 19 - Aug. 31, 2025
- Old Stone House Museum, Brownington, VT

Visit nhhumanities.org/Crossroads for more information.

Would you like to make a lasting impact by providing opportunities for lifelong learning in every corner of the state? Your bequest of any size helps ensure Granite Staters have access to programs that inspire curiosity and foster civil dialogue, now and in the future. Please contact Sarah Chaffee, Director of Development at schaffee@nhhumanities.org or 603-224-4071, ext. 113.

Holes in the Language

By Mary Nolin, with support from Carolyn Hutton, Pam Seremet, Caroline Edwards, and the students at the International Institute of New England

For anyone who has ever studied and tried to speak another language, you might feel that you have “holes” in your language abilities. Maybe you are a strong speaker but experience difficulties reading the language. Maybe you understand words you hear but find it hard to write them. This past spring, two English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at the International Institute of New England (IINE) in Manchester explored what happened when they intentionally put “holes” in their language class, when they read and discussed Louis Sachar’s novel *Holes* through the *Connections* book discussion program.



Drawing of “The Warden” by Fariji Badesile, originally from the Democratic Republic of the Congo

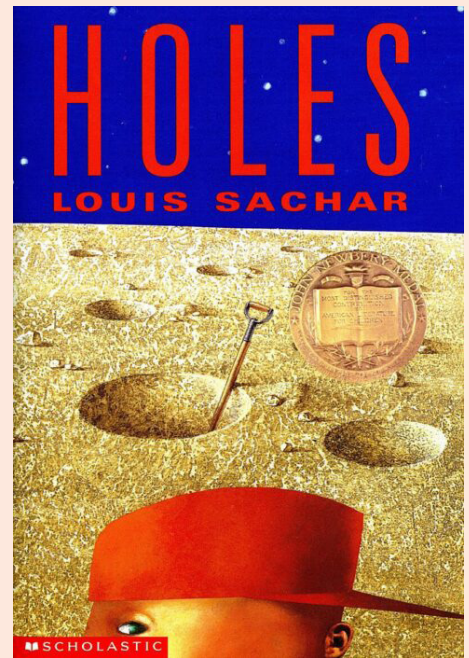
and he won’t stop until he ‘digs’ up the truth.

Holes is the fictional story of Stanley Yelnats, a young boy wrongly accused of stealing a pair of sneakers and sent to Camp Green Lake, a detention center for boys. There he and the other boys spend each day digging a hole exactly five feet wide and five feet deep in the dried-up lakebed. It does not take Stanley long to realize that there is a deeper story at Camp Green Lake,

chapter, and shared her hopes for this activity: **“Beyond what would be a fun way to build literacy skills, students would have an opportunity to engage with a text and experience making meaning between their own perceptions and ideas and those of the writer. I was hoping the blend of comprehension questions, vocabulary learning, art, and personal reflection might help to achieve this. It’s even better when all those voices can be shared among a class.”**

Afterwards, the students, along with their teachers and *Connections* facilitator, came together to discuss the book and share their journal reflections.

For many students, the journal served as a powerful medium to share their written and artistic reflections. Not only did they use the journal to demonstrate their English language skills in reading, writing, and understanding, they also used it to share personal stories or life experiences they had in common with the book and its characters. For example, Pamela Tendo, a student from the Democratic Republic of Congo, reflected on the title *Holes* as a metaphor for



To read a novel in another language is no small feat, but the teachers at IINE, Pam Seremet and Caroline Edwards, felt that *Holes* held a powerful message about building community through adversity that would resonate with their ESL students, all of whom are refugees or immigrants from other countries. They worked with long-time NHH *Connections* facilitator Carolyn Hutton to design a series that would deepen students’ reading ability and comprehension. Hutton created journal prompts for students to complete after reading each



ESL students in the International Institute of New England read Louis Sachar’s novel *Holes*. Photo courtesy of Pam Seremet

Continued

Holes in the Language, continued

the literal holes that are being dug in her home country as corporations scramble for mining rights for the precious minerals found there. When the students were asked to talk about a situation where they, like the novel's characters, put all their hopes into one plan, Katherin, originally from the Dominican Republic, observed **"90% of adults have experienced a situation where they put all their hope in a plan or dream. When you go to college, when you search for a dream job, when you decide to move to another country to have better opportunities in your life, all these decisions involve a certain level of uncertainty where you are betting on it, but you have no idea that it will work."**

For IINE teachers, Pam and Caroline, the impact of reading *Holes*, the journal, and discussing the book through *Connections* held both the practical and heartfelt implications in their teaching and students' learning. With pressure on adult education centers to show gains on their standardized test results, *Holes* and *Connections* served as a 'one-stop shop' for English language instruction with opportunities to explore grammar, practice reading and writing fluency, and engage in critical conversations around ideas that were readily built into the literature. Pam shared, **"I saw an increase of self-confidence as the students got the chance to read aloud orally each night. As time went on, I felt each student's fluency had improved."** For Caroline, *Connections* books' go far deeper than any test score. She said, **"As a teacher, I love the opportunity to delve deep into the subject matter and bring it to life with either the lyrical prose of the books, or the vivid illustrations. With each *Connections* book, we lead the students on a journey of self-discovery by gently drawing parallels from literature to their own lives."**

As the students at IINE show, the next time someone tells you that you have holes in a language you are studying, try filling it with literature! 🌍

To learn more, visit www.nhhumanities.org/Connections

Prompt #2: Using the words of description as a guide, draw a picture of the yellow spotted lizard. Use color if you can!!



Drawing by Mohammed Al Rawi, originally from Iraq



Welcome, Katie!

New Hampshire Humanities is pleased to welcome **Katie Malloy** as our new Program Coordinator. In this role, Katie supports programmatic efforts across the organization, including coordinating our recent *Knit Democracy Together* initiative and the upcoming *Smithsonian Museum on Main Street Crossroads* project. She earned a BFA in Illustration from Rhode Island School of Design, and in addition to pursuing freelance design, has worked in the realms of sustainable agriculture and farm-to-school for a decade. Multiple service terms with AmeriCorps and FoodCorps has made Katie passionate about serving her community. In her free time, she enjoys outdoor activities, hiking, gardening, and making art. Katie can be reached at kmalloy@nhhumanities.org.

Michael Haley Goldman joins Leadership New Hampshire Class of 2025

New Hampshire Humanities' executive director Michael Haley Goldman will be part of the year-long Leadership New Hampshire (LNH) Class of 2025. LNH's mission is to build a community of informed and engaged leaders annually by gathering a select cohort of talented and accomplished individuals from across the state and provide them with opportunities to learn about the complex issues facing our state, to connect with one another, and to serve their communities and our state in positions of leadership and responsibility.



Visit www.leadershipnh.org



Calendar

NEW HAMPSHIRE HUMANITIES
FALL 2024 EVENTS



9/3 | EXETER | 7:00 PM

***Range the Wild Woods Over:
Loggers' Songs and Stories***

Presented by Jeff Warner
Exeter Town Hall, 9 Front Street
Contact: Barbara Rimkunas, 603-778-2335

9/4 | LEE | 7:00 PM

new

History and Mystery: A Genealogy Starter Guide

Presented by Erin Moulton
Lee Public Library, 9 Mast Road
Contact: Lee Public Library, 603-659-2626

9/5 | CENTER BARNSTEAD | 6:00 PM

new

***Before Peyton Place: In Search of the
Real Grace Metalious***

Presented by Robert B. Perreault
Oscar Foss Library, 111 South Barnstead Road
Contact: 603-269-3900

9/5 | GREENVILLE | 7:00 PM (VIRTUAL)

Jennie Powers: The Woman Who Dares

Presented by Jenna Carroll
Contact: Chamberlin Free Public Library,
603-878-1105

9/8 | WILMOT | 12:00 PM

Music in My Pockets: Family Fun in Folk Music

Presented by Jeff Warner
Wilmot Town Common, 9 Kearsarge Valley Rd.
Contact: Meg Dugan, 603-526-7934

9/10 | PLAISTOW | 6:00 PM

***From Mickey to Magoo: The Golden Age of
American Animation***

Presented by Margo Burns
Plaistow Public Library, 85 Main Street
Contact: 603-382-6011

9/10 | FREMONT | 7:00 PM

A Visit with Abraham Lincoln

Presented by Steve Wood
Fremont Public Library, 7 Jackie Bernier Drive
Contact: Fremont Historical Soc. 603-303-6383

9/11 | SANDOWN | 7:00 PM

***New England's Colonial Meetinghouses and
Their Impact on American Society***

Presented by Paul Wainwright
Sandown Town Hall, 320 Main Street
Contact: Sandown Heritage Comm. 603-887-5131

9/12 | MANCHESTER | 8:30 PM

***Inside The Mind of a Genius: Leonardo Da Vinci:
A Film Premiere & Conversation with Ken Burns***

Presented by the Grappone Humanities Institute
Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive
Contact: 603-641-7000

9/14 | NORTH HAMPTON | 11:00 AM

A Walk Back in Time: The Secrets of Cellar Holes

Presented by Adair D. Mulligan
North Hampton Public Library, 239 Atlantic Ave.
Contact: 603-964-6326

9/17 | MERRIMACK | 7:00 PM

Fabergé Imperial Easter Eggs

Presented by Marina Forbes
Merrimack Historical Society, 10 Depot Street
Contact: 603-424-5207

9/17 | SANBORNVILLE | 7:00 PM

***New Hampshire's One-Room Rural Schools:
The Romance and the Reality***

Presented by Steve Taylor
Gafney Library, 14 High Street
Contact: Jennifer Rich, 603-522-6713

9/17 | BARTLETT | 7:00 PM

That Reminds Me of A Story

Presented by Rebecca Rule
Bartlett Public Library, 1313 US Route 302
Contact: Bartlett Public Library, 603-374-2755

9/17 | NEW HAMPTON | 7:00 PM

Songs of Old New Hampshire

Presented by Jeff Warner
Gordon-Nash Library, 69 Main Street
Contact: Juliet Kirzner, 603-217-7665

9/19 | CHICHESTER | 6:00 PM

***Liberty Is Our Motto!: Songs and Stories of the
Hutchinson Family Singers***

Presented by Steve Blunt
Chichester Grange/Town Hall, 54 Main Street
Contact: Chichester Library, 603-798-5613

9/19 | MEREDITH | 7:00 PM

new

Covered Bridges of NH - Past and Present

Presented by Kim Varney Chandler
Meredith Community Center, 1 Circle Drive
Contact: Loren McCabe, 603-496-6907

9/20 | CONCORD | 5:00 PM (VIRTUAL)

***Humanities@Home: Native American Identity,
Sovereignty, & Tribal Enrollment: Understanding
the History of Tribal Membership and the
Contemporary Impact on Dating***

Presented by Danielle D. Lucero
New Hampshire Humanities, 117 Pleasant St.
Contact: programs@nhhumanities.org

9/21 | KINGSTON | 10:00 AM

***From Mickey to Magoo: The Golden Age of
American Animation***

Presented by Margo Burns
Kingston Community Library, 2 Library Lane
Contact: 603-642-3521

9/21 | SALISBURY | 1:00 PM

Songs of Old New Hampshire

Presented by Jeff Warner
Salisbury Free Library, 641 Old Turnpike Road
Contact: Salisbury Free Library, 603-648-2278

9/24 | BRISTOL | 6:30 PM

Songs of Old New Hampshire

Presented by Jeff Warner
Minot-Sleeper Library, 35 Pleasant Street
Contact: Lucille Keegan, 603-744-2751

Program types/titles are color coded:
Humanities to Go **Humanities@Home**
Special Projects **Grant Funded Events**

9/24 | STRATHAM | 6:30 PM **new**
Covered Bridges of NH - Past and Present
Presented by Kim Varney Chandler
Wiggin Memorial Library, 10 Bunker Hill Ave.
Contact: Tricia Ryden, 6030-772-4346

9/24 | NASHUA | 7:00 PM **new**
Heroes and Homecomings:
Norman Rockwell and World War II
Presented by Jane Oneail
Speare Museum, 5 Abbott Street
Contact: Nashua Historical Soc., 603-883-0015

9/25 | KEENE | 9:00 AM
Radically Rural Summit
Presented by Hannah Grimes Center for
Entrepreneurship
Colonial Theater, 95 Main Street
Contact: Julianna Dodson, 603-352-5063

9/26 | TAMWORTH | 7:00 PM
**Range the Wild Woods Over: Loggers'
Songs and Stories**
Presented by Jeff Warner
Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm
58 Cleveland Hill Road
Contact: James Cruickshank, 603-323-7591

9/27 | HILL | 6:00 PM **new**
Covered Bridges of NH - Past and Present
Presented by Kim Varney Chandler
Hill Library, 1151 Parker Mountain Road
Contact: Hill Library, 603-664-2800

10/3 | GREENFIELD | 7:00 PM
**Brewing in NH: An Informal History of Beer in the
Granite State from Colonial Times to the Present**
Presented by Glenn A. Knoblock
Stephenson Memorial Library, Wensberg Room,
761 Forest Road
Contact: 603-547-2790

10/7 | NASHUA | 1:00 PM
Digging Into Native History in New Hampshire
Presented by Robert Goodby
Nashua Presbyterian Church, 1010 W. Hollis St.
Contact: Linda Twombly, 603-440-3509

10/8 | SALISBURY | 6:00 PM
New England Quilts and the Stories They Tell
Presented by Pamela Weeks
Salisbury Heights Old Baptist Meeting House
651 Old Turnpike Road
Contact: Salisbury Historical Soc., 603-648-2746

10/8 | PLAISTOW | 6:00 PM **new**
Robert Frost on the Farm:
NH Farming in 1900 as Told by the Poet
Presented by Jeffrey Zygmunt
Plaistow Public Library, 85 Main Street
Contact: Plaistow Public Library, 603-382-6011

10/8 | BROOKFIELD | 7:00 PM
A Walk Back in Time: The Secrets of Cellar Holes
Presented by Adair D. Mulligan
Brookfield Town House, 267 Wentworth Road
Contact: Jennifer Rich, 603-522-6713

10/11 | AUBURN | 7:00 PM
New Hampshire Cemeteries and Gravestones
Presented by Glenn A. Knoblock
Griffin Free Library, 22 Hooksett Rd.
Contact: 603-483-5374

10/12 | CLAREMONT
Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street
Crossroads: Change in Rural American Opening
River Valley Community College, 1 College Place
Contact: 603-542-7744



10/16 | DERRY | 6:30 PM
2024 Annual Celebration of the Humanities
Featuring keynote speaker Gregory Maguire,
in an onstage conversation with Jaed Coffin
Tupelo Music Hall, 10A Street
Contact: nhhumanities.org/celebrate

10/19 | CORNISH | 6:30 PM
**Family Stories: How and Why to Remember
and Tell Them**
Presented by Jo Radner
Cornish Town Office, 488 Townhouse Road
Contact: Cornish Historical Society,
chs@cornishnh.net

10/20 | PLAINFIELD | 3:00 PM
**Wit and Wisdom: The Forgotten Literary Life of
New England Villages**
Presented by Jo Radner
Plainfield Town Hall, 1079 Route 12A
Contact: Plainfield Hist. Society, 603-298-8834

10/22 | HAMPSTEAD | 6:30 PM
**Brewing in NH: An Informal History of Beer in the
Granite State from Colonial Times to the Present**
Presented by Glenn A. Knoblock
Hampstead Public Library, 9 Mary E. Clark Drive
Contact: Julie Watt, 603-329-6411

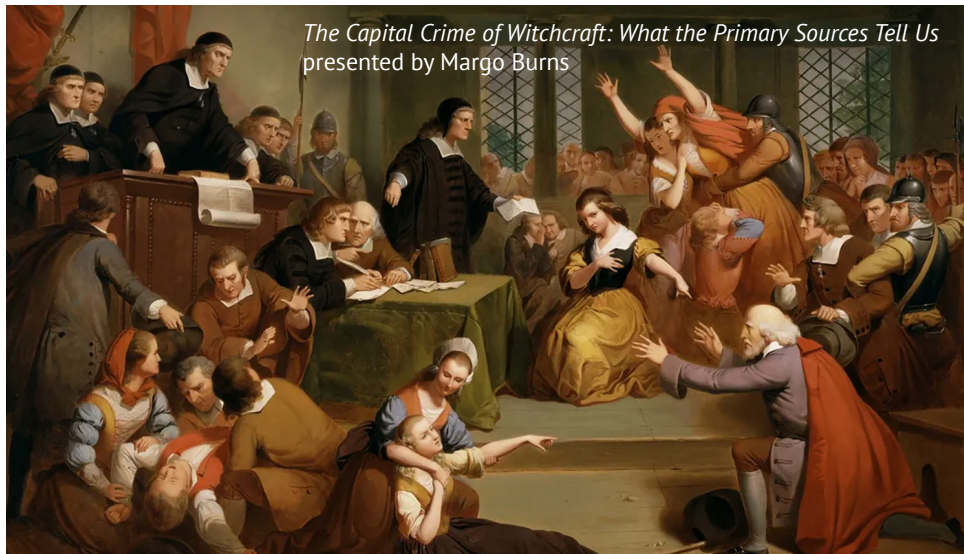
10/24 | SANBORNTON | 6:00 PM
A Walk Back in Time: The Secrets of Cellar Holes
Presented by Adair D. Mulligan
Sanbornton Public Library
27 Meetinghouse Hill Road
Contact: 603-286-8288

10/24 | CENTER SANDWICH | 6:30 PM
**New Hampshire's Long Love-Hate Relationship
with Its Agricultural Fairs**
Presented by Steve Taylor
Samuel H. Wentworth Library, 35 Main Street
Contact: Diana Witt, 678-372-1530

10/28 | CHICHESTER | 7:00 PM
New Hampshire Cemeteries and Gravestones
Presented by Glenn A. Knoblock
Chichester Grange/Town Hall, 54 Main Street
Contact: Chichester Library, 603-798-5613

10/29 | HUDSON | 6:30 PM
**The Capital Crime of Witchcraft: What the
Primary Sources Tell Us**
Presented by Margo Burns
Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road
Contact: Carrie Loring, 603-886-6030

10/30 | MARLBOROUGH | 7:00 PM
**New England's Colonial Meetinghouses and
Their Impact on American Society**
Presented by Paul Wainwright
Marlborough Community House, 160 Main St.
Contact: JoAnn Robinson, 603-876-4068



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Announcing the 2024 Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities Award: ALAN F. RUMRILL

Each fall at our Annual Celebration of the Humanities, New Hampshire Humanities honors an individual who has made longstanding and wide-ranging contributions to the people of New Hampshire through their extraordinary commitment to the humanities. This year we are pleased to honor ALAN F. RUMRILL, outgoing executive director of the Historical Society of Cheshire County in Keene.



Alan F. Rumrill

In his 41 years of service, Alan F. Rumrill has established the Historical Society of Cheshire County (HSCC) as the premier resource for historical information about the region, whether it is a news reporter looking for background information for a story, or a rural resident wondering about the historical significance of an item found in a barn.

Howard Mansfield, a well-known New Hampshire author, praised Alan for creating the best resource for local historical information. "Alan Rumrill has established the most exceptional local historical society I have ever utilized for research."

Since becoming the first paid staff member in 1983, Alan has overseen the growth of the historical society to its current level with six staff members, 130 volunteers, and three buildings. With an annual budget of over \$450,000 and an endowment over \$3.8 million, the organization presents 150+ programs annually.

In addition to his work at the Historical Society, Alan has been a prolific writer and presenter. In 1985, he premiered a radio program, "Monadnock Moments" at WKBK radio in Keene, writing and recording over 1,500 episodes in the past four decades. He has also penned more than 200 "Moments in (Local) History" columns for the *Keene Sentinel* and authored nine books on regional art and history.

Alan's impact extends well beyond the Historical Society. In 1987, he launched an internship program with Keene State College, working with more than 100 student interns and volunteers, and has served as a guest lecturer in several classes at the College. His passion and expertise inspired many of his students to pursue careers in the museum and archive fields, where they hold professional positions today.

Soon after the Covid pandemic hit, Alan began to write a series of stories that appeared weekly in email blasts and in the local newspaper, known as "Viral Stories: Tales for a Pandemic." The tales were embraced by the community for sharing a sense that we had been through tough times before in our history and risen to the occasion. What better example of community impact when it was needed dearly?

When asked about what connects him with the HSCC mission, Alan shared, "My family has lived in Cheshire County since 1770. As a youngster I became interested in local history stories. Here at the Historical Society, we have learned that people enjoy and relate to local stories, and sharing those tales is one of my favorite parts of the job."

Alan's role as executive director ends this fall, and HSCC will make a transition to new leadership. Historical societies and historians spend a lot of their time looking back to the past, but it is also important to look to the future. Because of Alan's dedication to preserving and sharing local history has left such a lasting impact on the community and the field of humanities, his work will continue to inspire future generations of historians and researchers.

Contributed by Rick Swanson, Historical Society of Cheshire County

"Alan Rumrill has created the best local historical society that I have ever used for research."

Howard Mansfield, NH author



Alan Rumrill doing what he loves best—sharing his passion for history with community members.

Join us on Oct. 16 in Derry as we honor Alan at the Annual Celebration of the Humanities! nhhumanities.org/celebrate

Welcome, new Board members!



JOSHUA BECKER is Associate Professor and a campus faculty librarian at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU). Trained in English, history, and information science, Joshua works across disciplines to support student research and learning at SNHU. An educator since 2002, Joshua holds an M.S.L.I.S. from the University of Illinois and an M.A.T. in English Education

from Boston University. A committed advocate of lifelong learning and the humanities, his research interests include metaliterary instruction, universal design, and information ethics. From 2020-2023, Joshua was the Christos and Mary Papoutsy Distinguished Chair in Leadership Ethics, a highlight of his academic career. As chair, he planned panels, workshops, exhibits, and lectures, to engage the campus community in ethical and cultural discussions.



ANDREW PYSZKA has been a dedicated educator in the Goffstown School District since 1994, currently serving as the lead social studies teacher at Goffstown High School (GHS). With a passion for innovative education, Andrew has played integral roles in various initiatives— as a mentor in the district’s inaugural mentor program, a game manager for the GHS athletic

department, and the head coach for the GHS Bass Fishing team. His commitment extends beyond the classroom through service to the National Council for History Education, National Council for Social Studies, NH Council for the Social Studies, and as a member of the Goffstown Historical Society Board of Directors. He was named NH History Teacher of the Year by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in 2023, and received the NH Outstanding Teacher of American History Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution in 2020.

CONNIE ROY-CZYZOWSKI, SPHR retired after 25 years as VP, Human Resources at Northeast Delta Dental where her expertise helped the company win many awards, including “Best Company to Work For in NH.” A graduate of Leadership NH, she serves on the Boards of the Mental Health Center Greater Manchester, NeighborWorks Southern NH, and is a Corporator of Canterbury Shaker Village.

She has served on the Board of the NH Women’s Foundation and was a Trustee of the Community College System of NH for 17 years. Connie has been recognized with the Granite State HR Conference “HR Hero” Award, *NH Business Review*’s “Outstanding Women in Business,” the NH Business & Industry Association “Above and Beyond Award,” and the NH YWCA’s “Susan B. Anthony Award.” Connie is most proud of her three adult sons who have careers in teaching, law enforcement, and in the biomedical industry, and she enjoys traveling internationally.



JACQUELINE (JACQUE) WERNIMONT

is Distinguished Chair of Digital Humanities and Social Engagement and an Associate Professor of Film and Media Studies at Dartmouth College. She runs the Digital Justice Lab at Dartmouth, where she works on the histories of quantification and datafication of human life and death. She also is interested in how these histories cross traditional disciplinary boundaries - including in the history of science and medicine, and history of technology and computing. Her books include *Numbered Lives: Life and Death in Quantum Media* and *Bodies of Information: Intersectional Feminism and Digital Humanities* (co-edited with Elizabeth Losh). She also writes for popular outlets such as *Slate*, *The Washington Post*, and the Social Sciences Research Council. She holds a Ph.D. and MA in English from Brown University.



Turn your passion for the humanities into impact for all Granite Staters!

Do you have a passion for the humanities and believe opportunities for lifelong learning should be available in every corner of the state? New Hampshire Humanities is seeking candidates like you for its Board of Directors. If you have a dedication to public service and a commitment to ensuring cultural enrichment for all Granite Staters, please contact Michael Haley Goldman, Executive Director, at mhaleygoldman@nhhumanities.org to learn more.

Thank you, Annual Partners

We are grateful for the support of our partners who help sustain the work of New Hampshire Humanities by providing year-round support:

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We are thrilled to announce that in honor of New Hampshire Humanities' 50th anniversary, former Executive Director Charlie Bickford has generously offered \$5,000 as a challenge match to inspire new or increased donations. This means every qualifying gift will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$5,000!

This is a fantastic opportunity to *DOUBLE* the impact of your gift!

As we celebrate 50 years in your community and approach the 2024 presidential election, please make a gift to help gather Granite Staters together – no matter our individual perspectives – to ask vital questions about the complex world we live in, think critically about the challenging issues facing our society, and share the stories that make us human.

Thank you for making a gift to help expand civic knowledge, strengthen communities, and build the state's cultural capital in our next fifty years!

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Please return to New Hampshire Humanities, 117 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301. To learn about other ways to give, contact Lynn Douillette, Director of Annual Giving, at 603-224-4071, ext. 120 or ldouillette@nhhumanities.org.



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~ Gregory Maguire, *Hiddensee: A Tale of the Once and Future Nutcracker*

2024 ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THE HUMANITIES! OCTOBER 16 • TUPELO MUSIC HALL, DERRY
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: **GREGORY MAGUIRE, AUTHOR OF WICKED** • nhhumanities.org/celebrate

For 50 years, New Hampshire Humanities has been connecting **people** and **ideas** by funding and supporting statewide programs that inspire **curiosity**, foster civil **dialogue** and explore **big questions!**



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