

**FY
20**

**MISSOURI
HUMANITIES
ANNUAL REPORT**

For a more thoughtful, informed, and civil society.



MOHUMANITIES.ORG
@mohumanities
info@mohumanities.org

**105 NORTH MAIN
ST., STE. 108**
St. Charles, MO 63301

**1800 BALTIMORE
AVE, STE. 1S**
Kansas City, MO 64108

 @mohumanities

 @MoHumanities

 @mohumanities

 info@mohumanities.org

Letter to the Community

From Missouri Humanities' Executive Director



To the surprise of no one, the past year has been quite challenging, to put it mildly. Yet while panic consumed the nation and portions of our state, Missouri Humanities reacted accordingly and acted admirably despite the widespread panic. The consequent reduction in our state funding sources certainly put us in a severe bind, but the implementation of numerous measures kept us operating as if little had happened – in fact, I am quite proud in declaring that we took the humanities in Missouri to a higher level, reaching larger audiences and more areas of our state, forming new and lasting partnerships, developing exciting innovative programming opportunities, and making a far greater impact on the citizens of our state.

Most exciting for our future prospects is that we went virtual and we went digital, thus reducing our expenses substantially, maximizing our reduced income, and allowing us to impact more people. Just visit our website to see our novel virtual and digital approach – our cutting-edge videos, documentaries, podcasts, and other online activities and programs, arising from the necessary changes forced upon us in this new environment, speak volumes about the ongoing stellar work and dedication of the staff at Missouri Humanities. We have indeed weathered the storm, as the humanities always should! But we learned a valuable lesson: we need the support of the general public now more than ever if we are to keep operating at the level our followers expect of us and that we at Missouri Humanities demand. To that end, please do not hesitate to join our cause, and become a member of Missouri Humanities. For those of you who have indeed stepped up in support of our cause, we cannot thank you enough – your commitment to the humanities in Missouri is greatly appreciated and deeply valued!

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "W. Belko". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dr. William Belko, Executive Director

THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT

BENEFACTOR LEVEL (\$1,000 +):

**CONNIE & DAN BURKHARDT, THE KATY LAND TRUST
SUSANNE & JIM EVENS, FOUNDER & CEO AAA TRANSLATION**

PATRON LEVEL (\$500 +):

**MARIE BENNETT PETE BROWNE CHRISTOPHER DUNN LAURA DIERBERG AYERS
ROBERT HANSEN MICHAEL HOGAN STEPHANIE HOWE ETTA MADDEN**

PARTNER LEVEL (\$250 +):

**MARCI BENNETT MARY & DAN BRUNTRAGER ANN CAMPION RILEY DR. DEBBIE DEPEW PETRA DEWITT
MARGARET BEARD-FOSNOW DR. SUDARSAN KANT STEPHEN N. LIMBAUGH, JR. MR. & MRS. ROBERT MUELLER
NANCY RIDENOUR DIANA UMALI**

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Fiscal Year 2020

INCOME

NEH Multi Year	\$1,537,643 *
Missouri Cultural Trust Spending Authority	\$581,730 **
Contributions	\$85,815
Other	\$55,455

EXPENSES

MH Programs	\$1,639,375
Grants and Sponsorship	\$589,502
Administrative	\$116,516
Development and Marketing	\$130,325

TOTAL EXPENSES \$2,475,718

ENDING NET ASSETS \$1,187,810

* Multi-year grant which carries forward through 2024.

** FY20 draw down of \$436,297.

FY2020 Deficit covered by strategic reserves for the creation and expansion of new programs.

Allocation of Expenses



Community Programs

Engaging communities in thoughtful discussions that touch on current social issues.

Our Community programs provide a space to discuss topics outside of our regular programming. We partner with institutions and organizations to promote public dialogue, over various topics, through panel discussions, an open Q&A, and interactive events.

MH presented 8 Community Programs in FY20, engaging over 4,500 Missourians in community conversations across the state.



Growing Up with the River



WEDNESDAYS, JULY 29 - SEPTEMBER 30

MH provides numerous education-based programs that support civics initiatives, literary programs, commemorative projects, and a speaker series. These initiatives, made possible through strategic partnerships, foster and sustain an engaging curriculum for all age ranges throughout Missouri.

MH presented over 40 Education Programs in FY20, engaging more than 9,200 Missourians in life-long learning.

Our Family Programs aim to support early childhood development by providing free public events that empower parents and caregivers to read to their young children.

In FY20, MH offered 17 Family Programs through two major program series, reaching more than 8,100 Missourians and their families.



Heritage Programs

Dedicated to promoting Missouri's rich cultural heritage and historical significance.



Heritage Programs strive to explore and commemorate our state's rich cultural heritage and historical significance, focusing on preserving African American, German, Civil War, and rural cultural heritage.

In response to COVID-19, MH debuted virtual heritage programs, including book talks with Missouri authors, discussions about Black history and archeology in our state, and online workshops. In total, MH hosted 16 heritage programs reaching over 7,000 individuals across the state in FY20.

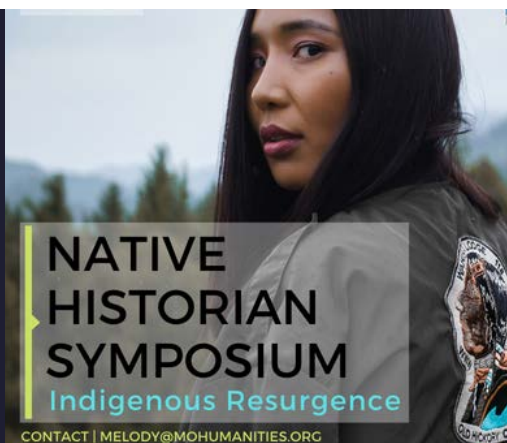
Virtual

CULTURAL HERITAGE WORKSHOP

September 3 | Presentations at 10AM, 1PM, 3PM

Our Native American Program supports projects, programs, and initiatives that increase our understanding of the American Indian experience in Missouri through preservation, interpretation, and public programming – engaging audiences with information on cultural history, education, preservation, and the arts.

MH held 17 Native American Heritage Programs in FY20, reaching over 4,300 individuals statewide and beyond.



NATIVE HISTORIAN SYMPOSIUM

Indigenous Resurgence

CONTACT | MELODY@MOHUMANITIES.ORG

Every veteran has a story to tell. Our Veterans Programs offer support to both new and experienced writers through workshops, readings, and an annual publication, Proud to Be. Together, these programs encourage hundreds of veterans each year to tell their stories.

In FY20, MH presented 6 Veterans programs, reaching 132 veterans and their families in and outside of Missouri.



MOMENTUM:

WHAT OUR COMMUNITY
TELLS US ABOUT AMERICA

On October 17, 2020, Missouri Humanities hosted our fifth annual gala. Nearly 300 guests registered to attend this year's event moved from the Missouri Botanical Gardens in St. Louis to a virtual format.



Keynote Speaker
Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author,
Jane Smiley



Honorary Chair
Lt. Governor, MO, Mike Kehoe

Jane Smiley delivered the keynote address for the 2020 MOmentum gala. Her remarks were open to the public, and Missouri college students in humanities departments were specifically invited to listen and learn from the Pulitzer Prize-winning author. In addition to her life as a novelist, Smiley is an essayist and contributing writer to The New York Times.

A native St. Louisan, Smiley recently returned for her 50th high school reunion. She published a travel piece about her trip to St. Louis in the New York Times, titled "Jane Smiley what St. Louis Tells Us About America." In the article and throughout the keynote address, Smiley shared her interesting perspective of St. Louis that neither ignores the longstanding racial and economic inequities of the city nor dismisses its unique beauty and sense of community.

CARES Act

Emergency Relief Funding For Cultural Institutions Affected by Coronavirus.

On June 24th, 2020, MH announced that 76 organizations received a collective amount of \$535,400 in grants supplied through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

This funding was made possible by the National Endowment for the Humanities as part of the \$2 trillion in CARES Act legislation passed by Congress in March of 2020. MH was honored to review applications and award funds to deserving humanities organizations in Missouri.

CARES Act Recipients

Missouri Association of
Museums & Archives

Cinema St. Louis

Gem Cultural & Educational
Center

The Griot Museum

Heartland Conservation
Alliance

Arts Tech

Friends of Arrow Rock

**Missouri Alliance for Historic
Preservation**

Bread & Roses Missouri

**Clay County Museum &
Historical Society**

Kansas City Museum
Foundation

**Irish Museum & Cultural
Center**

Nodaway County Historical
Society

**Christian County Museum &
Historical Society**

National Blues Museum

Pony Express Museum

Remington Nature Center

Campbell House Foundation

Carroll County Historical
Museum

**Will Mayfield Heritage
Foundation**

Capitol City Cinema

**Watershed Committee of
the Ozarks**

French Colonial America

Art as Mentorship

Missouri River Relief

**Chatillon-DeMenil House
Foundation**

Fenton Historical Society &
Museum

**Grand River Historical Society
Museum**

National Stars & Stripes
Museum & Library

Rag Tag Film Society

Ozark Greenways

KKFI KC Community Radio

Downtown Lee's Summit Main
Street

Robidoux Ro Museum

Boone County Historical
Society/Cultural Center

**Jackson County Historical
Society**

Old Town Cape

St. Louis Story Stitchers Artists
Collective

Ste. Genevieve Museum

Learning Center

Downtown Excelsior Partnership

**Pleiades (University of
Central Missouri)**

Jefferson Barracks Telephone
Museum

Foundation for the

Restoration of Ste. Genevieve

Field House Museum

**Audrain County Historical
Society**

Buder Center for American
Indian Studies

UCM History Department

St. Charles - Ludwigsburg Sister
Cities

Henry County Museum

University of Missouri - Missouri
Review

Ava Area Chamber of Commerce

History Museum on the Square

Harney Mansion Foundation

Ava Citizens Action League
Central Print

Missouri S&T

Frank Lloyd Wright House

Highway 36 Heritage Alliance

Missouri's National Veterans
Memorial

Downton Washington Inc.

Cape Girardeau Historical Society

Clinton Mainstreet

National Trail of Tears Association

Missouri Main Street Connection

Wornall-Majors House Museum

Red House Interpretive Center

Uptown Jackson REvitalization

**Perry County Lutheran Historical
Society**

Watkins Mills Association

Cole Camp Museum

Trail Region Library

Catholic Heritage Center

KCUR

Doniphan Heiborhood

Assisatnce Program

National US Grant Trail Association

Grants Program

Supporting Missouri institutions, organizations, and communities in developing and presenting high-quality, humanities-based programs.

In FY20, MH awarded \$52,300 in grants and sponsorships statewide, supporting 22 Missouri non-profit organizations (listed below) in 10 counties. The projects funded by these annual awards reach approximately 150,000 individuals each year.

- Programs postponed and extended into 2021 due to COVID-19.

Grant Description	Organization	County
The Mochila Review Presents: In the Shadow of Deb Olin Unferth *	Missouri Western State University English & Modern Languages Department	Buchanan
"The Picture of Unreality: Camp Liberation and Liberators" *	Holocaust Museum & Learning Center/ Jewish Federation of St. Louis	St. Louis County
Haiti in the Atlantic World *	University of Missouri Afro-Romance Institute	Boone
OriginKC: New Works Festival Launch Weekend Keynote Event	Kansas City Repertory Theater	Jackson
Current Conversations Program Series *	St. Charles City-County Library	St. Charles
Professional Learning Opportunities for Culturally Responsive Teaching *	Kansas City Teacher Residency	Jackson
And Still We Dream	Lyric Opera of Kansas City	Jackson
The Boys in the Band: Kansas City's LGBTQ Past, Present & Future *	The Art Asylum	Jackson
Fringe Presents	KC Creates	Jackson
Missouri Main Street Connection Bicentennial Passport 2021	Missouri Main Street Connection	Taney
COCA Presents Speaker Series	COCA	St. Louis City
Dyani White Hawk	Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art	Jackson
Moscow Mills Bicentennial	City of Moscow Mills	Greene
A Portrait of the Ozarks: Oral History Interview in Shannon County	Missouri State University Research Administration	Greene
Funeral Folkways in Plagues and Pandemics	Funeral Consumers Alliance of Greater Kansas City	Jackson
Missouri Bicentennial Music Celebration	Missouri State University	Greene
Scholarly Ambassador Series	Ragtag Film Society	Boone
The Traveling Tablet	Laura Ingalls Wilder Home & Museum	Wright
Show me Missouri: Examining the State's History Through 200 Objects	Curators of the University of Missouri - Kansas City	Jackson
Donald Pharis: Conservationist, Humanitarian, Innovator	Friends of Pharis Farm	Clay
Living Questions *	Project Lab St. Louis	St. Louis City
River Styx Reading Series	Big River Association (River Styx)	St. Louis City

Board of Directors

John Robinson III
Board Chair
Caledonia

Marci Bennett
Vice Chair
St. James

Susanne Evens
Treasurer
Chesterfield

Marilynn Bradford
Jefferson City

Dr. Peter Hofherr
St. James

Laura Dierberg Ayers
St. Louis

Thomas Brandom
Liberty

Betty Coleman
Lake Ozark

Dr. Petra DeWitt
Rolla

Dr. Justin Dyer
Columbia

Trish Erzfeld
Perryville

Dr. Nat Hardy
Columbia

Rev. Nicholas Inman
Marshfield

Dr. Sudarsan Kant
St. Louis

J. Howard Fisk
Springfield

Blake Sherer
Kansas City

Dr. Jason Sides
Jackson

Marvin Silliman
Sunrise Beach

Staff

Dr. William "Steve" Belko
Executive Director

Ashley Beard-Fosnow
Deputy Director

Clarice Britton
Director of Operations

Mandi Jean Retter
Director of Communications

Lisa Carrico
*Director of Family &
Veterans Programs*

Caitlin Yager
*Director of Heritage
Programs*

Melody Delmar
*Native American Heritage
Program Coordinator*

Claire Bruntrager
Development Manager

Timothy Taylor
Fiscal Officer

Marilyn Webster-Brown
Program Specialist

Erin Whitson
Archaeologist

Greg Wolk
*Heritage Programs
Coordinator*

Michael Saldivar
Cinematographer