Dear Friends,

2021 was a momentous year! Not only did Missouri Humanities play a leadership role in the celebration of the state’s bicentennial, but we also commemorated the 50th anniversary of MH as a nonprofit organization. Across five decades, MH has done incredible things, and this year was no exception.

In 2021, MH digital programming reached a record number of Missourians. MH held 104 events in 2021, and 19,202 watched a recorded program after the fact. Our grant-funded projects reached 191,249 participants in 54 Missouri counties. The success of our outreach in 2021 proves that people in Missouri are more than ready to get together around credible and quality programming in their hometowns to spark conversations, generate insights, and connect like never before.

Missouri Humanities is building a community of learners. The proof is in local coordinators who bring grassroots projects to life, humanities scholars who share big ideas that point to a life worth living, event participants who contribute local stories and personal insights, the Missouri Humanities Board of Directors who guide us with wisdom and vision, the MH staff who strategically narrow our focus on the most innovative and impactful programs, and contributions from our generous donors who ensure that MH events are free and open to the public.

The future looks bright. The staff and I look forward to connecting with you to build on our success by strengthening communities and enriching lives through the power of the humanities. We thank you for your support and offer this report.

Ashley Beard-Fosnow, Executive Director

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STAFF

Ashley Beard-Fosnow, Executive Director
Clarice Britton, Director of Operations
Claire Bruntrager, Development Manager
Lisa Carrico, Program Director
Michael Saldivar, Cinematographer
Chrissy Sommer, Director of Community Engagement
Marilyn Webster-Brown, Program Specialist
Erin Whitson, Archaeologist
Greg Wolk, Heritage Programs Coordinator
Caitlin Yager, Program Director

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*Gubernatorial Appointees
FINANCIAL SUMMARY
Fiscal Year 2021

INCOME
NEH Multi Year $1,785,371 *
Missouri Cultural Trust $1,132,770
Spending Authority
Contributions $82,136
Other $215,296 **

EXPENSES
MH Programs $1,111,732
Grants and Sponsorship $988,937
Administrative $212,461
Development and Marketing $77,881

TOTAL EXPENSES $2,391,012
ENDING NET ASSETS $2,098,561

* Multi-year grant which carries forward through 2024
** Includes PPP Loan Forgiveness income of $183,492
COMMUNITY
In FY21, we continued to create in-person and virtual spaces for Missourians to discuss current social issues. Our ‘Why It Matters’ initiative hosted programs addressing polarization and the future of democracy with virtual audiences in rural and urban communities. Events included a Q&A with Robert D. Putnam and Shaylyn Romney Garrett, authors of *The Upswing*. In partnership with KCUR, we debuted the Hungry for MO podcast, celebrating how local cuisine connects us as a community and shapes our region’s identity. 1,528 Missourians participated in our Community programs, and program recording have reached over 103,000 views post-event.

EDUCATION
In FY21, we provided 78 Education programs that saw 3,025 participants statewide. The Show-Me Missouri Speakers Bureau hosted 66 events in 28 Missouri counties, with a total audience of 1,800. The 4th Annual Humanities Spring Symposium convened students, scholars, and community members to examine the Future of Work in the face of COVID-19 and rapid automation. We held our Summer Teachers Academy virtually over three days, presenting 13 sessions investigating the theme of “Contested Elections, Electoral Calamities, and Controversial Transitions in Presidential Power” with high school history and government teachers throughout Missouri. In our MO Humanities Outdoors programs, we continued to explore Missouri’s natural landscape, presenting events such as “Geography & History of Missouri’s Original Prairie Landscape” and “Forest and Farms.”

FAMILY
Our Family Programs support early childhood development by providing free public events that empower parents and caregivers to read to their young children. Programs like Read From the Start empower parents and caregivers to read to their young children regularly, helping them form early habits that foster a lifelong love of reading. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, all FY21 RFTS programs were held virtually.
HERITAGE

In 2021, we continued to offer virtual programs on various topics aimed at promoting heritage tourism, strengthening communities, and highlighting stories that help us better understand this state’s history and our place within it. This year, we debuted the Small Town Showcase program, offered virtual Cultural Heritage Workshops, released the “Explore Missouri’s German Heritage” podcast, hosted the 8th Annual U.S. Grant Symposium, and continued programs sharing Native stories—reaching over 12,000 people.

VETERANS

In FY21, MH presented 4 Veterans Writing programs, published volume 9 of Proud to Be: Writing by American Warrior, and released a new podcast. In total, we reached 295 veterans, civilians, and military family members in and outside of Missouri providing an outlet for self-expression through writing workshops and live or recorded readings.

MOmentum GALA

The 2021 Annual MOmentum Gala featured Lillian Cunningham, Washington Post journalist, and creator and host of the Post’s “Constitutional” Podcast. In her keynote, Ms. Cunningham and guests explored the United States Constitution and “the people who framed and reframed it — revolutionaries, abolitionists, suffragists, teetotalers, protesters, justices, presidents — in the ongoing struggle to form a more perfect Union across a vast and diverse land.”

WE GREW MORE ACCESSIBLE, REACHING MORE THAN 122,000 MISSOURIANS FROM THE COMFORT OF THEIR OWN HOMES WITH VIRTUAL PROGRAMS.

Listen to MH produced podcasts on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and Audible.

“"The poems were very moving and not your common poetry, as dealing with wars and military experience has such depth, from the Veteran’s perspective as well as for their families.”
— Testimonial from the Proud to Be Book Reading
WE AWARDED $135,241 IN MINI & MAJOR GRANTS STATEWIDE

Supporting 40 non-profit organizations (listed below) across Missouri. The projects funded by these annual awards reached approximately 74,000 individuals in FY21.

4TH GRADE INTERPRETATIVE HISTORICAL TOUR Sikeston Cultural Development Corporation
CITY OF HERMANN CABOOSE MUSEUM STATUE City of Hermann
AN LGBTQ HISTORY MONTH OF HEALING WITH HUMANITIES The Justice Fleet, Saint Louis University

ST. LOUIS SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL'S COUNCIL OF SCHOLARS St. Louis Shakespeare Festival
MISSOURI RIVER HERITAGE MUSEUM & INTERPRETIVE CENTER Muskrat Society
GLOBAL TIES KC YOUTH DIPLOMATES INSTITUTE Global Ties KC
EIGHT DAYS IN APRIL: THE STORY OF THE 1968 KANSAS CITY UPRISING OPENING University of Missouri - Kansas City Foundation

LIBERTY AFRICAN AMERICAN LEGACY MEMORIAL Clay County African-American Legacy, Inc.
MISSOURI BIRTHDAY BASH Puppetry Arts Institute
COCAWRITES Center of Creative Arts
ARTOBERFEST Rockhurst University
SHOW ME MISSOURI Ragtag Film Festival

AMERICAN CONFLICTS IN UNIFORM Cass County Historical Socitey, Inc.
BENTON COUNTY BARN QUILT TRAIL Benton County Tourism & Recreation
DIGITAL HUMANITIES: IMMERSIVE REALITIES Lindenwood University
CONNECTING POINTS Prison Performing Arts

GRAFTING THE GRAPE Missouri Botanical Garden
PUBLIC ACCESS TO A PRIVATE NEOPLATOIC LIBRARY: DIGITIZING THE JOHNSON LIBRARY CARD CATALOG Missouri State University - Research Administration
YOU DON'T SAY CONVERSATION SERIES Curators of the University of Missouri -KBIA Radio

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY FOR HOMESCHOOL & TRADITIONAL PRE K-12 Missouri Historical Society
ROOTS CELEBRATION Webb City Market

CONFLUENCES: RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY IN MISSOURI, THE FIRST 200 YEARS Curators of University of Missouri, Columbia
BIG STORIES FROM A SMALL HOUSE: REACHING NEW AUDIENCES Sappington House Museum
EXPERIENCING A HISTORICAL DOCUMENTARY Friends of Pharrs Farm

INDIGENOUS CULTURAL AWARENESS AND EDUCATIONAL WORKS Drew Lewis Foundation

THE STORY CENTER HISTORY TRUNK Mid-Continent Public Library
WENTSVILLE 150 Wentzville Community Historical Society
MARY REUFLE: ERASURES, THE OBSERVABLE READING SERIES Saint Louis Poetry Center

REBUILDING CIVILITY Drury University
THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR Metro Theater Company
JUNIOR HISTORIAN ACTIVITY FOR ST. LOUIS COUNTY PARKS St. Louis County Parks

ACTION NEW PLAY PRODUCTION Bread & Roses Missouri
ARCHITECTURE AND AROBATS Circus Harmony
THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING WHO MADE CONTRIBUTIONS TO MISSOURI HUMANITIES IN 2021.

**BENEFACTOR LEVEL**
($1,000)
P. Wayne & Jane B. Goode Foundation

**PATRON LEVEL**
($500)
Laura Dierberg Ayers
Petra Dewitt
Etta Madden
Marci Bennett
Ann Campion Riley
Debbie Depew

**PARTNER LEVEL**
($250)
Marilyn Clark
Nancy Ridenour
Robert Mueller
Andrew Doty
The Botanical Tea Room

**CONTRIBUTOR LEVEL**
($100)
Leonard Adreon
Pat Gillman
Amy Supple
Mary Johnson
Linda Kurz
Debbie Atwood
Mark Prosser
Brian Ragen
Paula Hulse
Jon Taylor
Alicia Starr
Ginny Zoellers
Molly Beck
Rex Buhrmester
Chris Campbell
Jennifer
Cresswell-Ketley
Kathy & Chuck Billings
Angie Guynes
Colleen Barnhart
Vanessa Howard
Betsy Delmonico
Ally Dorris
Arthur Wortman
Jacquelyn Edison
Barbara Schneider
Susan Moellering
Noel Leicht
Becky Imhauser
Lois Kruse
Phil Shreves
Christy James
Penny Pitman
James Sexton
Sharon Poe
Jack Tatom
Dixie Brown
Jim Grebing
Susan Bubach
John Christensen
Mary Pat Schroeder
John Boyd
Mark Spangler
Linda Keown
Kathleen Sondrol
Sudarsan Kant
Margaret Beard-Fosnow

**FRIEND LEVEL**
($50)
Cindy Mense
Gerard Biedenstein
Joyce Slater
Rebecca James
Nancy Hillhouse
Erin Fisher
Jane Theissen
Greg Olson
Carla & Jerold Rosen
Jane Earnhart
Kerry Townsend
Michael Everman
Carol Diaz-Granados
Duncan
Nancy Hutchinson
Riley Price
Angela Canul
Anita Parran
Elizabeth Plotner
Deborah Shouse
Bryonic Carter
Donna Medlin
Garry & Cindy Pirch
Antonio Holland
Karen Cleaver
Lori Pratt
Kathryn Duncan
Rachel Terbrock
Marian B. Rose
Kathleen Nigro
Stephen Roberts
Don Cullimore
Leslie Wolk
Karen Steinlage
Vinson Burch
D’Ann Cmapbell
Christopher Otto
Andy Hahn
Dan Viets
Karen Steinlage
Vinson Burch
Brant Hinrichs
Norman Grannemann
Suelynn Duffy
Gabrielle Everett
Dean Dohrmann
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Terri Loeffler
Elaine Blodgett
Joan Suarez
Diana Haynes
Marcie McGuire

Kathy & Chuck Billings
Deborah Shouse
Garry & Cindy Pirch
Antonio Holland
Karen Cleaver
Lori Pratt
Kathryn Duncan
Rachel Terbrock
Marian B. Rose
Kathleen Nigro
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2021 MH Board of Directors