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# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

FOR A MORE THOUGHTFUL, INFORMED,  
AND CIVIL SOCIETY





# 50 Years

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

## 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 Spending Authority	\$1,132,770
Contributions	\$82,136
Other	\$215,296 **

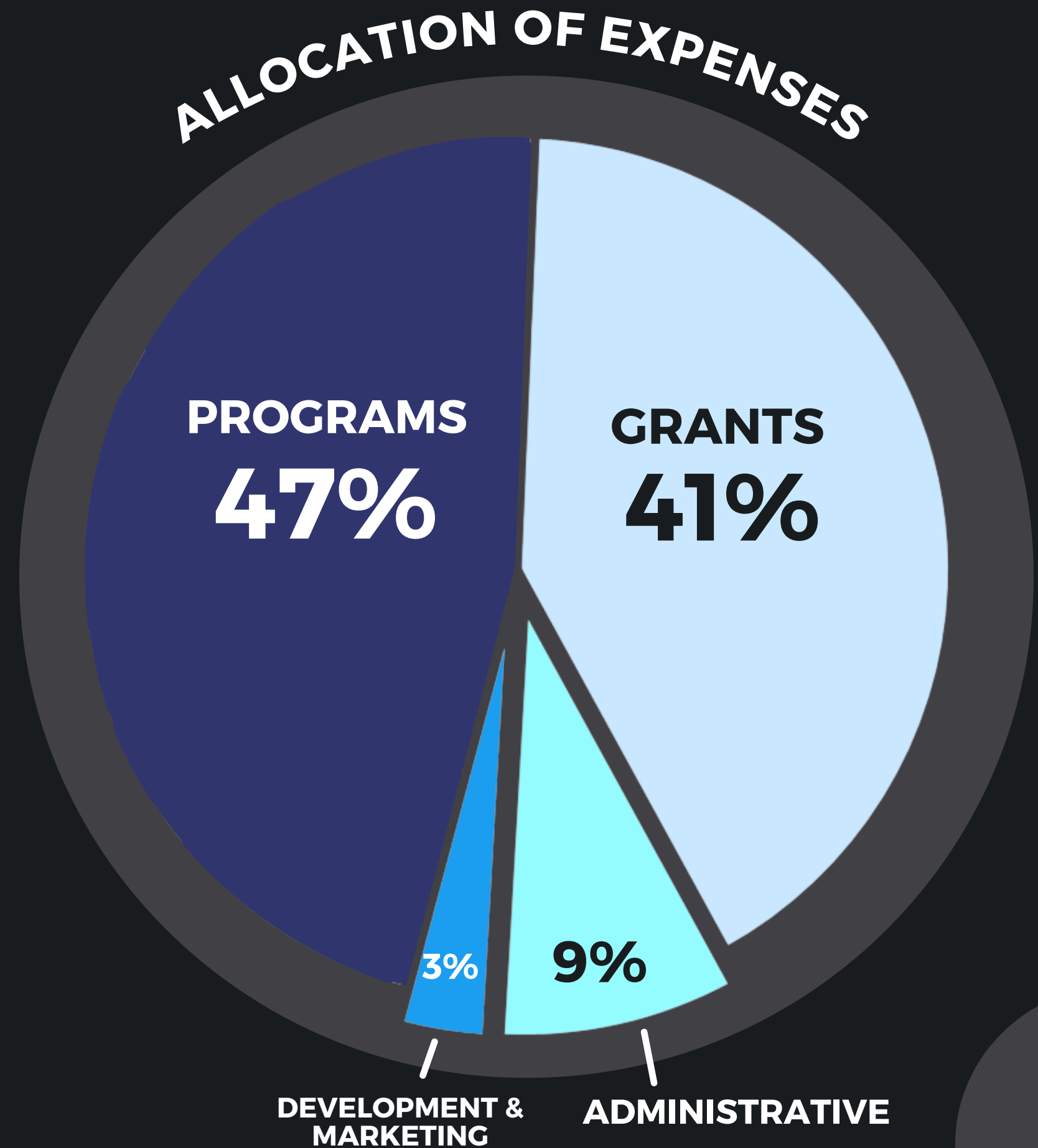
## EXPENSES

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

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>\$2,391,012</u></b>
<b>ENDING NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$2,098,561</u></b>

\* Multi-year grant which carries forward through 2024

\*\* Includes PPP Loan Forgiveness income of \$183,492



## OUR MISSION

Connecting Missourians to the people, places, and ideas that shape our society.

WE OFFERED **195**  
PUBLIC PROGRAMS  
IN 2021, ENGAGING  
OVER **155,000**  
MISSOURIANS  
STATEWIDE

"This was a fantastic program, both from the standpoint of the presenters' deep knowledge of their subject -- the historical research data they shared and their incisive analysis of it, relating it to our present moment -- but also the presenters' energy and optimism." - Testimonial from The Upswing Authors Talk.



## 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 293 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."



"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 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.**

# 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 Soceity, 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 & TRADITIONA  
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 Pharis Farm

INDIGENOUS CULTURAL  
AWARENESS AND EDUCATIONAL  
WORKS  
Drew Lewis Foundation

NEW PERMANENT EXHIBIT  
Missouri Civil War Museum

THE STORY CENTER HISTORY TRUNK  
Mid- Contenent Public Library

WENTSVILLE 150  
Wentzville Community Historical Society

MONUMENT/ANTI-MONUMENT  
Creative Exchange Lab

MOSY MOTIFS PODCAST  
The Missouri Symphony

SAVING OUR HISTORY - SHARING OUR  
STORY  
Will Mayfield Heritage Foundation

BLACK, BROWN, AND BEIGE DISCUSSION SERIES  
St. Louis Dance Theater

CROSSROADS AT WILSON'S CREEK  
Oregon-California Trail Association

FRENCH COLONIAL HISTORY VIRTUAL  
INTERPRETATION PILOT PROJECT  
French Colonial American

INTERPRETIVE COMMENTARIES &  
SCHOLAR'S CONFERENCE  
Tennessee Williams Festival St. Louis

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

Kathleen Sondrol  
Sudarsan Kant  
Margaret Beard-  
Fosnow

## 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

## 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  
Bryonie Carter  
Donna Medlin  
Garry & Cindy Pirch  
Antonio Holland  
Karen Cleaver  
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