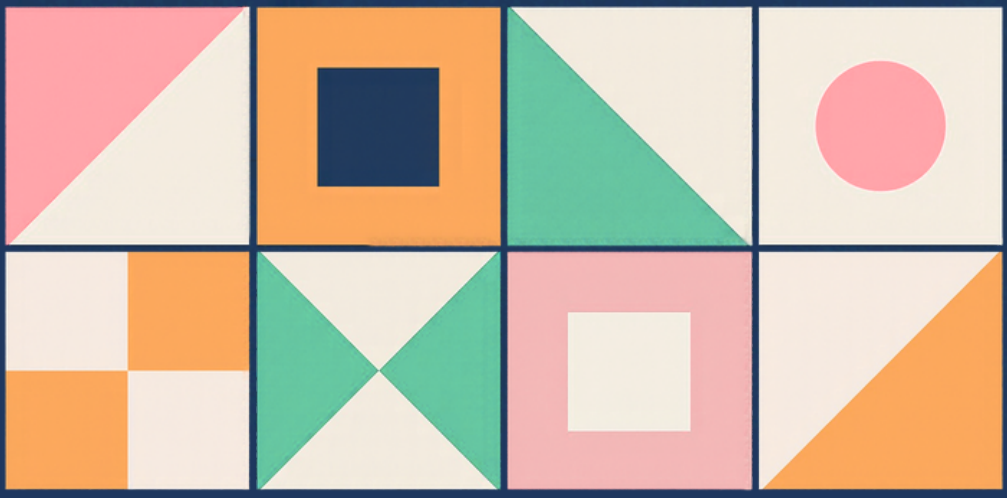
MISSOURI HUMANITIES FALL 2026 ZINE



THE STORY OF US

250 years as told by Missouri: a community quilt, a Capitol celebration, and the stories that connect us.

STITCHED TOGETHER BY THE PEOPLE THE STORY OF US

STAFF

Clarice Britton, Director of Operations
Claire Bruntrager, Director of Development
Chris Kempke, Cultural Community Development Director
Kaija Laney, Operations Coordinator
Nick Lopez, Program Coordinator
Michael Saldivar, Cinematographer
Ashley Vogel, Creative Initiatives Coordinator
Jami Wade, Executive Director
Caitlin Yager, Program Director

BOARD

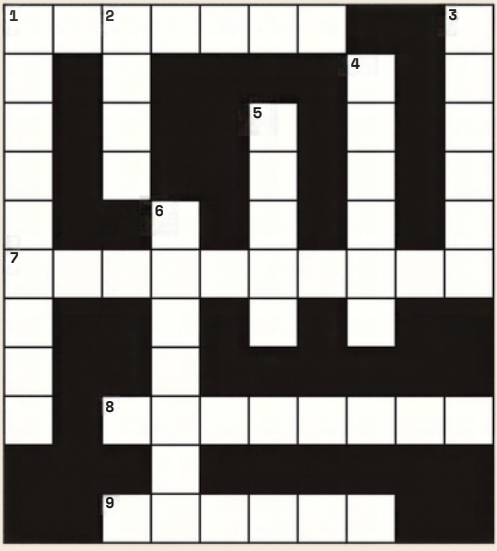
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Inside this zine

01 Welcome
02 Stitched Together
03 From Pixels to Thread
04 Meet the Quilter
05 Kristen Edens
06 By the People
08 Semiquicentennial Grantees
10 The Story of US
11 Monthly Giving
12 Meet Jami Wade
13 Get Involved
14 Visit Us

Humanities in Missouri Crossword

HISTORY, CULTURE, ARTS, LITERATURE & LETTERS



STUCK? FLIP THE PAGE.

ACROSS

1 Ragtime festival town in Pettis County
7 Fields like history, literature, and philosophy
8 The Show-Me State
9 Thomas Hart ___, muralist of the Missouri State Capitol

DOWN

1 What Missouri gained in 1821
2 __ Scott, who sued for freedom in St. Louis
3 Hilly region of southern Missouri
4 Scott __, the "King of Ragtime"
5 Meriwether __ of the Corps of Discovery
6 Music style of the "Maple Leaf Rag"

KEY

ACROSS: 1 SEDALIA, 7 HUMANITIES, 8 MISSOURI, 9. BENTON
DOWN: 1 STATEHOOD, 2 DRED, 3 OZARKS, 4 JOPLIN, 5 LEWIS, 6 RAGTIME

Hello, Missouri.

Missouri Humanities is a statewide nonprofit that explores history, civics, and culture through community partnerships and public programs. Founded in 1971, we are Missouri's state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

WHAT ARE THE HUMANITIES?

The study of how people connect to the human experience, through history, culture, and tradition.

Community

Panel talks, open Q&As, and events that get neighbors talking.

Veterans

Writing programs, podcasts, and anthologies that give veterans and their families a voice.

Literature

Celebrating Missouri's local literature and reading for all ages.

Heritage

Workshops, exhibits, and talks on Missouri's cultural heritage.

OUR VISION: A MORE INFORMED, THOUGHTFUL, AND CIVIL SOCIETY.

Help stitch Missouri's story together.



Buy a patch, customize it, and add your name to our virtual quilt: a growing tribute to Missouri's past, present, and future.

mohumanities.org/quilt

From pixels to thread.

Stitched Together is an online giving campaign that becomes two real, hand-sewn quilts, made right here in Missouri.

1. **Give.** Donate to support public humanities programs across the state.
2. **Customize.** Design your virtual quilt patch and see it beside everyone else's.
3. **Win.** Every donor is entered in a raffle for a handcrafted quilt.

QUILT ONE

The Heirloom

Kept by Missouri Humanities to document the campaign.

QUILT TWO

The Raffle

Goes home with a community supporter who donates.

YOUR PATCH HELPS FUND

Literacy initiatives, veteran writing workshops, digital and cultural programming, and local history preservation.

DONATE: mohumanities.org/quilt

Kristen Edens

ARNOLD, MISSOURI

Kristen began quilting in the late 1990s as a creative outlet for stress relief. Today, it is her full-time pursuit: she restores antique quilts, makes custom t-shirt memory quilts, and designs modern art pieces in her studio.

A member of the American Quilt Study Group, she treats quiltmaking as both an art form and a way to preserve stories.

> “Quilts serve as historical records that preserve stories across generations.”
>
> KRISTEN EDENS

For Stitched Together, she is designing both quilts around the digital community quilt, blending traditional and modern block layouts to reflect Missouri’s history, landscapes, and community spirit.

LEARN MORE: mohumanities.org/quilt

Kristen Edens

ARNOLD, MISSOURI



creatingquilts.com
facebook.com/EdensHeirlooms

By the People

FEB. 3, 2026 • STATE CAPITOL, JEFFERSON CITY

Missouri Humanities filled the Capitol for the 2026 Lieutenant Governor's Humanities Celebration.

FILM	A short film showcasing folk art grantees and partners, including musicians, poets, and Native American dancers.
ROTUNDA	Displays exploring Missouri's cultural and historical impact.
LAUNCH	The Story of US, a digital storytelling campaign on Missouri's role in the American story.

ALSO ACROSS THE COUNTRY

By the People: Conversations Beyond 250 is a series of community-driven programs from humanities councils across the country, developed by the Federation of State Humanities Councils and the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage.






MISSOURI
US
66




MISSOURI
HUMANITIES









The grantees (1 of 2)

01 **History Museum on the Square.** Celebrating Springfield MO History Semiquicentennial Exhibit

02 **Harrisonville Chamber of Commerce Foundation.** Burnt District Monument Silhouette Art Project

03 **Presser Arts Center.** Young Twain Film Project

04 **St. Joseph Museum.** St. Joseph, MO: An American (HIS)story, (HER)story, and (OUR)story

05 **Pony Express Museum.** Continuing the Pony Express Story – 165 years

06 **Missouri State University – Ozarks Public Broadcasting.** KSMU's Notable MO-ments

07 **County of Washington.** A Living History of Washington County, Missouri

08 **Wornall/Majors House Museum.** Gateway to the Nation: Missouri's Role in America's 250 Years

09 **Laura Ingalls Wilder Home & Museum.** Introducing Rocky Ridge Farm Film Project

10 **Magnificent Missouri.** *The Katy Trail, Where History is the Future*

11 **National WWI Museum and Memorial.** *The Story of the Museum and Memorial*

12 **Route 66 Association of Missouri, Inc.** *Route 66 Centennial Interpretive Traveling Exhibit*

13 **Grand River Historical Society & Museum.** *Our History: Exhibits from the Archives*

14 **Fat Daddys Farm Foundation.** *Beyond The Haunting*

15 **Clio: The Digital Museum of America.** *Missouri Statewide Trails*

16 **French Colonial America.** *Battle of St. Louis Commemoration Event, Improvement, and Expansion*

17 **Vidwest.** *Hidden in Plain Sight: Important Sites in Missouri Women's History*

18 **Steelville Area Historical Society.** *The Trail Remembered: Steelville's Journey to Honor the Past*

19 **TechArtista Foundation.** *Cicadian Rhythms: A Short Documentary Film*

20 **Kansas City Museum Foundation.** *Wazhazhe: Osage Cultural Heritage & History in Missouri*

FULL LIST: mohumanities.org/signature-series

The grantees (2 of 2)

21 **UMKC Foundation – KCUR 89.3.** *An immersive experience with A People's History of Kansas City*

22 **Missouri's National Veterans Memorial.** *Laying Down the Burden*

23 **America's Tractor Museum.** *Missouri Century Tractor Website*

24 **Harry S. Truman Library Institute for National and International Affairs.** *America 250 and the Legacy of Harry S. Truman*

25 **Ozark Vitality.** *From Roots to Restoration: Small Towns, Big Histories*

26 **The Mary Ann and Bert J. Kellerman Foundation.** *From Colonies to Cape Girardeau: 250 years of Independence*

27 **Bates County Historical Society and Museum.** *Celebrate America*

28 **Springfield Regional Opera dba Ozarks Lyric Opera.** *DREAM BIG: The True Tall Tale of a Missouri Giantess*

29 **Blackwater Preservation Society.** *Tracks of Transformation: Railroads, Connections, and the Making of Missouri*

30 **West Plains Council on the Arts Inc.** *The Bond Dance Hall Explosion: Through the Lens of 250 Years of History*

31 **Stone County Historical/Genealogical Society.** *Gatekeepers of the Ozark Plateau Centuries Before the Louisiana Purchase*

32 **Ready Readers.** *Expanding Access to New Books for Children, Celebrating the Indigenous People of Missouri*

Reel Images Film & Video Group. *Jazz Talk*

34 **University of MO – Cambio Center.** *Migration and Missouri*

35 **Opportunity 1888 Foundation, Inc.** *James Shiley, World War II Tuskegee Airman from Tipton, Missouri*

36 **Cape Girardeau County Historical Society.** *Exploring the Juncture of Diverging Cultures*

37 **Newton County Tourism Council.** *Camp Crowder Traveling Interpretive Exhibits*

38 **Trail of Tears Association.** *Exploring Missouri's Trail of Tears: Then and Now*

39 **Union Station Kansas City, Inc.** *A History of the Kansas City Streetcar*

FULL LIST: mohumanities.org/signature-series

The Story of US

250 YEARS AS TOLD BY MISSOURI

Missouri's story began before statehood. As America turned 250, Missourians explored how our people and communities shaped defining chapters of the American journey.

THE PODCAST • SEASON 5 IS THE STORY OF US

1. Eat, THINK, & Be Merry
2. Roots & Routes
3. Missouri Marvels
4. Missouri Voices
5. **The Story of US**

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Episode 1: What Does 250 Years Mean for Missouri?

Episode 2: Why is Mark Twain Such a Literary Legend?

Episode 3: What Stories are Found at Cahokia Mounds?

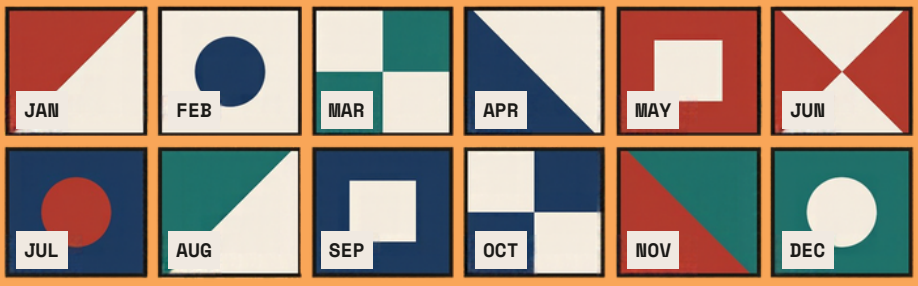
Episode 4: How is Mill Creek Valley Remembered?

Episode 5: How is Missouri Commemorating America250?

Listen Now: mohumanities.org/signature-series

Give monthly. Expand Your Impact.

A monthly gift is a steady way to keep Missouri's stories alive. Give a little each month and your support keeps working long after a single donation would end.



ONE GIFT A MONTH. TWELVE TIMES THE IMPACT.

Where your support goes

COMMUNITY	Panel talks, open Q&As, and events across the state
VETERANS	Writing programs and anthologies for veterans and families
LITERATURE	Reading programs and Missouri's local literature
HERITAGE	Workshops, exhibits, and talks on our shared history

Donate Monthly

All of your support strengths the work of Missouri Humanities.

mohumanities.org/donate

Planned giving questions? Contact Claire Bruntrager, Director of Development, at Claire@mohumanities.org.



Jami Wade

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR • JOINED JULY 2026

A lifelong Missourian, Jami brings experience in nonprofit leadership, education, development, and civic service. Most recently she led Missouri River Relief, a four-state conservation organization focused on the Missouri River, where she oversaw staff and board growth, an organizational rebrand, and partnerships that reached new audiences.

> "I have a deep and genuine love for Missouri, its communities, its history, and its people."
>
> JAMI WADE

WHAT'S AHEAD

Jami will lead strategic planning for our future and oversee growth in fundraising, grantmaking, community impact, and public engagement across the state.

Pick up a needle & Support the Humanities

Buy a quilt patch	mohumanities.org/quilt
Donate	mohumanities.org/donate
Apply for a grant	mohumanities.org/grants
Book a speaker	mohumanities.org/schedule-a-speaker
Host an exhibit	mohumanities.org/traveling-exhibits
Stream Humanities Tv	h-tv.org
Become a member	mohumanities.org/become-a-member



Meet the humanities team.



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