NEBRASKANS ASK TOUGH QUESTIONS WITH CIVILITY

Christopher Sommerich
Executive Director, Humanities Nebraska

As I greeted people for our first “An Issue of Trust: Democracy and the Future of Journalism” community conversation program, my apprehension turned to excitement. This was a new program for us, and we had no idea if anyone would show up. Would those who attended represent a variety of ages, backgrounds, and perspectives, as we hoped? And, in a tense political environment with heated debate about news media, would people be civil as we literally handed them the microphone?

People of all ages, from high school students to retirees, did show up in Norfolk, Scottsbluff, Omaha, North Platte, Kearney, and Lincoln. We limited prepared remarks by the panelists in order to focus on audience questions. There was no lag in audience participation in any of the programs, and while many had pointed opinions and questions about the role of the press, civility was maintained throughout.

There were a number of takeaways from “An Issue of Trust.” Nebraskans crave opportunities to come together with others to explore difficult issues. People recognize that we need to step away from the vitriol coursing through social media and television, and spend time face to face with others we may not agree with. This recognition is no small thing, and will help us all find our way forward.

These programs illustrated just how much we filter what we see, hear, and read through our own existing biases. In some of the audience comments in follow-up surveys, it was hard to believe they were in the same room experiencing the same program.

Still, I see these disparate views being expressed in the same room as a critical victory. Humanities Nebraska is carefully assessing future opportunities for these types of programs, and is committed to convening opportunities for Nebraskans to engage in civil discourse. We could not do this without our partners and supporters around the state, and we are grateful to all of you for what you do.

Chris Sommerich
HUMANITIES FOR ALL OF US

John Schleicher
2018 Chair, Nebraska Humanities Council

Serving as board chair for our state humanities council gave me a lot of insight into how the work of Humanities Nebraska fits into the national picture. I traveled to New Orleans last fall as part of Nebraska’s delegation at the National Humanities Conference, and learned about absolutely terrific humanities work happening all over the country by state and territorial humanities councils; all independent nonprofits, but all linked by a common mission of facilitating great humanities programs needed in our many communities statewide.

I’m sure it is no surprise that I believe the work we are doing in Nebraska is some of the best in the country, but I also don’t think humanities council people in other states would argue with that. As you can see throughout this annual report, Humanities Nebraska is reaching thousands of Nebraskans in many different ways.

One of the other hats I wear is as a speaker in HN’s Speakers Bureau. Every year hundreds of speaker programs happen all over the state, from our larger cities to our smallest towns. I believe that it is incredibly important for people living anywhere in this state to have the opportunity to go to their local library, museum, or school to attend a humanities program, and last year more than 30,000 people did just that at 446 different HN speaker programs. People also came together for Prime Time family reading programs, Smithsonian exhibitions, Chautauqua, community conversations, and lots of other programs funded by HN in one way or another.

All of this is because of a dedicated group of staff, board members, community partners, and you! Thank you for your involvement with Humanities Nebraska.

YOU HELP US TRANSFORM NEBRASKA COMMUNITIES

Cynthia Milligan
2018 President, Nebraska Foundation for the Humanities

As president of the Foundation board that oversees private fundraising for Humanities Nebraska, I see first-hand how gifts to HN are making a difference in the lives of Nebraskans and in communities across the state.

I would like to thank the many individual, corporate, and foundation donors who in 2018 supported our mission to inspire and enrich personal and public life by delivering opportunities to engage with history and culture. The Nebraska Foundation for the Humanities works closely with the Council to ensure we have the resources to accomplish this mission.

In 2018 we celebrated a record-breaking year by raising more than $468,000 for HN’s statewide programs. Private donations were crucial for Humanities Nebraska to reach more than 150 communities in 2018.

The 23rd annual Governor’s Lecture in the Humanities with presidential biographer and Pulitzer Prize-winner Jon Meacham reached the second-highest fundraising total in that program’s history. Thanks to the generosity of many donors, its benefit dinner raised more than $171,000 for our statewide programs.

The arts and humanities also are thriving in Nebraska because of a unique partnership between Humanities Nebraska, the Nebraska Arts Council, the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, and the Nebraska Legislature. This diversified funding stream is more important than ever to ensure quality programs, broad reach, and stability for the arts and humanities.

Your generosity advances the mission and outreach of Humanities Nebraska and for that, we are sincerely grateful.

2018 NEBRASKA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

John Schleicher, Chair, Omaha
Amy Sandeen, Vice Chair, Hastings
Steve Elliott, Treasurer, Wayne
Katherine L. Walter, Past Chair, Lincoln
Don Arp, Jr., Lincoln
Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, Omaha
Laura Capp, Ashland
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Mark R. Ellis, Kearney
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Barbara Hewins-Maroney, Omaha
Lynette Krieger, Hastings
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Mary Lopez, Omaha
David A. Nesheim, Chadron
Barb Schlothauer, Gering
Paulette Steflka, North Platte
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2018 NEBRASKA FOUNDATION FOR THE HUMANITIES

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Beth Whited, Treasurer, Omaha
Don Arp, Jr., Lincoln
Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, Omaha
Brenda Christensen, Omaha
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Beverly Kracher, Omaha
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Mary Lopez, Omaha

Matt Schaefer, Lincoln
John Schleicher, Omaha
Glenn Van Velson, North Platte
Katherine L. Walter, Lincoln
Kent Warneke, Norfolk
Peter W. Zandbergen, Omaha
Christine Zygielbaum, Lincoln
2018 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

SUPPORT
National Endowment for the Humanities Grants $ 736,148
Private Cash Donations $ 467,967
Nebraska Cultural Endowment $ 296,589
State Appropriation $ 199,276
Earned Income $ 32,446
Miscellaneous Income $ 1,136
Interest Income $ 38,450
In-Kind Contributions $ 14,900
TOTAL SUPPORT $ 1,786,912

EXPENSES
Council-Conducted Programs $ 843,333
Grants $ 370,908
Speakers Bureau Programs $ 180,868
General Management $ 272,438
Financial Development $ 201,757
TOTAL EXPENSES $1,869,304

Excess (deficit) of support and revenue over expenses $ (82,392)
Reserve from prior years $ 82,392

Audited financial statements from Dana F. Cole and Co. are available for inspection at the HN office and on our website at HumanitiesNebraska.org.

Communities Reached in 2018

*Does not include cost share from grantees and volunteers totaling $1,583,72
2018 MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS — THANK YOU!

$25,000 OR MORE  Anonymous  Carol Gendler  Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

$10,000 - $24,999  Anonymous  Dillon Foundation  E.N. Thompson Forum on World Issues  Lincoln Community Foundation  Weitz Family Foundation

$5,000 - $9,999  First National Bank  Connie & Todd Duncan, Lincoln  Rhonda Seacrest, Lincoln  Shoemakers Family Foundation  Union Pacific  Valley

$2,500 - $4,999  Assurian  Brown Transfer Company  Brenda Christensen & Michael Morris, Omaha  Fremont Area Community Foundation  Hormel Harris Foundation  Richard P. Kimmel & Laurine Kimmel Charitable Foundation  Paul & Lynette Krieger, Hastings  Ellen & Chas Lierk, Alliance Mammel Foundation  Pinnacle Bank Principal  The Todd & Betiana Simon Foundation

$1,000 - $2,499  Anonymous (2)  Ameritas  Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather, LLP  Cooper Foundation  Gallup, Inc.  HBE LLP  Home Services of Nebraska  Kaufman-Cummings Foundation  The John C. Kenefick Faculty Chair in the Humanities at Creighton University  Nebraska Arts Council  Nebraska Cultural Endowment  Nebraska Wesleyan University  Peru State College  Slosborg Family Charitable Trust  Union Bank & Trust  UNO – College of Journalism & Mass Communications  UNL – Office of the Chancellor  UNO – Arts & Sciences

We thank these generous individuals who contributed $1,000 or more during our fiscal year 2018. To join the Patron’s Circle and help nurture a vibrant civic and cultural life in Nebraska, please call 402-474-2131.

Patron’s Circle

GIFTS OF $1,000 OR MORE

CONTRIBUTORS - NOVEMBER 1, 2017 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2018 — THANK YOU!

Humanities Nebraska thanks each of the following donors for their contributions during FY2018. Annual funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities helps cover HN’s administrative expenses, so these private donations directly support our public programs. We appreciate donations of all sizes, but due to space limitations, recognition of annual cumulative giving begins at the Friend level ($50). If we have not reported your gift correctly, please contact us.

ORGANIZATIONS

GIFTS OF $500 - $999
Abel Foundation
Bluestem Prairie Foundation
John K. & Lynne D. Boyer Foundation
The Hoff Foundation
Kelley Bean Company
Lincoln Industries
Peru State College Foundation
Wells Fargo
C.W. Yount Foundation, Inc.

GIFTS OF $250 - $499
Abel Foundation
Bluestem Prairie Foundation
John K. & Lynne D. Boyer Foundation
The Hoff Foundation
Kelley Bean Company
Lincoln Industries
Peru State College Foundation
Wells Fargo
C.W. Yount Foundation, Inc.

GIFTS OF $100 - $249
Anonymous
Clarke Family Charitable Fund
- InFaith Community Foundation
DA Davidson
Mid-America Arts Alliance
Scully Estates

GIFTS OF $50 - $99
Abel Foundation
Bluestem Prairie Foundation
John K. & Lynne D. Boyer Foundation
The Hoff Foundation
Kelley Bean Company
Lincoln Industries
Peru State College Foundation
Wells Fargo
C.W. Yount Foundation, Inc.

INDIVIDUALS

GIFTS OF $500 - $999
Anonymous
Ms. Lynne Anderson, Omaha
Ed & Maggie Bates, Lincoln
Robert & JoAnne Bettenhausen, Lincoln
Eric & Ruth Brown, Lincoln
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Gerald & Kit Dimon, Lincoln
David & Ann Duey, Omaha
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Jan Gradwohl, Lincoln
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Barbara Hewins-Maroney & Michael Maroney, Omaha
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Janet Strauss, Omaha
Anne & Charles Trimble, Omaha
Craig & Elizabeth Wanamaker, Lincoln
Dorreen Wanitschke, Grand Island
John & Nancy Webster, Omaha
Kate & Roger Weitz, Omaha
Ross & Judy Wilcox, Lincoln

2018 GRANT RECIPIENTS

HN grants are possible through funding from the Nebraska Cultural Endowment and the State of Nebraska. Humanities Nebraska awarded 93 grants totaling $287,552 to the following organizations in 2018:

- African Culture Connection
- American Doorstep Project
- Angels Theatre Company
- Asian Community & Cultural Center
- Backwaters Press
- Board of Regents, UNK
- Board of Regents, UNL
- Board of Regents, UNO
- Bright Lights, Inc.
- Brownville Cultural Center
- Buffalo Commons
- Fontenelle Forest
- Fort Atkinson Foundation
- Friends of the Homestead
- Friends of the Midwest Theater
- Friends of the University of Nebraska Press
- Future Media Group (New York)
- Great Plains Black History Museum
- Greater Greater Omaha Chamber
- Henderson Heritage and Tourism
- History Nebraska
- Inclusive Communities of Omaha
- John G. Neihardt Foundation
- Joslyn Castle Trust
- Kearney Area Community Foundation
- Lincoln City Libraries
- Lincoln Orchestra Association
- Malcolm X Memorial Foundation
- Metropolitan Community College
- Midwest African Museum of Art, Culture and Resource Center
- National Orphan Train Complex
- Nebraska Archaeological Society
- Nebraska Games & Parks Commission
- Nebraska Library Association
- Nebraska Shakespeare Festival
- Nebraska Story Arts
- Nebraska Writers Collective
- NET Foundation for Television
- NPPS KIDS Klub
- Omaha Girls Rock, Inc.
- Omaha Jitterbugs
- O’Neill Public Library
- Plum Creek Children’s Literary Festival
- Scotts Bluff County Tourism
- Sheldon Art Association
- Sioux County Schools
- Social Action Committee of the Unitarian Church
- Strategic Air & Space Museum
- Trinidad Center
- UN Union for Contemporary Art
- University of Nebraska History Graduate Student Association
- Valentine Community Schools
- Village of Oak
- Vision Maker Media
- Volunteers of America
- Wessels Living History Farm
- Willa Cather Foundation
- Yazidi Cultural Center
- Uganda African Culture Connection
- American Doorstep Project
- Angels Theatre Company
- Asian Community & Cultural Center
- Backwaters Press
- Board of Regents, UNK
- Board of Regents, UNL
- Board of Regents, UNO
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- Nebraska Library Association
- Nebraska Shakespeare Festival
- Nebraska Story Arts
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- NET Foundation for Television
- NPPS KIDS Klub
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- Sheldon Art Association
- Sioux County Schools
- Social Action Committee of the Unitarian Church
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- Trinidad Center
- UN Union for Contemporary Art
- University of Nebraska History Graduate Student Association
- Valentine Community Schools
- Village of Oak
- Vision Maker Media
- Volunteers of America
- Wessels Living History Farm
- Willa Cather Foundation
- Yazidi Cultural Center
CONVERSATIONS FOCUS ON MEDIA’S IMPACT ON DEMOCRACY

“I never attended anything like this. I found it enlightening.” – Audience Participant

As one of 48 states participating in a national initiative called “Democracy and the Informed Citizen,” HN presented a series of community conversations. HN joined with the Pulitzer Prizes, UNL’s College of Journalism and Mass Communications, Nebraska Educational Telecommunications, the Nebraska Press Association, and others to put together panels of journalists in discussions driven by audiences in Norfolk, Scottsbluff and Omaha* during October 2018. This program was made possible by funding from Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and administered by the Federation of State Humanities Councils. Additional funding was provided by the James and Rhonda Seacrest Foundation and the Johnny Carson Fund at the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

*Additional programs were held in early FY2019.

WWI CHAUTAUQUA VISITS WAYNE, SIDNEY

In 2018, the communities of Wayne and Sidney were selected to host the free, four-day Chautauqua festival, “World War I: Legacies of a Forgotten War,” offering Nebraskans a fuller understanding of the lasting influences of the Great War.

Each community hosted a youth camp, where students learned about local people from the WWI era and created first-person narratives to present with the help of Ride Into History scholars. Chautauqua scholars led daily workshpops, and then during the evening portrayed historical figures that experienced the Great War, both from home and abroad. Woodrow Wilson served as moderator, setting the stage each night for a guest speaker: author Edith Wharton, politician William Jennings Bryan, activist W.E.B. Du Bois, and social reformer Jane Addams.

Major funding was provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Johnny Carson Fund at the Nebraska Cultural Endowment provided additional funding for the youth camp in Wayne.
Mullen students lunched with their senator, Tom Brewer.

An Omaha student shared her personal immigration experience.

CAPITOL FORUM ON AMERICA’S FUTURE

“It is vital to the continued success of our nation that young people consider ways to address current issues facing the U.S. today.” – 2018 Student Participant

This year marked the 20th annual Capitol Forum on America’s Future. In partnership with Secretary of State John Gale, HN presented Capitol Forum to encourage high school students to learn about and express their opinions on terrorism, nuclear proliferation, international trade, climate change, and immigration, all of which have impact on Nebraska. Based on the premise that a strong, vibrant democracy requires informed, engaged citizens, the program helps students develop critical thinking skills, encourages discourse and understanding of multiple perspectives.

On Capitol Forum Day, delegations of students actively participate in deliberations with their peers from across the state and with members of the Nebraska congressional delegation before heading home to share new insights with their classmates. This year the Capitol Forum program included more than 1,600 students and educators from 25 communities across the state.
MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET

“Participating in WATER/WAYS improved our local standing as professionals who can offer wonderful things to the community.” – Host Site Director

In 2018, Humanities Nebraska launched its plans for a multi-year celebration of Nebraska’s water resources, featuring a new touring exhibition from the Smithsonian Institution titled “WATER/WAYS.”

As the exhibition toured the state, visitors explored the relationships between people and water, and learned about water as both a critical resource and sacred symbol. The WATER/WAYS exhibition made its way through Valentine, Broken Bow, and David City in FY2018, reaching more than 3,000 Nebraskans. It will complete its tour in Holdrege, Alliance and Gering in FY2019.

Funding for this program was provided by Valley Irrigation, Brown Transfer Company, Nebraska Environmental Trust, the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, and an anonymous foundation.

(continued)
INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS (CONTINUED)

GIFTS OF $50 - $99
Anonymous (18)
Dee Adams, Merna
Lucy Adkins, Lincoln
Richard Allen &
Mary Rabenberg, Lincoln
Ruth Asboe, Nebraska City
Amanda & Scott Barker, Lincoln
Keith & Mary Bartels, Lincoln
Mary Barton, Lincoln
Wanda Beiber, Alliance
Naomi Bennett, Fairbury
Mayrene Bentley, Omaha
Diane Berlett, Plattsmouth
Gail & Don Blankenau, Lincoln
Mary & Bob Bolin, Lincoln
Kate Bradley, Omaha
Edna Broad, Alliance
Michael & Stephanie Brogan, Norfolk
Lin Brummels, Winside
Donna Campbell, Omaha
Mary & Doug Campbell, Lincoln
Patricia Campbell, Enid, OK
Paul Campbell, Wakefield
Shirley Carpenter, Omaha
Burke E. Casari, Lincoln
Tom & Jalaene Choquette, Hastings
Matt Connealy & Judith Scherer Connealy, Decatur
Edmond & Jan Connolly, Bellevue
Carolyn Connath, Bellevue
Joe & Jan Cook, Grand Island
Gerry Cox, Lincoln
Ron Cox, Chicago, IL
Sharon Crosby, Weeping Water
Gilbert & Bonnie Darenzer, Seward
Linda & John Dalhstrom, Grand Island
Meenakshi Nath Dalal, Wayne
Nancy H. Dawson, Lincoln
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Linda Healy, South Sioux City
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Tom & Jean Holcombe, Omaha
Dan & Josie Hughes, Venango
Ron Hull, Lincoln
Jessica Janssen, Elkhorn
Jean Jeffery, Lincoln
Elna Johnson, Imperial
Marjorie Johnson, Blair
Belva Junker, Juniata
Judy Emmons, Morse Bluff
Kevin & Charlotte Endorf, Hadar
Mark & Barbara Engler, Beatrice
Ken Farnik, Niobrara
Carrie Feingold, Bellevue
Martha & Eugene Feit, Elkhorn
Bob & Lark Ferguson, Lincoln
Jon & Joan Fink, Tecumseh
Daniel & Ann Flood, Norfolk
N. Dennis & Lou Fornander, North Platte
Robert & Bette Frets, Hershey
Barbara Gaither, Lincoln
Georgia Glass, Lincoln
Mark Griep, Lincoln
Sanford L. Grossbart & Priscilla Henkelman, Lincoln
Kandra Hahn, Lincoln
Marjorie & Curtis Halvorson, Ft. Collins, CO
Kathleen Hamilton, Lincoln
SheriLynne & Mark Hansen, Lincoln
Carolyn Harder, Laurel
Chalice & Ben Harvey, Bellevue
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Linda Healy, South Sioux City
Kathleen L. Hegler, Cortland
Steve & Kitty Hoden, Fremont
Tom & Jean Holcombe, Omaha
Dan & Josie Hughes, Venango
Ron Hull, Lincoln
Jessica Janssen, Elkhorn
Jean Jeffery, Lincoln
Elna Johnson, Imperial
Marjorie Johnson, Blair
Belva Junker, Juniata
Dale Kaiares, Omaha
Ruth Kamino, North Platte
Jean & Gerald Karlen, Pender
Jim & Jan Kenner, Hebron
Mrs. Betty Kenyon, Mitchell
Logan & Anne Kinnison, Columbus
Kent Kirwan, Omaha
Paul D. & Kay A. Knox, Ainsworth
Richard & Bonnie Kolowski, Omaha
Carol Konsel, Howells
John & Jean Krejci, Lincoln
Marie Krohn, Lincoln
Barbara & Marshall Kushner, Omaha
Florence & Phillip Larsen, Blair

PRIME TIME FAMILY READING TIME

“My children and I now know the importance of reading and we enjoy it very much.” – Prime Time parent

It was another successful year for Prime Time Family Reading Time, winner of the 2018 Nebraska Center for the Book Jane Geske Award. This 6-week family literacy program is designed to strengthen interest and skills in reading and discussing books, encourage critical thinking, and develop connections between storybooks and real-life situations.

Both Prime Time Family (families with children ages 6-10) and Prime Time Preschool (preparing children ages 3-5 for school with reading readiness skills) continue to cater to a diverse audience, offered in English and bilingual Spanish/English. A total of 36 Prime Time programs were held in Bellevue, Fremont, Grand Island, Lexington, Lincoln, Millard, Norfolk and Omaha, with 2,282 adults and children participating. More than half of the families were new to the program. This year, each family received a copy of “Age Happens: Garfield Hits the Big 4-0" as a special gift from Broadway composer Lin-Manuel Miranda, who has become an enthusiastic Prime Time supporter.

Prime Time received statewide support from the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, the State of Nebraska, Carol Gendler, and an anonymous foundation. The Fremont Area Community Foundation provided support for a local program, while Grand Island programs were funded by Principal, the Kaufmann-Cummings Foundation, and the AKSARBEN Foundation. Lincoln sessions were supported by Woods Charitable Fund, Lincoln Community Foundation and Duncan Aviation. In Norfolk, the Johnny Carson Foundation Fund at the Nebraska Cultural Endowment was a major funder. Additional support for Omaha Prime Time was provided by Carol Gendler and Mary & Rodrigo Lopez.
Debra Larson, Lincoln
Gretchen & Roy Lauby, Wymore
David & Mary Lempke, Wallace
Roger & Shirlie Lempke, Lincoln
Darel & Roberta Lloyd, Hastings
Andrea S. Lowe, Kearney
Mike & Jan Lowe, Lincoln
Margaret Lutton, Ashland
Julie MacDonald, Lincoln
Sharon Marvin Griffin, Omaha
Kristen & Matt Maser, Grand Island
John & Linda McPhail, Columbus
Fern Medlin, Albion
Dennis & JoAnne Mihelich, Omaha
Dennis & Linda Miller, Norfolk
Rosie & Mike Molvar, Lincoln
J. Marlene Mueller, Wayne
Dennis & Marlene Mullen, Hastings
Gordon & Bev Muller, Kearney
James & Susan Murphy, Columbus
Nina Nelson, Columbus
Muriel Neve, Blair
John Mark & Dawn Nielsen, Blair
Maureen & Craig O’Connor, Omaha
Peg O’Dea Lippert, Papillion
Wl & Shari Packard, Scottsbluff
David & Lori Pankonin, Plattsmouth
William & Corinne Pedersen, Lincoln
Bill & Gretchen Peters, Gering
Glenda Pierce & Jeff Kirkpatrick, Lincoln
Vicki Pratt, Omaha
Lisa Prior, Hastings
Mary Kay Quinlan, Lincoln
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Kathy Stockham, Omaha
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Vanessa Timberlake & Dick Flebbe, Omaha
LaVila K. VanBoening, Hastings
Gilbert Vaughan, Wayne
Bill Waddell, Lincoln
Milan & Sue Ellen Wall, Lincoln
Marilyn E.B. Wanamaker, Dakota City
Bonna & Mike Wanek, Grand Island, in honor of Pam Snow
Charles Ward, Valentine
Janyce Wameke, Plainview
Diana H. Warner, Lincoln
Pippa White Lawson & Craig Lawson, Lincoln
Rachel Wise, Oakland
Alan Worth, Lincoln
Laurie Richards & Dan Worth, Lincoln
Bob & Janet Yanike, Fremont
David & Kathy Young, Falls City
Connie Zimmerman, Lincoln
Zak & Amy Zutavern, Dunning

SPEAKERS BUREAU

“Thank you for providing this opportunity to our community. If not for Humanities Nebraska, such speakers would not be available to us. And each one teaches so much!” – Host Site Director

The Humanities Nebraska Speakers Bureau provides easy and inexpensive access to humanities programs conducted by authors, historians, scholars, and other experts on a wide variety of topics.

This year, there were 446 Speakers Bureau programs held in 149 Nebraska communities, and the total number of participants was 30,277. Statistically, Humanities Nebraska speakers provide the best avenue for serving even the state’s smaller, more rural and geographically isolated areas with educational and entertaining humanities-based programming of all kinds.

Speakers Bureau programs were sponsored in Greater Nebraska by an anonymous foundation. In Lincoln, support came from the Dillon Foundation. The Adah and Leon Millard Foundation sponsored speaker events in the Omaha area.
Supporters of the 23rd Governor’s Lecture in the Humanities attended a benefit dinner co-chaired by Shannon Harner and Matt Schaefer to promote HN’s programming at Lincoln’s Embassy Suites on October 9.

Following a reception, dinner, and presentation of the 2018 Sower Award in the Humanities (see opposite page), guests proceeded to the Lied Center for Performing Arts for the lecture by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jon Meacham. Co-sponsored by the E.N. Thompson Forum on World Issues and the University of Nebraska, the lecture was titled, “Tumult, Tragedy and Hope: 1968 from a Half Century’s Perspective.”

Read excerpts from the lecture online at: HumanitiesNebraska.org/transcript
PAMELA HILTON SNOW RECEIVES 2018 SOWER AWARD

Preceding the 2018 Governor’s Lecture, Pamela Hilton Snow was awarded the 2018 Sower Award in the Humanities by Nebraska Foundation for the Humanities members Shannon R. Harner and Matt Schaefer.

Born and raised in Lincoln, Pamela Hilton Snow is known for her commitment to and passion for the humanities. In his nomination letter, Robert Nefsky referred to Hilton Snow as “...among those Nebraskans whose contributions to the humanities have made a real difference.”

A founding board member (1999-2006) and former executive director (2006-2014) of the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, Pam’s long history of serving the humanities also includes being a board member (1996-2006) and chair (1999-2000) of Nebraska Humanities Council, and board member (1999-2006) of the Nebraska Foundation for the Humanities. She was instrumental in bringing the Great Plains Chautauqua to Grand Island, planning and consulting for the Nebraska Book Festival, and recruiting Humanities Nebraska board members.

During her acceptance speech, Pam reflected on the state’s creation of the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, which will help preserve arts and humanities programming in Nebraska forever.

“With the passage of the bill, Nebraska was the first and remains the only state to create a cultural trust that is a partnership between the humanities and the arts,” Pam said. She concluded by sharing her award with the rest of the humanitarian advocates who have contributed to preserving the humanities in Nebraska.

“I do not stand alone on this stage,” she said. “Each one of you present and thousands of other Nebraskans like you are the reason for the success of Humanities Nebraska and the unique partnership created for the citizens of our state, the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. I share this award with you.”
COLLABORATIVE STATEWIDE PROGRAMS

Through joint efforts with other organizations, Humanities Nebraska delivers more humanities programming statewide, including:

**National History Day: Nebraska**
In partnership with Nebraska Wesleyan University, Humanities Nebraska aims to encourage the teaching and learning of history in schools and homeschools statewide through National History Day: Nebraska. In 2018, more than 2,500 students in grades 6-12 participated in the year-long program.

Students produced multimedia documentaries, dramatic performances, websites, papers and other exhibits based on an annual theme. These projects are evaluated at district, state and national levels.

The Dillon Foundation provided additional funding for this program.

**Nebraska Literary Tour**
Humanities Nebraska and the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors at Lincoln City Libraries partner to present a Nebraska Literary Tour. Available at no cost on a mobile-friendly website, this program features Nebraska authors, their geographical roots and their journey as writers.

Choose between author-based tours or regional tours to see nearby sites that are related to multiple Nebraska-based writers.

**Nebraska State Poet**
Twyla M. Hansen was the 2013-2018 Nebraska State Poet. In collaboration with Humanities Nebraska, Nebraska Arts Council, and the Nebraska Library Commission, the Nebraska State Poet brings an appreciation for reading and writing poetry to people of all ages throughout the state.

In 2018, Twyla offered six presentations through the Humanities Nebraska Speakers Bureau, reaching more than 130 Nebraskans.

**Nebraska Warrior Writers**
The Nebraska Warrior Writers program provides veterans and military personnel a therapeutic and enjoyable way to express themselves and improve their storytelling skills with professional writing instruction.

With the Nebraska Writing Project and the Veterans’ Administration, Humanities Nebraska hosts workshops every spring and autumn. A recent addition to the website allows workshop attendees to publish their writing online. In 2018, 100% of the participants agreed that the program encouraged them to reflect on and openly discuss themes related to their military experience.

STRENGTH IN DONOR CHOICE

The Community Services Fund (CSF) connects donors to causes they care about. Working with 69 different charitable agencies, CSF builds a vibrant, creative, healthy community. Humanities Nebraska is a proud member agency.

HN greatly appreciates donors who designated gifts to us through CSF workplace giving campaigns last year.

For more information, contact CSF at 402-489-4332 or visit www.communityservicesfund.com.

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NEBRASKA CULTURAL ENDOWMENT

The Nebraska Cultural Endowment (NCE) is the private partner in a public-private relationship with the State of Nebraska created to sustain and expand the arts and humanities in Nebraska. The first arrangement of its kind, the NCE remains the only public-private cultural endowment in the nation to sustain both the arts and humanities, preserving Nebraska’s long-standing tradition of arts and culture.

Contributions to the NCE are matched by the State of Nebraska and invested in perpetuity. The earnings from these private and public investments support the statewide educational projects and programs of Humanities Nebraska and the Nebraska Arts Council. In the 21-year history of the NCE, it has distributed over $11.8 million back into communities and accounts for around 17% of the Humanities Nebraska budget.

Please consider joining NCE in its mission to cultivate a legacy of stability, advocacy and leadership for the arts and humanities in Nebraska. To learn more about contributing to the NCE, or to consider becoming a Legacy Donor by designating the NCE within your estate plans, please contact Kyle Cartwright, Executive Director, at 402-430-1328 or via email to kyle@nebraskaculture.org, or HN’s Heather Thomas at heather@humanitiesnebraska.org.

2018 MAJOR FUNDING PARTNERS

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Humanities Nebraska receives significant funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), a federal agency created in 1965. NEH serves and strengthens our nation by promoting excellence in the humanities and conveying the lessons of history and culture to all Americans.

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Because humanities programs foster an engaged and informed citizenry, the Nebraska Legislature provides annual appropriations to support HN’s statewide efforts.
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Democracy and the Future of Journalism