



RAPPORT

HUMANITIES NEBRASKA

HELPING NEBRASKANS EXPLORE WHAT CONNECTS US AND MAKES US HUMAN



CAPITOL FORUM ON AMERICA'S FUTURE HELPS HIGH SCHOOLERS UNDERSTAND GLOBAL ISSUES

PG 2



FIRST KURMANJI PRIME TIME FAMILY READING IN THE NATION

PG 5



"WEATHERING UNCERTAINTY" DISCUSSIONS TO BEGIN SOON

PG 12



HUMANITIES NEBRASKA

RAPPORT

ISSUE 28 | SPRING 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS

- DUE MAY 02** **MINI GRANTS**
May 2, July 1, September 1
(details on our website)
- DUE JUNE 15** **MEDIA/WEBSITE/DIGITAL GRANTS**
June 15 (details on our website)
- JUNE 15** **“WEATHERING UNCERTAINTY”**
Lied Center, Lincoln & Virtual (see page 12)
- DUE JUNE 17** **SOWER AWARD NOMINATIONS**
Deadline is June 17 (see page 10)
- DUE JULY 01** **CAPITOL FORUM TEACHER APPLICATIONS**
Deadline is July 1
- JULY 28-30** **1950s CHAUTAUQUA**
“The Fifties in Focus,” McCook
- DUE AUG 01** **MAJOR GRANTS**
August 1 (details on our website)

IN THIS ISSUE

Capitol Forum on America’s Future 2
 “Crossroads: Change in Rural America”. .3
 “The Fifties In Focus” Chautauqua 3
 New and Retiring Board Members 4
 Kurmanji Prime Time 5
 Thank You, Donors! 6
 Give to Lincoln Day 7
 In Memory 8
 Grant Spotlight: “Voices Amplified” 9
 Recent Grants 9
 Cultural Endowment Leader Change . . 10
 Sower Award Nominations 10
 Making Community Connections 11
 “Weathering Uncertainty” 12

CAPITOL FORUM HIGH SCHOOL DELEGATES RETURN TO LINCOLN AFTER TWO-YEAR HIATUS

STUDENTS EXCELLED IN CIVIL DISCOURSE AS THEY GRAPPLED WITH TRADE, NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AND OTHER COMPLEX TOPICS FROM DIFFERING PERSPECTIVES

When the world shut down due to the global pandemic in March 2020, it was a mere two weeks before HN’s Capitol Forum Day. Months of planning to bring student delegations from 24 high schools around the state to Lincoln for a day of deliberating important global issues and meeting elected representatives were erased in a moment.

Participating teachers at each high school were able to continue to use the *Choices* curriculum by Brown University to engage their students – now online – in learning about immigration, international trade, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, and climate change. However, missing the culminating event of deliberating different views with other students was an unfortunate loss.

In 2021, while an in-person

event was still not possible, HN offered some options to continue to engage with teachers and classrooms. The switch was made to digital classroom resources so that teachers could utilize the *Choices* curriculum easily whether meeting in-person or virtually. Former Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel gave a workshop to teachers on current issues in foreign policy, enhancing their own understanding so they could be better equipped to lead discussion and field questions from students. Various State Department representatives also spoke with some classes via Zoom.

“The good thing about *Choices* is that it’s always relevant,” noted Kristi Hayek Carley, HN program manager. “The program and deliberations are adjustable, and teachers are able to use current events to launch in-depth discussion and research.”

The end of the Omicron surge allowed a window of opportunity for participating teachers and Hayek Carley to make Capitol Forum Day an in-person reality on March 28, 2022.

“The landscape has changed a great deal in our world and in our classrooms,” Hayek Carley said. “I really appreciate the teachers’ flexibility as we changed a few things for 2022. We all wanted the students to have a memorable and worthwhile experience.”

As she and other staffers prepared for Capitol Forum Day, important contributions from the Cooper Foundation and other generous donors helped limit possible barriers for schools sending their students



Top: Zooming in from Washington D.C., Rep. Adrian Smith fielded questions from students
 Bottom: Focused discussions on each global topic allowed students to express their views and share their research.



to Lincoln. Donated dollars helped cover transportation costs, substitute teacher fees, and overnight accommodations for out-state students.

Twelve schools sent delegations of students to participate in the day, each prepared to discuss the five *Choices* topics with peers from other parts of the state.

Co-sponsor Secretary of State Bob Evnen welcomed the students that morning, lauding their willingness to learn about important international topics that affect everyone. “You are America’s future,” he stated.

Two instructors from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) helped enhance understanding of the current conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Dr. Hana Waisserova, assistant professor of practice of Czech, and political science Ph.D. student Lukasz Nipako of Poland clarified the history of the region and explained political decisions that led to war.

During breakout discussions, students shared insightful

comments and listened respectfully to other views.

In the nuclear proliferation discussion, students talked about Russian President Vladimir Putin’s veiled threat to use nuclear weapons if other superpowers got involved. One student wondered, “If nuclear weapons are supposed to be a deterrent, who is deterring who?”

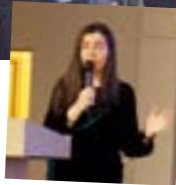
In another room, the topic of using U.S. buying power to force other nations to end human rights violations took an interesting turn when one student said, “What if the reason these countries don’t pay fair wages is because the U.S. insists on lower prices for the goods we are buying?”

The day ended with a Zoom appearance by U.S. Rep. Adrian Smith, who answered students’ questions about foreign policy and economics.

“I learned so much today. I think we all have,” one student said. “I hope we’ll all remember that it’s important to listen to each other and learn more about issues like these.”



Above: Student delegates, their teachers, and HN staff. Right: Dr. Hana Waisserova, UNL, gave a presentation on the current situation with Ukraine and Russia.



“That’s what we want to hear,” said Hayek Carley. “This program can really have a profound effect on the next generation of engaged citizens and elected officials.”

Funding for Capitol Forum was provided by the Cooper Foundation and “A More Perfect Union,” an initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Humanities Nebraska is now recruiting high schools for Capitol Forum in 2022/23.

For details to share with your local social studies teacher, visit HumanitiesNebraska.org/programs
To become a sponsor, please email heather@humanitiesnebraska.org.

SEE “CROSSROADS” WHILE YOU CAN!

McCOOK
Through May 25
Keystone Business Center
402 Norris Ave

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June 1-26
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341 Country Club Rd

HumanitiesNebraska.org/crossroads

“Crossroads” is brought to Nebraska with funding support from the Shoemaker Family Foundation, the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, Batten Trailer Leasing, and other generous donors.

the 50s
in focus
NEBRASKA CHAUTAUQUA

July 28-30

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POP CULTURE • HISTORY • MUSIC • CONVERSATIONS

For more information, visit
www.NebraskaChautauqua.org



WELCOME, NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

Humanities Nebraska recently welcomed four new board members during its spring board meeting. Three have joined the board of the Nebraska Humanities Council, and one was added to the Nebraska Foundation for the Humanities.

NEW TO THE COUNCIL

VALERIE CUPPENS (Lincoln)

is a digital and analogue producer who communicates meaning through print, visuals and music. Cuppens is co-author of "Learning with Nature Idea Book: Creating Nurturing Outdoor Spaces for Children," an alumni coach for IDEO U, and an Inaugural Fellow of the Center for Social Impact Strategy at the University of Pennsylvania.



MATTHEW LOW (Omaha)

has been an English teacher in Nebraska for 20 years in classrooms ranging from middle school to graduate school. He is currently the English Department Chair at Brownell Talbot College Preparatory School in midtown



Omaha, where he teaches English and Journalism. Matt holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Iowa and an M.A. in English from Creighton University.

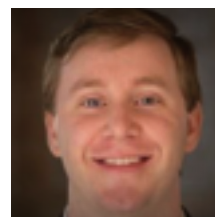


ANA LOPEZ SHALLA

(Omaha) is a Nebraska native who currently serves as the senior director of workforce development for the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce. She attended Boston College, where she double majored in English and theology and minored in creative writing, and earned a master's of education at Harvard University.

NEW TO THE FOUNDATION

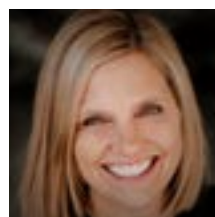
PATRICK LEAHY (Omaha) is an Information Operations Planner at U.S. STRATCOM and has been an Intelligence Officer in the U.S. Army Reserve for



nearly 16 years. His background includes political campaign and public policy roles. Patrick was elected to

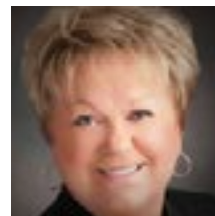
the Pappas-Missouri River Natural Resources District Board in 2012 and re-elected in 2016. He presently serves on the Keep Omaha Beautiful Board.

The Council re-elected **CONNIE DUNCAN** of Lincoln as chair and



BETH WHITED of Omaha as vice chair. **DORI WANITSCHKE** of Grand Island was elected treasurer. The Foundation

re-elected **TAMI HELLMAN** of



Kearney as president, **BRENDA CHRISTENSEN** of Omaha as vice-president and **MIKE HOMA** of

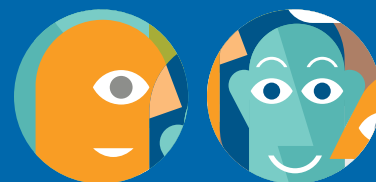
Omaha as treasurer.

THANK YOU TO OUR NEWLY RETIRED BOARD MEMBERS!

Humanities Nebraska is grateful to the board members who reached the end of their board service in January. **AMY SANDEEN** of Hastings served on the Council 2016-2022, including two years as Chair and a year as a member of the Foundation board. **LAURA CAPP** of Ashland, who was chair of the 2021 Nebraska Chautauqua, served on the Council from 2016-2022, as did **STEVE ELLIOTT** of Wayne. **BEV KRACHER** of Omaha retired from

the Foundation board after serving from 2016-2022. Each of these board members provided leadership in many ways, including chairing numerous committees and providing insight and direction through HN's strategic planning process and visioning for the future.

We are grateful to them for their service and dedication to enriching the lives of all Nebraskans through the humanities.



UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP OFFERS PRIME TIME FAMILY READING FOR YAZIDI REFUGEES

For 18 years, Humanities Nebraska has offered bilingual Prime Time for Spanish-speaking families. In 2021, HN partnered with Juniper Refuge and Calvary Lutheran Church in Lincoln to offer the nation's first bilingual Prime Time Family Reading in the Kurmanji language.

Participation started small, but as word spread, attendance reached six families: 13 adults and 21 children. The program continues to grow this spring.

Program Coordinator Lynett Wilson reported, "One participant invited a friend on her own!" Another attendee appreciated having a family activity instead of dropping off her kids.

Lincoln is home to more than 3,000 Yazidis who fled genocide in Iraq. The Yazidi are a Kurmanji-speaking minority group indigenous to Iraq, Syria, Turkey, and Iran. Juniper Refuge suggested the idea for Prime Time in Kurmanji as a way to provide opportunities for refugees and American citizens to engage with each other, grow in understanding of one another, and create friendships.

Since Juniper Refuge does not have their own space, they partnered with Calvary Lutheran Church. The church provides free space rental and the pastor's wife, Jenny Vineyard, enjoys serving food and interacting with the families.

The team also partners with The Career Academy to staff the preschool room for Prime Time. Jame Cartwright, an Early Childhood Education instructor at Southeast Community College and The Career Academy, leads the preschool room and brings two high school

students each week to help. Jame plans three activities for each evening to go along with the session's pre-school book.

Jame explained, "When we read *Where the Wild Things Are*, we did an activity where we made a crown like Max wore. We made monsters on Play-Doh mats. I chose a different art medium for each week, which kept them engaged and excited."

Discussion Leader Nihad "Nina" Chase is part of the Yazidi community and fluent in English and Kurmanji. While storyteller Kathy Bowman reads a book in English, Nina translates it for the Yazidi families. "I think the books are wonderful," Nina said. Prime Time "encourages families to support each other and read more books. I think it gives parents ideas of how to empower their kids."



HN offered a second bilingual Kurmanji-English Prime Time series this spring.

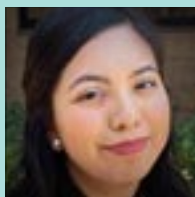
Nina shared the story of a child who loves reading, but her parents did not read to her and her mother doesn't speak English at this time.

"This program made her aunt realize how much she loved reading. Her aunt said she'll start reading to her and take her to the library more often. The little girl was so excited to come to Prime Time. She listened and participated a lot."

Lincoln Prime Time is funded by the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, State of Nebraska, Sherwood Foundation, Rogers Foundation, John & Catherine Angle Charitable Fund, Duncan Aviation, Give to Lincoln Day donors, and an anonymous donor.

MEET ABBY JAVIER-PAXTLE

NEW
STAFF



Recently, HN welcomed **Abigail "Abby" Javier-Paxtle** as the new program intern. Hailing from Grand Island, Abby is a senior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) double-majoring in Spanish and Child, Youth & Family Studies with an emphasis on human development and family science. She also helps first generation and low-income high school students prepare for college and future careers at UNL's Nebraska College Preparatory Academy.

Abby said, "I'm learning a lot about Prime Time as I read through comments families have made about the program. I am grateful to be a part of something that helps families connect with each other."

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Join these generous contributors and help Nebraskans explore what connects us and makes us human.

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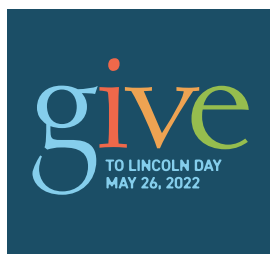
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HELP FAMILIES READ TOGETHER THIS SUMMER: SUPPORT HN!



May 26 is Give to Lincoln Day! Sponsored by the Lincoln Community Foundation, the 11th annual Give to Lincoln Day is a perfect time to show your love for your favorite nonprofit organizations, including Humanities Nebraska. Gifts to HN will go toward “summer reading

kits” for Prime Time Family Reading families. Containing books, a discussion guide and fun activities, the kits, valued at \$150 each, will help families read and discuss books together.

The online giving platform is open May 1 through May 26 so you may make a gift anytime during the month. Every donation you make helps even more because Humanities Nebraska will receive a proportional share of a \$500,000 challenge match fund. Thank you!

These are some of the history-themed books families will receive this summer, along with a discussion guide, activities, toys, and other gifts.

Make your donation between May 1-26 at givetolincoln.com/nonprofits/humanities-nebraska

THANK YOU, PATRON'S CIRCLE

for supporting HN's mission to help Nebraskans explore what connects us and makes us human.

Patron's Circle

WE THANK THESE GENEROUS INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE HELPING ENSURE A VIBRANT CULTURAL LIFE IN NEBRASKA WITH ANNUAL GIFTS OF \$1,000 OR MORE MADE BETWEEN FEBRUARY 1, 2021 AND MARCH 31, 2022.

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Zandbergen
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Contact Heather Thomas at heather@HumanitiesNebraska.org to learn more.



IN MEMORY



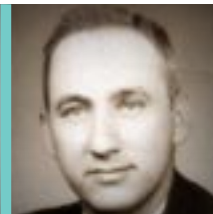
CHAD BAILEY | 1965-2021 Chad Bailey died November 21. A graduate of Kearney State College, he was a secondary teacher with endorsements in History, Social Sciences, Physical Education, and Coaching. As a high school social studies teacher at Holdrege Public School, Chad was a long-time participating teacher in HN's Capitol Forum for America's Future. Known for encouraging his students to be the best they could be, he was given Nebraska's Outstanding Teacher Award in 2018.



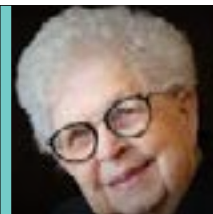
FREDERICK C. LUEBKE | 1927-2021 Fred Luebke, celebrated educator, historian, and author, died November 27. As a member of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) faculty for 26 years, Fred inspired many students and fellow faculty members. He left a lasting mark on Nebraska as founding director of the Center for Great Plains Studies and founding editor of the Great Plains Quarterly. Among many honors, Fred was a past recipient of the Sower Award in the Humanities.



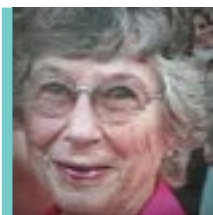
ALBERT HAMERSKY | 1924-2021 Albert Hamersky died November 18. A respected architect, Albert contributed to many civic, commercial and religious organizations, including chairing the Lincoln Community Foundation, the Lincoln Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and the Capitol Environs Committee. He served on numerous other boards, including the Nebraska Humanities Council (1986-90) and the Nebraska Foundation for the Humanities (1986-87).



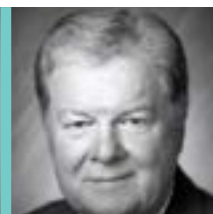
TEDD C. HUSTON | 1926-2022 Tedd Huston, longtime Central Nebraska attorney, died January 8. After serving in the U.S. Navy, he attended UNL, earning his law degree and competing on the swim team. After moving to Broken Bow, he became very active in numerous legal and community organizations, including the Jaycees, the Rotary Club, and the University of Nebraska Foundation. He also served on HN's council board (1994-1999) and the foundation board (1994-1997).



MARILYN WHITNEY PETERSON | 1933-2021 Dr. Marilyn Peterson died December 12. A graduate of Kearney State College, she taught in Kearney, Cozad, and schools in Colorado while completing her master's degree. Further studies in New Mexico, Texas, Hawaii, Europe, and at UNL led to her Ph.D. and career as a professor of journalism and English at Midland Lutheran College in Fremont. Among numerous boards, she served on the Nebraska Humanities Council 1997-2003.



ELAINE PHILLIPS SPIRE | 1928-2022 Elaine Spire died on March 12. Originally from Boston, Elaine graduated from Wellesley College. After marrying Omaha native Bob Spire (later attorney general) and moving to Nebraska, Elaine became a big Cornhusker fan and took up community service, serving on many boards, foundations, and organizations including HN's foundation (1995-2001). She was the first recipient of the Hubert Locke Award for Distinguished Service in 2002.



DALE YOUNG | 1928-2022 A U.S. veteran who served in World War II and Korea, Dale Young died March 1. The Palmyra native had a banking career in Lincoln, where he served many local and state-wide organizations. Among them, he was president of the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, an executive committee member of the Nebraska Bankers Association, and founding board member and treasurer for the Lincoln Children's Zoo Foundation. He served on HN's foundation board 2000-2005.

GRANT SPOTLIGHT: DR. RAE WYNN-GRANT & SHERITTA STRONG, MD, AMPLIFYING BLACK WOMEN IN THE SCIENCES



A public discussion funded by an HN grant explored why African-American women are largely absent from male-dominated careers such as environmental science.

Rae Wynn-Grant, who has a Ph.D. in ecology and evolution, and Dr. Sheritta Strong, the assistant vice chancellor of inclusion at University of Nebraska Medical Center, spoke about amplifying black women in the sciences at the Charles B. Washington Branch, Omaha Public Library on February 16. Omaha Performing Arts hosted the event.

Grant, a California native, said she is currently the only Black woman in the world who is a carnivore wildlife ecologist. She said she has always had a passion for wildlife but did not always excel in school. Her advice to others is “to not be too intimidated by academics.”

Fellow panelist Sheritta Strong agreed. “I was the only female student in my engineering class at Omaha North. I had the highest grade in the class.”

Both women urged listeners not to confuse passion with performance. “It’s not about how well you study for tests,” Grant said.

“It’s more about: Do you have the energy for this? Do you have good ideas? A test isn’t going to save the environment, but really good ideas and energy are.”

She continued, “We see women and women of color falling out of math and science early...Society tells us, ‘It’s too hard for you.’ It’s not. It is hard for everybody.”

The event concluded with a discussion on the importance of communication in the sciences.

RECENTLY AWARDED GRANTS

Antelope County Historical Society, Neligh, \$2,000 to help fund a permanent Native American display in the society’s museum. • **Asian Community and Cultural Center, Lincoln, \$1,450** in support of Camp Culture 2022. • **Buffalo Commons Storytelling Festival, McCook, \$2,000** to help fund the 2022 event. • **Crane River Theater Company, Kearney, \$2,000** for the 2022 “Page to Stage” library outreach program. • **Food Fort, Lincoln, \$1,100** for books and journals for its “Tree Top Education” elementary school reading and writing program. • **Lincoln Commission on Human Rights, \$300** to provide honoraria to students who participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. “Living a Dream” arts competition. • **Nebraska Deaf Heritage Museum and Cultural Center, Omaha, \$1,500** to help fund speakers and storytellers for the Deaf History Month kickoff event. • **Nebraska Journalism Trust, Omaha, \$1,925** supporting a forum on the future of journalism in Nebraska. • **Nebraska Poetry Society, Omaha, \$625** in support of five virtual educational events scheduled for spring and summer 2022. • **O. NE Mentoring Academy, Omaha, \$1,250** in support of four six-week programs mentoring underserved students in grades 4-12. • **Platte Valley Literacy Association, Columbus, \$2,000** for books and other materials for a citizenship class. • **Robert Henri Museum and Historical Walkway, Cozad, \$2,000** to help fund construction of a new exhibit titled, “Boyhood on the Prairie: Robert Henri’s Early Years in Nebraska.” • **Social Action Committee of Unitarian Church, Lincoln, \$2,000** in support of its winter lecture series, “Conflicts within Nations and the Right to Protect.” • **Southern Heights Food Forest, Lincoln, \$1,500** to help fund speakers for its “Cultural Foodways” presentations. • **Together We Achieve Miracles, Inc., Omaha, \$1,750** to help fund an in-person and online townhall sharing the history of Saratoga and the Beltline Railroad. • **Tri-Faith Initiative of Omaha, \$1,000** to help plan for its upcoming “Race, Religion, and Social Justice” series. • **University of Nebraska at Omaha Board of Regents, \$2,000** in support of a “Living Library” in which experts on various topics were available for one-on-one discussion; **\$1,900** for the ArteLatinX exhibit; and **\$2,000** for programming related to the “On the Inside” exhibition. • **University of Nebraska-Lincoln Board of Regents, \$2,000** in support of a Native American exhibit and programming titled “Contemporary Indigeneity 2022.” • **Vision Maker Media, Lincoln, \$2,000** to help fund its 2022 filmmaker summit • **Willa Cather Foundation, Red Cloud, \$2,000** supporting speakers and film screenings in conjunction with the Smithsonian’s touring exhibition, “Crossroads: Change in Rural America.”

SCREEN SHOT VIA NEBRASKA DEAF HERITAGE MUSEUM'S FACEBOOK PAGE



Nebraska Deaf Heritage Museum and Culture Center received a grant for its Deaf History Month kickoff event.

22
GRANTS

\$36,300
TOTAL

NEBRASKA CULTURAL ENDOWMENT WELCOMES NEW LEADER

Nebraska's cultural sector is recognized as strong throughout the nation, in large part due to the close working relationship of Humanities Nebraska, the Nebraska Arts Council, and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment (NCE).

This spring, the three organizations bid farewell to NCE executive director Kyle Cartwright, who for the past four years helped guide this unique public-private partnership, and welcomed Maggie Smith as the new director.

Maggie was most recently Director of Operations at KANEKO in Omaha, where she co-led fundraising and development strategy while overseeing marketing, com-

munications, programming, and operations. Prior to joining KANEKO in 2019, she taught college writing courses while working in innovative product and program management at Yahoo!

“NO OTHER STATE IN THE COUNTRY PROVIDES ENDOWMENT DONORS A GUARANTEED \$10 MILLION STATE MATCH THE WAY NEBRASKA DOES, SO MY GOAL IS TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE IN NEBRASKA KNOWS ABOUT IT AND IS AS PROUD OF IT AS I AM!”

— MAGGIE SMITH

In addition to her tech industry experience, Maggie also co-founded a nonprofit in Dublin, Ireland, focused on

creativity and writing.

Maggie will lead NCE's continuing efforts to raise private donations that are matched by state support, ultimately leading to combined endowment funds of more than \$40 million, with increasing annual distributions that benefit arts and humanities programs across the state. We are thrilled to work side by side with her, and she is eager to experience humanities programs across the state.



Learn about NCE's funding for the arts and humanities at NebraskaCulturalEndowment.org.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE



GIVE NEBRASKA is a coalition of 74 diverse nonprofits working to build a vibrant, creative, and healthy community. Humanities Nebraska greatly appreciates donors who designated gifts to us through their Give Nebraska workplace giving campaigns. To learn more visit givenebraska.org.

**DUE
JUN 17**

SOWER AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nomination forms can be found on the HN web site: HumanitiesNebraska.org/programs

Nominations are welcome for the 2022 Sower Award in the Humanities, presented in conjunction with the Governor's Lecture in the Humanities.

Anyone may nominate an individual who has made a significant contribution to public understanding of the humanities in Nebraska via a commitment of time, expertise, resources, or any combination of the above.

PAST HONOREES INCLUDE:

- Talented humanities faculty or educators who reach beyond their classrooms
- Committed volunteers or philanthropists who enhance cultural life of the state
- Journalists, filmmakers, or authors who shed light on important public issues

PREVIOUS INDIVIDUAL RECIPIENTS

Marian Anderson • Robert Audi • Keith Blackledge • Marion Marsh Brown • Gene Bunge • Jack Campbell • State Sen. LaVon Crosby • Nancy Duncan • Walter Friedlander • Judi gaiashkibos • John Gottschalk • Natalie Hahn • Richard Holland • Jane Renner Hood • Ron Hull • Ted Kooser • Frederick Luebke • Robert Manley • Jack McBride • Gary Moulton • Ron Naugle • Robert Nefsky • Paul Olson • Don Pederson • Rhonda Seacrest • Todd Simon • Joe Seger • Bernice Slote • Annette and Paul Smith • Pamela Hilton Snow • Joe Starita • E.N. "Jack" Thompson • Charles "Chuck" Trimble • Morrie Tuttle • Don Welch • Larry Wewel • John R. Wunder

MAKING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS THROUGH YOUR SUPPORT

Thanks to annual gifts last year, HN offered programs in 128 communities in 2021! Becoming a monthly donor provides dependable financial support for HN on an ongoing basis and you enjoy perpetual participation and the knowledge that your gift is making a difference. Can you help by giving a few dollars each month?

Regular monthly online gifts help us create opportunities for learning, discussion, and personal growth. We put your gift to work in communities across the state, while allowing you the convenience and simplicity of automatic renewal.

It's easy and convenient to set up a monthly gift. Donations are made through automatic secure bank withdrawal or credit card charge, saving you time and money since you don't need to write a check or find a stamp. Spreading your support over

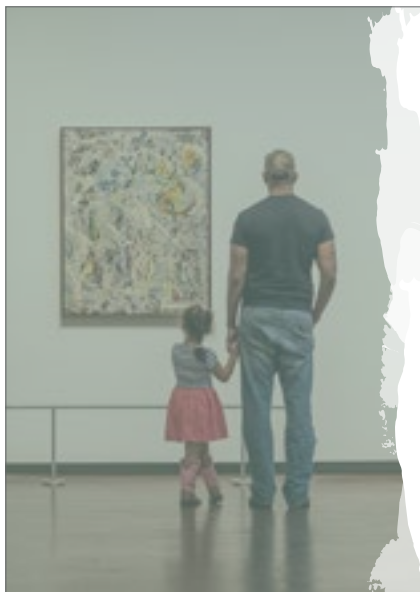


Paxton Williams, chair of the Federation of State Humanities Councils, spoke at April's Patron's Circle event.

the year also makes it easier on your budget.

- **\$5 per month helps provide gift books for families attending Prime Time Family Reading and Prime Time Preschool**
- **\$10 per month sends a high school student to Capitol Forum Day at the State Capitol**
- **\$20 per month helps bring a Speakers Bureau program to a school or library**
- **\$50 per month helps support a storyteller or discussion leader at Prime Time Family Reading**
- **\$100 per month supports a guest speaker at a Nebraska Warrior Writers workshop for veterans and qualifies you for the Patron's Circle, an annual recognition group**

Make your gift at HumanitiesNebraska.org/donate
Thank you!



Ensure an *Endless* Tradition of Arts & Humanities in Nebraska

Preserve the values and assets that are important to you and your family while helping to preserve arts and humanities for the future.

Download our FREE legacy planning guide, Donor Strategies to Preserve Arts & Humanities in Nebraska, at NebraskaCulture.org/mylegacy.



Nebraska Cultural Endowment doubles your donations with public support to enhance the programs and grants of the Nebraska Arts Council and Humanities Nebraska.



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LET'S TALK ABOUT "WEATHERING UNCERTAINTY" IN NEBRASKA

PLAN TO ATTEND AN ENLIGHTENING CONVERSATION ABOUT THE IMPACT OF OUR CHANGING CLIMATE ON JUNE 15, IN LINCOLN AND ON LIVE-STREAM.

Are you curious about what climate change means for Nebraska, and how different sectors in our state are responding? Put June 15 on your calendar for the opportunity to hear from leaders in agriculture, the environment, local economies, and public health. Humanities Nebraska and a variety of partners will present "Weathering Uncertainty: Conversations About Climate" June 15 at 7:00 p.m. Central at the Lied Center for Performing Arts in Lincoln. The program will also be live-streamed statewide.

In 2019, Nebraska sustained a record \$2 billion in damage from a devastating storm system that combined blizzard, rain, and widespread flooding, receiving national attention as a "bomb cyclone." In 2021, Nebraska figured into three (out of 20) billion-dollar national weather disasters: severe cold in February that led to rolling blackouts across the state; July storms that knocked out power to a third of Nebraskans and included massive hail damage; and severe weather in December that brought a record number of tornadoes and a first-ever winter derecho. As this newsletter goes to print, weather has led to numerous wildfires around the state.

In the aftermath of these and other weather disasters that are impacting our people and our agriculture-based economy, Nebraskans look at the future with concern as projections for increased extreme weather events are posited as part of climate change. How can we prepare for the future? How can we protect people and property from the unpredictable?

The "Weathering Uncertainty" discussion on June 15 will include panelists Mark McHargue, president of the Nebraska Farm Bureau; Dr. Hannah Birge, director of agriculture for The Nature Conservancy-Nebraska; Josh Moening, mayor of Norfolk, and Jesse Bell, director of the Water, Climate, and Health Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The program will be moderated by Nebraska State Climatologist Dr. Martha Shulski, and will include audience Q&A. Follow HN's website and social media for this and other "Weathering Uncertainty" programs in the works.

"Weathering Uncertainty" is funded in part by the Mellon Foundation's "Democracy and the Informed Citizen" initiative, administered by the Federation of State Humanities Councils, and by Rhonda Seacrest.



PUBLIC DOMAIN PHOTO VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

For more information about this program, visit humanitiesnebraska.org/weather

