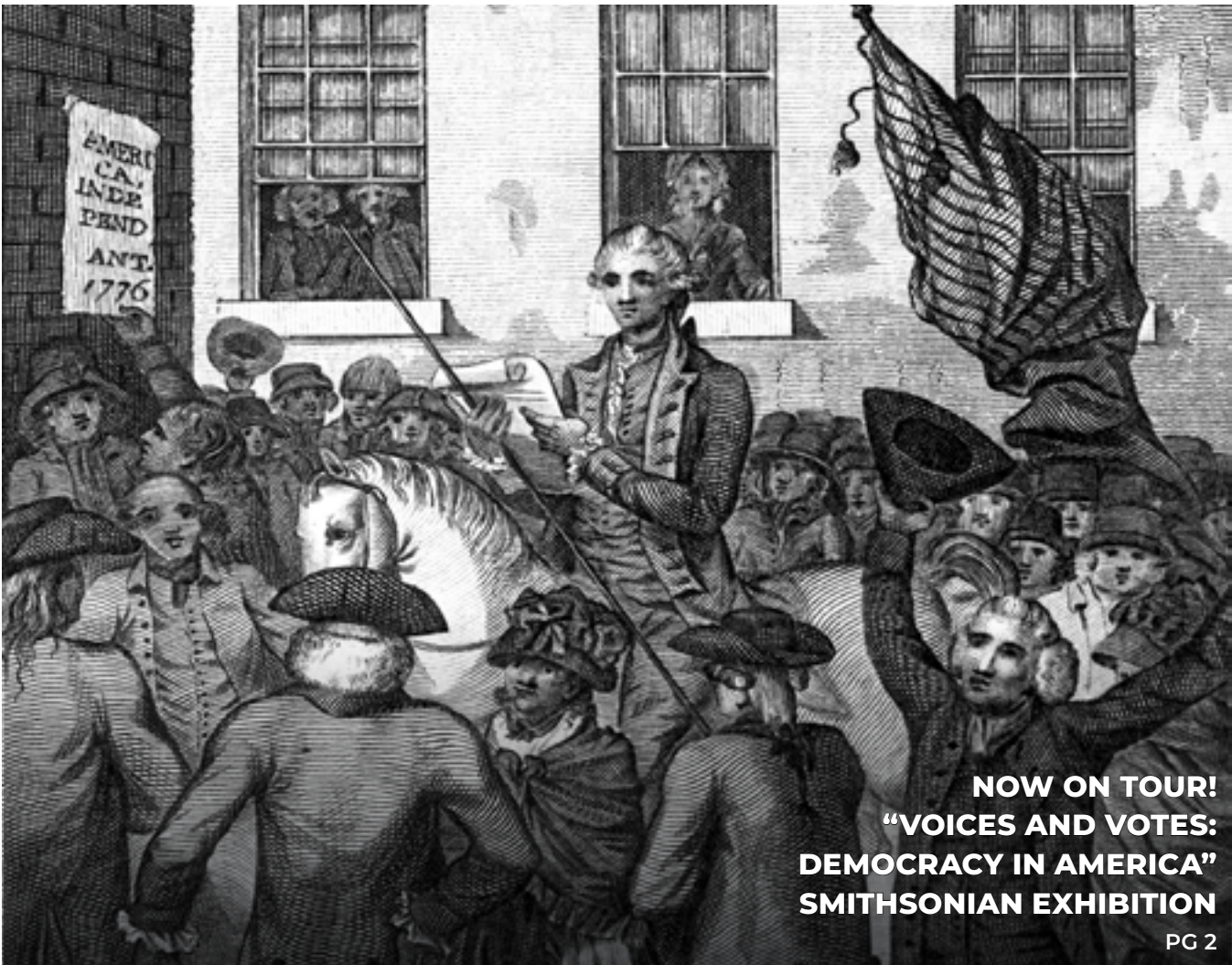


# RAPPORT

## HUMANITIES NEBRASKA

HELPING PEOPLE EXPLORE WHAT CONNECTS US AND MAKES US HUMAN



**NOW ON TOUR!  
"VOICES AND VOTES:  
DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA"  
SMITHSONIAN EXHIBITION**

PG 2



**GOVERNOR'S  
LECTURE  
SPEAKER  
ANNOUNCED**

PG 3



**NEBRASKA  
CHAUTAUQUA  
JULY 21-22  
GRAND ISLAND**

PG 12

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- THRU  
MAY 26
**"VOICES AND VOTES"**  
Howells Historical Society  
Museum
- DUE  
MAY 01
**MINI GRANTS**  
May 1, July 3, September 1  
*(details on our website)*
- JUN 05-  
JUL 10
**"VOICES AND VOTES"**  
Trails & Rails Museum  
Kearney
- DUE  
JUN 15
**MEDIA/DIGITAL GRANTS**  
June 15 *(details on our website)*
- DUE  
JUN 16
**2023 SOWER AWARD**  
Nominations due *(see page 10)*
- DUE  
JUL 05
**CAPITOL FORUM TEACHER  
APPLICATIONS FOR '23-'24**  
*(details on our website)*
- JUL 19-  
AUG 20
**"VOICES AND VOTES"**  
Thayer County Historical  
Museum, *Belvidere*
- JUL  
21-22
**NEBRASKA CHAUTAUQUA**  
"What Connects Us" at the  
Stuhr Museum, *Grand Island*

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# SMITHSONIAN EXHIBITION OPENS NEBRASKA TOUR IN HOWELLS

**"Voices and Votes: Democracy in America" prompts visitors to explore their role in the ever-evolving story of democracy in the U.S.**

A new traveling exhibition from the Smithsonian titled "Voices and Votes: Democracy in America" opened at the Howells Historical Society Museum on April 15 and will run through May 26. It is the first host site of six Nebraska communities.

"Voices and Votes" is based on a major exhibition currently on display at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History called "American Democracy: A Great Leap of Faith." It has many dynamic features: historical and contemporary photos; educational and archival video; and historical objects like campaign souvenirs, voter memorabilia, and protest material. Visitors of all ages are sure to enjoy the engaging multimedia interactives with short games and additional footage, photos, and information focused on the

American voting experience. One particularly exciting educational component is called "American Experiments," which involves a collection of activities designed to engage visitors inside the exhibition as well as students in the classroom. The "Head-to-Head" challenge asks visitors to select their choices for various topics, such as which American accomplished the most change for the nation or the most "American" food. One can leave one's opinion about citizenship by finishing the sentence "I believe good citizens should..." with a "My Fellow Citizens" photo opportunity. Guests can also compare their views to others in a voting game that poses thought-provoking questions about our democracy, citizenship, and voting.

"It's important for Nebraskans to reflect on and discuss our right to vote and the sacrifices that so many people made to ensure that this privilege is afforded to all citizens," said Associate Director Mary Yager, who manages all Museum on Main Street tours in Nebraska. "Already, some important conversations have been sparked among visitors, and I'm sure that will continue at each site."

To further such discussions, Humanities Nebraska (HN) is collaborating with Civic Nebraska to offer special resources to "Voices and Votes" communities. With its mission to build a more modern and robust democracy for all Nebraskans, Civic Nebraska is a natural partner as "Voices



*Top: Volunteers helped unload the exhibition materials when they arrived in Howells. Bottom: Local high school seniors were among the first to explore "Voices and Votes" in Howells.*



and Votes” tours the state. Civic Nebraska will encourage school field trips to see the exhibition and provide more interactive activities and workshops at various locations including a voting simulation, Civic Sidewalk Series to educate community members and provide upcoming election information, and civic health presentations on topics such as election integrity and confidence in elections. Sites hosting the exhibition can choose from a menu of offerings.

The Howells Historical Society Museum has already had good experiences with "Voices and Votes." During the first week it was open, a group of local high school seniors stopped by to explore. Staff engaged them in "a quick game on protests," and then sent them back to school to discuss and ponder what it would be like to have to demonstrate for one's right to vote.

The Howells Historical Society Museum is located at 224 Center Street in Howells. The museum is

open Tuesday – Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Following its six weeks in Howells, “Voices and Votes” will be on display in the following communities:

**Kearney:** June 5-July 10, Trails & Rails Museum

**Belvidere:** July 19-August 20, Thayer County Historical Museum

**Wahoo:** August 29-October 7, Saunders County Historical Museum

**Gering:** October 16-November 20, Legacy of the Plains Museum

**Omaha:** December 1-January 27, 2024, Great Plains Black History Museum

“Voices and Votes” is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration of the Smithsonian Institution and Humanities Nebraska. This exhibition is brought to Nebraska with funding support from Nebraska Cultural Endowment, the Nebraska Trucking Association, and other generous donors.

Museum on Main Street is



Above: Howells Historical Society hosted future exhibit hosts for a workshop on how to set up each component.



a partnership between the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and state humanities councils nationwide that serves the small-town museums and citizens of rural America. Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the United States Congress.

For more information, please visit [www.humanitiesnebraska.org/voices](http://www.humanitiesnebraska.org/voices)

To become a sponsor, please email [heather@humanitiesnebraska.org](mailto:heather@humanitiesnebraska.org).

## SAVE THE DATE!

## AMOR TOWLES TO DELIVER 2023 LECTURE

Celebrate HN’s 50th anniversary with bestselling author Amor Towles at the 2023 Governor’s Lecture in the Humanities.

**Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2023**

**5:30 pm: Benefit reception/dinner**

**7:30 pm: Presentation of the Sower Award and free public program with Amor Towles**

**Location: Holland Performing Arts Center, Omaha**

Amor Towles is the author of three New York Times bestsellers: "Rules of Civility" (2011), "A Gentleman in Moscow" (2016), and "The Lincoln Highway" (2021). The benefit dinner prior to the

free public talk will raise critical funds for Humanities Nebraska’s statewide programming. Invitations will be mailed this summer.

For more information on sponsorships, please contact HN director of development Heather Thomas at [heather@humanitiesnebraska.org](mailto:heather@humanitiesnebraska.org) or (402) 474-2131. Visit [www.humanitiesnebraska.org](http://www.humanitiesnebraska.org) for more details.



PHOTO BY DMITRI KASTERINE



OCT  
10



# WELCOME, NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

Humanities Nebraska recently welcomed four new board members. Two each joined the boards of the Nebraska Humanities Council and the Nebraska Foundation for the Humanities at the spring meeting.

## NEW TO THE COUNCIL

### EFFIE ATHANASSOPOULOS

(Lincoln) is a long-time Lincolnite, a dual citizen of Greece and the U.S.,



and professor of anthropology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She has been creating new digital resources

to facilitate research and public access to Nebraska's material past. Effie is a fellow of the Center for Digital Research in the Humanities, where she is developing a web resource on 19th to early 20th century artifacts from Nebraska.

**MICHAEL EVANS** (Peru) has been president of Peru State College since July 2021. He earned his Ph.D.



in folklore from Indiana University, focusing on expressions of indigenous cultures through

mass media. He also has an earlier background in journalism. Prior to coming to Nebraska, he was Vice

President for Academic Affairs at Southern New Hampshire University.

## NEW TO THE FOUNDATION

**MARY RAIMONDO** (Columbus) has been a community volunteer for most of her life, with particular affinity for the arts and humanities. She served on the Friends of Lied board for six years and on the Columbus



Arts Council for five years, taking on leadership roles for each organization. She was also

on the steering committee for the Columbus Public Library and co-chair for the Columbus Area Future Fund.

**SARA WOODS** (Omaha) is the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Chief Engagement Officer and Director of the Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center. She has served on and led a number of local and statewide boards



for nonprofit organizations in Nebraska, including Nebraska Children and Families Foundation,

Omaha Women's Fund, Nonprofit Association of the Midlands, and the Phoenix Academy.

The Council elected **Beth Whited**



of Omaha as chair and **Graciela Caneiro-Livingston** of Lincoln as vice chair. **Dori Wanitschke** of Grand Island was

re-elected treasurer, and **Connie Duncan** of Lincoln is immediate past chair.



The Foundation elected **Brenda Christensen** of Omaha as president, **Mike Homa** of Omaha as vice president, and

**Keith Bystrom** of Plattsmouth as treasurer.

# THANK YOU TO THESE RETIRED BOARD MEMBERS!

Humanities Nebraska is grateful to each of the board members who reached the end of their board service in January. Two retired from each board.

**DAVID NESHEIM** of Chadron served on the Council 2017-2023. **SARAH ROWE** of Omaha served on the Council from 2020-2023.

**JEN RAE WANG** of Omaha retired from the Foundation board after serving from 2020-2022. **CHRIS ZYGIELBAUM** of Lincoln retired from the Foundation board after serving from

2017-2023 and serving as co-chair of the annual Governor's Lecture in the Humanities in 2020 and 2022.

Each of these board members provided leadership in many ways, including chairing committees, advising staff, 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.



# CAPITOL FORUM STUDENTS GATHER IN LINCOLN TO DISCUSS FOREIGN POLICY

Since 1998, Humanities Nebraska has worked with high school social studies teachers across the state to engage students in understanding and discussing key global policy issues.

Participating teachers at each high school used the Choices curriculum by Brown University, provided by HN at no cost, as a platform for learning about immigration, international trade, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, and climate change. Eighteen schools sent delegations of five students to Capitol Forum Day in Lincoln on March 27.

Each of the students came prepared to discuss one of the five Choices topics with peers from around the state. In these breakout sessions, they learned how other people from different backgrounds approach the same issues. Some students in the immigration breakout session spoke of their own experiences as newcomers to the U.S. and the responsibility they feel to their parents who made sacrifices to give their children a better chance to succeed. Students in the terrorism session grappled with how to protect human rights and public safety without infringing on the rights of various groups that historically have been the source of threats.

"It was cool to be able to hear different people's ideas for common issues that the world is facing," one participant said.

A second session re-mixed the student groups, assigning each a policy platform. The students prepared presentations to give to the group, which in some cases required them to defend ideas counter to their own views. The students then voted on which

policies they agreed with most before returning home to share their experiences with classmates.

One of the highlights of the day was meeting and asking questions of elected officials. U.S. Reps. Adrian Smith (3rd Congressional District) and Mike Flood (1st District) spoke with students via Zoom, and Governor Jim Pillen also made time in his schedule to visit with the group.

"This experience was very eye opening and let me see some positivity in government and citizenship," said another participating student.

Co-sponsored by Secretary of State Robert Evnen, funding for Capitol Forum was provided by the Baer Foundation and the Cooper Foundation.



## ATTENTION TEACHERS!

**DUE**  
**JUL 05**

Humanities Nebraska is now recruiting high schools for Capitol Forum in 2023-2024. For details to share with a Nebraska teacher, visit [HumanitiesNebraska.org](https://HumanitiesNebraska.org). Contact [kristi@humanitiesnebraska.org](mailto:kristi@humanitiesnebraska.org) with questions. To become a sponsor, please email [heather@humanitiesnebraska.org](mailto:heather@humanitiesnebraska.org).

# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

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

Gifts received between November 1, 2022 & February 28, 2023.

Many donors make multiple gifts throughout the year. Cumulative giving for the year is listed in our annual report.

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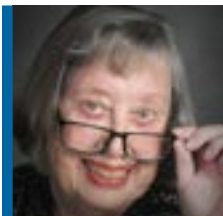
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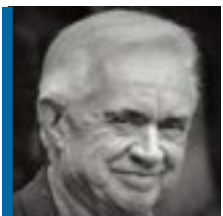




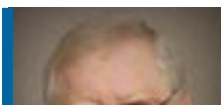
## IN MEMORY



**MOLLY FISHER | 1942-2022** Molly Fisher passed away on December 16, 2022. A former professor at Creighton, UNO, UNL, Morningside, Nebraska Wesleyan, and the University of Oklahoma, she was twice appointed to the Nebraska Library Commission and worked for the Nebraska Humanities Council until her retirement. Molly volunteered and served on the boards of many other organizations. She was a beloved community member whose efforts were accompanied by a generous smile and profound optimism.



**RON E. HULL | 1930-2023** Ron Hull died April 20. His illustrious career included advising the South Vietnam government, executive at PBS, and professor of broadcasting. In 1955, he helped establish KUON-TV at UNL, the eighth such station of its kind. At PBS, he helped create "Reading Rainbow," "The American Experience," and other programs. He was a member of the HN Speakers Bureau, speaking about Mari Sandoz and John Neihardt to tens of thousands of Nebraskans. Ron received HN's Sower Award in 2000.



**FRANCIS D. MOUL | 1940-2023** Francis Moul passed away March 4. The South Dakota native earned his doctorate in environmental history from the University of Nebraska in 1998. A Fulbright Scholar to India in 1966, he had an award-winning journalism career before moving into academia at Wayne and Chadron State Colleges. Among numerous other positions on various boards of directors, Francis served on the Nebraska Humanities Council board 1987-1990.



**JODELL PAYNE | 1940-2023** JoDell (Peterson) Payne died April 2. A graduate of the University of Nebraska at Kearney, she taught school, retiring early to focus on raising her family and serving her community in many different ways. Locally, she was passionately involved in the PEO sisterhood and the UNK alumni association. In 1986, Gov. Kay Orr appointed JoDell to the HN board, and she spent four years enthusiastically introducing HN to the many people she knew in central Nebraska.



**JOYCE THIERER | 1949-2023** Historian, skilled horsewoman, and noted Chautauqua scholar Joyce Thierer passed away April 10. She was a history professor at Emporia State University (Kansas) and a pioneer in historical interpretation. In addition to delighting tens of thousands of people with her Chautauqua-style presentation as Calamity Jane, Joyce and her partner Ann Birney coached hundreds of Nebraska youth for various HN Chautauquas through their "Ride into History" program.



**PAUL VICKERY | 1947-2023** Dr. Paul Vickery died January 23. He had a lifelong passion for education and military history. After serving three years with the U.S. Army, he continued his education, earning a Ph.D. at Oklahoma State University. As professor at Oral Roberts University, he was known for his unique teaching methods. A gifted historian and author, Paul portrayed several historic figures for Chautauqua presentations, including Woodrow Wilson for HN's "World War One: Legacies of a Forgotten War" 2016-2018.



## RECENTLY AWARDED GRANTS

**African Culture Connection**, Omaha, \$5,715 to help support summer enrichment programs • **Asian Community and Cultural Center**, Lincoln, \$2,000 for their 2023 Asian American/Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration, and \$5,000 to help fund Untold Migrant Stories 2023-24 • **Buffalo Commons Storytelling Festival**, McCook, \$2,000 to help fund their annual event • **Buffalo County Historical Society**, Kearney, \$7,000 for programs about the Pawnee at Fort Kearny • **Circle Theatre**, Omaha, \$1,000 supporting "The Tales of Chelm" • **Crane River Theater Company**, Kearney, \$2,000 supporting the 2023 Page to Stage Library outreach program, \$2,000 for "Letters From Home" performance and talkback, and \$3,000 for the "Pretty Fire" tour • **Great Plains Theatre Commons**, Omaha, \$5,000 to help fund the 2023 New Play Conference • **Great Plains Welsh Heritage Centre**, Wymore, \$3,275 for a Welsh heritage festival • **History Nebraska**, Lincoln, \$8,000 to help bring the "Righting A Wrong" Smithsonian exhibit to Nebraska • **John G. Neihardt Foundation**, Bancroft, \$2,000 for the 42nd Annual John G. Neihardt Spring Conference: "Writing Nebraska" • **Kindair at the Benson Theatre**, Omaha, \$728 in support of the spring edition of "Conversations with Michelle Troxclair" and \$700 for a related DEIA workshop • **National Orphan Train Complex Museum and Research Center**, Concordia, KS, \$4,813 for four Nebraska programs of "The Legacy of the Orphan Train" • **Nebraska Crossroads Festival**, \$5,000 to support artist conversations and a video exhibition • **Nebraska Oregon California Trails Association**, Gering, \$5,000 to help fund their 2023 convention in Gering. • **Nebraska Poetry Society**, Omaha, \$800 for Spring 2023 events, \$1,400 for Fall 2023 events, and \$718 to help fund the 2023 reading series • **Nebraska Public Media Foundation**, Lincoln, \$5,000 for "Running Towards the Fire" • **Operation Christmas Card Inc**, North Platte, \$5,000 supporting the 2023 North Platte Pow Wow • **Partners for Livable Omaha**, \$2,000 supporting "Friction, Feedback, and Failure: A Brief History of Noise Music" discussion & the Noisefest event • **Peru State College**, \$2,000 supporting the dedication of the Natalie Hahn African Art Collection • **PFLAG Hastings**, \$1,500 to help fund preparation for the "Proud Voices" festival • **Prairie Art Brothers/Kearney Area Community Foundation**, \$2,000 for "How the Light Gets In: A Celebration of Poetry" • **Robert M. Merryman Performing Arts Center, Inc.**, Kearney, \$1,901 for "Fostering Understanding of Muslim Americans through Dance and Discussion" and \$2,000 for "Cather comes to Kearney" • **She Wrestles Film LLC**, Eustis, \$8,700 for documentary production • **Sidney Gold Rush Days Inc.**, \$3,150 for their annual event • **Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center**, Denton, \$2,000 to help support "Return of the Thunderbirds" • **Stand in for Nebraska**, Lincoln, \$6,625 to help fund the Roots to Rise summer camp • **TADA Productions**, Lincoln, \$1,000 for a masterclass with Laurence Juber, "Guitarmania to Beatlemania" • **Together We Achieve Miracles, Inc**, Omaha, \$1,000 for multimedia equipment • **Tri-Faith Initiative**, Omaha, \$5,000 for their 2023 Race, Religion, and Social Justice Conference • **University of Nebraska at Kearney Board of Regents**, \$5,000 supporting 2023 Loper Launch Humanities Enrichment Camp • **University of Nebraska-Lincoln Board of Regents**, \$800 to help fund Poetry of Place 2023 and \$5,000 to help fund "Threads & Trails: Contemplations of Our Herstories" • **University of Nebraska at Omaha Board of Regents**, \$2,000 for "Making Barlaam & Josaphat", \$2,000 in support of "Nobody's Listening", and \$2,000 for the Winchell Lecture with Kathleen Belew • **Willa Cather Foundation**, Red Cloud, \$2,000 supporting their 2023 author series and \$9,933 for the 2023 Spring Conference

44  
GRANTS

\$144,758  
TOTAL

### GRANT SPOTLIGHT:

### MEMORY SERVES

In September 2022, the University of Nebraska at Omaha's College of Communication, Fine Arts, and Media hosted an international symposium to discuss the ways the arts, humanities, and social sciences can address the experience of older adults — including those living with dementia — and the experiences of their family members and professional caregivers.

A key feature of the symposium, which HN helped to support with grant funding, was a public exhibit in UNO's Weber Gallery entitled "Memory Serves: Drawing Others Close." It featured the two-year arts-based research project by Dr. Mark Gilbert, who talked with and created portraits of older people and their caregivers, including spouses, a nurse, social worker, and housekeeper.



# EDUCATOR GRANTS AWARDED; NEXT ROUND OPEN

As another way to celebrate HN's 50th anniversary, the spring round of educator grants will support 31 projects, helping dozens of teachers reach thousands of students.

A second round of applications for a limited number of \$1,000 educator grants is now open, with a deadline of September 1. For complete details, visit the grants section of our website.

Details about the following grants are also on our website.

**Alliance High School:** Writing Poetry Project

**Arnold Public Schools:** Custer County Historical Project

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Lincoln/Lancaster County:**

Park Middle School Photo Voice  
Multicultural Night at North Star  
Multicultural Night at Northwest

**Bridgeport Schools:** Sixth Grade Novel Exploration and Living History Museum

**Burwell High School:** Nebraska Authors: A Focus on Their Impact

**Cathedral of the Risen Christ, Lincoln:** Social Emotional Literature

**Duchesne Academy, Omaha:** Teacher Immersion

**Elmwood-Murdock Elementary:** Exploring Literature Through Art  
**Family Service Lincoln:**

Spring Break Camp: Exploring Humanities Through the Arts

**Film Streams, Omaha:** School to Screen

**Friedel Jewish Academy, Omaha:** Connecting the Unconnected  
6th Grade Curriculum

**Immanuel Lutheran School, Columbus:** DBQs and Novels

**Lincoln High School:** Native American Studies

**Marian High School, Omaha:** Summer Reading Program

**Mitchell Jr/Sr High:** 7th Grade Nelson Mandela Project

**Norfolk Junior High:** Socialization Strengths Training

**Omaha Christian Academy:** Multi-Cultural Classroom Project

**Omaha North High:** Humanities Curriculum

**Omaha Street School:** Other People's Stories

**Park Middle School:** Scholastic Magazine Subscription

**Rock County Schools, Bassett:** Mural

**Rousseau Elementary School, Lincoln:** Celebrating Students' Heritage and Multiculturalism

**St. Pius X/St. Leo School, Omaha:** Novel Study and Field Trip

**St. Teresa School, Lincoln:** Music of Asia Experience

**St. James School, Crete:** Cross Cultural Classroom Resources

**St. Vincent de Paul, Seward:** Preschool Reading Center

**Stanley Hall Elementary, La Vista:** Hawks as Human Project

**University of Nebraska State Museum, Lincoln:** Learning to Research

**Washington Elementary, Norfolk:** Books

## MAKE AN IMPACT



**GIVE NEBRASKA** is a coalition of 75 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, please visit [givenebraska.org](https://www.givenebraska.org).

**DUE**  
JUN 16

## SOWER AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations are welcome for the 2023 Sower Award in the Humanities, presented in conjunction with the Governor's Lecture in the Humanities, held October 10 in Omaha during Humanities Week.

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
- Writers, filmmakers, or journalists who shed light on important public issues

Nomination forms can be found on the HN web site:  
[HumanitiesNebraska.org/programs](https://www.HumanitiesNebraska.org/programs)

### PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS:

Marian Andersen • 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 • Kathering L. Walter • Don Welch • Larryewel • John R. Wunder

# SPARK SUMMER READING BY SUPPORTING HN

## MAY 24: GIVE TO LINCOLN DAY!

Sponsored by the Lincoln Community Foundation (LCF), the 12th annual Give to Lincoln Day is an especially great time to support Humanities Nebraska and spark summer reading during HN's 50th anniversary year. Gifts to HN for this event will help fund 300 summer reading kits for many Nebraska families.

Each kit includes a bilingual discussion guide, tote bag, writing supplies, a stuffed animal, family activities, and six popular titles from HN's Prime Time program, several in both English and Spanish. Kits will be distributed at Nebraska libraries, schools, and community learning centers early this summer.

Titles selected by staff this summer include "Uncle Nacho's Hat," a delightful tale that helps families talk about making



Last year's summer reading kits included books, activities and this stuffed bear.

changes; "The Big Orange Splot," which encourages kids to think about individuality; and "Ruby's Wish," the story of a young girl's ambition for higher education and the rewards of hard work.

If you'd like to help HN get these kits into the hands of Nebraska families, the LCF online giving platform is open May 1 through May 24. You may make a gift anytime during the month of May up until Give to Lincoln Day. Every donation you make helps even more because HN will receive a proportional share of a \$500,000 challenge match fund.

Help spark a child's curiosity through reading. **Thank you!**

Make your gift between May 1 and May 24 at:  
[GiveToLincoln.com/nonprofits/humanities-nebraska](http://GiveToLincoln.com/nonprofits/humanities-nebraska)

**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/wylegacy](http://NebraskaCulture.org/wylegacy).

Nebraska Cultural Endowment makes your donations with public support enhance the programs and arts of the Nebraska Arts Council and Humanities Nebraska.



### NEBRASKA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

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| <b>Linda L. Graff</b><br>McCook                   | <b>Beth Whited</b><br>Omaha             |
| <b>Karen Higgins, M.D.</b><br>Grand Island        | <b>Jaclyn M. Wilson</b><br>Lakeside     |
| <b>Lynette Krieger</b><br>Hastings                | <b>Sara Woods</b><br>Omaha              |

### STAFF

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Chris Sommerich</b><br>Executive Director                       | <b>Erika Hamilton</b><br>Director of Literary Programs |
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| <b>Kristi Hayek Carley</b><br>Program Manager                      | <b>Liz Makowski</b><br>Program Associate               |
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|  | <b>Mary Yager</b><br>Associate Director                |
|  | <b>Jeraldin Zurita</b><br>Intern                       |





TO UPDATE ADDRESS OR CANCEL SUBSCRIPTIONS,  
402.474.2131 or [INFO@HUMANITIESNEBRASKA.ORG](mailto:INFO@HUMANITIESNEBRASKA.ORG)

## NEBRASKA CHAUTAUQUA RETURNS TO STUHR MUSEUM JULY 21-22

### POPULAR SCHOLARS RETURN TO GRAND ISLAND TO EXPLORE "WHAT CONNECTS US."

A special Nebraska Chautauqua celebrating HN's 50th anniversary year is planned for July 21-22 at the Stuhr Museum in Grand Island. Focused on the theme "What Connects Us," HN is bringing back four scholars from recent Nebraska Chautauquas to portray their historic figures with new perspectives. The two-day event is family friendly, free, and open to the public.

On Friday evening, July 21, Warren Brown will appear as American humorist Mark Twain as he did in 2012-2015's Nebraska Chautauqua, "Free Land? 1862 and the Shaping of Modern America." Karen Vuranch will join him under the big tent as author Edith Wharton, whom she portrayed in "World War One: Legacies of a Forgotten War" from 2016-2018.

Saturday evening, July 22, will see the return of Becky Stone as Civil Rights activist Rosa Parks from 2019-2022's "The Fifties in Focus." She will be joined by Taylor Keen, reprising his portrayal of Chief Standing Bear from the "Free Land?" Chautauqua.

During the day on Saturday, the four scholars will conduct workshops at the Grand Island Public Library. These workshops will be a great opportunity for Chautauqua fans to dive deeper into the "What Connects Us" theme by discussing

*Clockwise from top left: Karen Vuranch as Edith Wharton, Warren Brown as Mark Twain, Becky Stone as Rosa Parks, Taylor Keen as Chief Standing Bear*



storytelling, cultural traditions, and history.

"It's exciting to be back in central Nebraska to gather with people from all over the state for this traditional Chautauqua experience," said Kristi Hayek Carley, HN program manager. "These scholars have all made significant connections with Nebraska audiences. I know they are looking forward to having meaningful discussions with audience members."

The "What Connects Us" Chautauqua is co-hosted by the Stuhr Museum with funding from the Johnny Carson Fund at the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, Grand Island Public Library, the Greater Grand Island Community Foundation, Hall County Historical Society, Grand Island Tourism, Stuhr Museum Foundation, and other generous sponsors.

For more information, please visit [www.NebraskaChautauqua.org](http://www.NebraskaChautauqua.org)

To become a sponsor, please email [heather@humanitiesnebraska.org](mailto:heather@humanitiesnebraska.org).