

THRIVE

Rhode Island Humanities
General Operating Support Grants

2024 THRIVE Program Information Session.

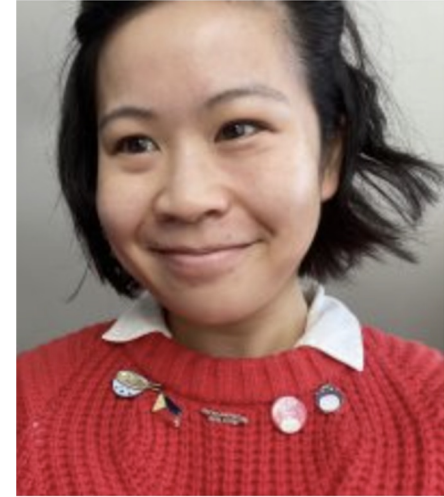
February 8 & 13.

RHODE ISLAND
HUMANITIES

Welcome!



Julia Renaud (she/her).
Associate Director of
Grants and Humanities Initiatives.
juliarenaud@rihumanities.org



Melissa Wong (she/her).
Grants and Humanities Initiatives
Coordinator.
melissa@rihumanities.org

Reach us both at grants@rihumanities.org!



Goals for Today's Session.

1. Introduction to RI Humanities.
1. Overview of the THRIVE Grant Program- Timeline and Eligibility.
 1. What can and can't I use a THRIVE award for?
 2. Funding Priorities - How will funding decisions be made?
1. Overview of Application.
 2. How do I apply? Are there any resources to help me?
 3. What should I expect if I get a THRIVE grant?
4. Questions!



Our Mission.

The Rhode Island Council for the Humanities seeds, supports, and strengthens public history, cultural heritage, civic education, and community engagement by and for all Rhode Islanders.

Our Vision and Values.

***Vision* – Our aspirations and hopes for the future.**

The Humanities Council will contribute to the development of an inclusive culture of belonging for all people in Rhode Island, while actively encouraging Rhode Islanders to engage with the complexity of the state’s history, current challenges, and future possibilities. The Council is committed to drawing in and amplifying many voices to explore historical and contemporary issues, as well as celebrating multifaceted perspectives and approaches. The Council seeks to inspire participation in community, promote conversation and difficult dialogues, and establish the basis for shared understanding that also acknowledges differences.

***Values* – Our core principles that guide how we act and what we do.**

The Council’s core values are Relevance, Collaboration, and Community.

About the Council.

- Founded in 1973 (just celebrated our 50th anniversary!).
- We are a private 501c3 non-profit organization affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency.
 - Senator Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island instrumental in the founding of the National Endowment for the Humanities and National Endowment for the Arts in 1965.
- One of 56 state and jurisdictional humanities councils.
- Receive federal funding, private funding (donors, foundation grants, sponsorships, etc.), and for the first time this year, state funding.

Major and Mini Grant Program at RI Humanities.

- Funding for this program - federal.
- Provides project grants for research projects, public projects, and documentary film and media projects engaging with humanities content and methods.
- Mini grants: \$0-\$2,000, quarterly deadlines.
- Major grants: \$2,000-\$12,000, annual deadline.
- Both individuals and organizations can be eligible, depending on the opportunity.
- Please see the [Grant Guidelines](#) linked on [our website](#) for more information on our Major and Mini Grant Program.

What is the THRIVE Program?

- Funding for this program - allocation from the State of Rhode Island.
- Provides 18 general operating support grants of \$5,000 to eligible organizations.
 - Grant funds may be used for expenses related to organization operations.
- THRIVE Program Overview and FAQs:
<https://rihumanities.org/grants/grantmaking-thrive/>

Who is eligible to apply?

To be eligible for THRIVE funds, organizations must:

- Be located in Rhode Island and primarily serve Rhode Island residents and visitors;
- Be a non-profit registered with the State of Rhode Island;
 - Federal tax-exemption is not required.
- Meet the definitions of one of the two types of humanities organizations (determined by organizational mission and programmatic activities):
 - Cultural Heritage Organization.
 - Local Historical and/or Preservation Society.
- Have a current annual operating budget of \$150,000/year or less.

*Participation in any other RI Humanities grantmaking program will not affect eligibility for the THRIVE program.



Humanities Organizations Definitions.

What is a **Cultural Heritage Organization**?

- An organization whose mission and programs include a focus on the preservation, perpetuation, and promotion of heritage, histories, and/or cultural practices and traditions representative of a particular culture and/or people.

What is a **Local Historical and/or Preservation Society**?

- An organization whose mission and programs are dedicated to the preservation, perpetuation, and promotion of a history and culture of a particular place.

Who is *not* eligible to apply?

- Individual applicants.
- For-profit organizations.
- Foreign entities.
- K-12 schools.
- Institutions of higher education.
- State and local governmental entities.
- Nonprofits who *do not* fit the eligibility criteria.

What can I use a THRIVE award for?

Funds can go towards the operational costs of the organization, including:

- Staffing.
- Rent and utilities.
- Program supplies and materials.
- Website and database development and maintenance.
- Marketing and communications.
- Technology Equipment.
- Capital expenditures and facilities repairs.
- Physical and digital accessibility improvements.
- Consultant fees.

There is **no cost-share / cash-match requirement** for THRIVE awards.

What *can't* I use a THRIVE award for?

THRIVE funds *may NOT* be used for the following:

- Expenses unrelated to the operations of the grantee organization.
- Purchase of alcoholic beverages.
- Purchase of firearms, guns, and/or explosives.
- Competitive regranteeing, prizes, or awards.
- Pre-award costs prior to May 1, 2024.
- Promotion of a particular political, religious, or ideological point of view; advocacy of a particular program of social or political action; support of specific public policies or legislation; lobbying.
- Any fundraising or for-profit efforts, such as social events or benefits.
- Undergraduate or graduate school activities (activities which are part of a graduate or undergraduate degree program, or for which academic credit is received).

What are the funding priorities? How will funding decisions be made?

- Resources available: 18 THRIVE grants of \$5,000 each.
- Following the application deadline, staff will review all applications for eligibility.
- If we have resources available for all eligible applicants, all applicants will receive funding.
- If there are more eligible applicants than resources available, priority will be given to:
 - Organizations where the communities served by the organization are reflected in organizational leadership.
 - Organizations that are making efforts towards strengthening diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in their programs, services, and operations.
- There are questions evaluating these two priority areas in the application.

What are the funding priorities? How will funding decisions be made? (cont.d.)

- In the event of more eligible applications than resources available:
 - A diverse panel of RI Humanities Board members and community reviewers would evaluate application responses to those two questions according to the review rubric to make final recommendations.
 - [A reference PDF copy of the review rubric is available on our website.](#)

THRIVE Program Timeline.

Application opens on grantmaking portal:

- **January 26, 2024.**

Application deadline:

- **March 22, 2024 at 11:59 pm EST.**

Grant Award Announcements:

- **By end of April 2024.**

Grant Funds Disbursed:

- **By end of May 2024.**

End of Grant Period:

- **December 31, 2024.**

Application Overview.

- **Eligibility Checks.**
- **Organization Information.**
- **Authorized Officials Contact Information.**
 - Authorized Officials are required to have legal and fiduciary oversight at your organization. Two Authorized Officials are required for the THRIVE program.
 - In the event of an award, authorized officials are responsible for the scope of work and budget described in the grant application.
- **Organizational Overview:**
 - Mission Statement.
 - Communities Served.
 - Programs and Services.

Application Overview.

- **Documentation Questions.**
 - Current Fiscal Year Annual Operating Budget Overview.
 - This could be a one-page Excel spreadsheet or PDF including total projected income and total projected expenses, with a breakdown of sources of income and categories of expenses.

 - State Nonprofit Registration Document - Entity Summary.
 - Found on RI DOS's entity database:
<https://business.sos.ri.gov/corpweb/corpsearch/corpsearch.aspx>
 - [Example linked in application, and also here!](#)

Application Overview.

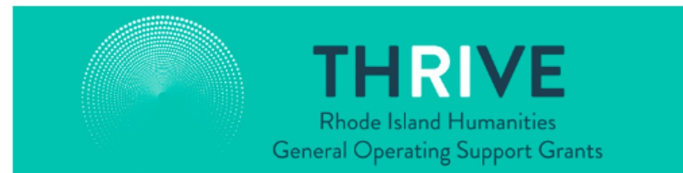
- **Narrative Questions.**
 - Reflection of Communities Served in Organizational Leadership.
 - Efforts towards Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility.
- **Planned Use of Funds.**
 - This information is not part of evaluating your application.
 - If you are awarded the grant, in the required final report, we will ask you to tell us how you spent the funds using these categories.
 - We would like to learn more about the operational needs of the organizations we serve in our grantmaking programs.

[A reference PDF copy of the application is available on our website.](#)

How to apply.

<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=rich>

January 26, 2024 By



What is the THRIVE Program?

Thanks to an allocation from the State of Rhode Island, RI Humanities is excited to announce the THRIVE general operating support grantmaking program. THRIVE provides funding for small cultural heritage organizations and local historical and preservation societies that support and strengthen Rhode Island's many diverse, dynamic communities.

The THRIVE program will offer 18 general operating support grants of \$5,000 each to eligible organizations (see the *Who is eligible to apply?* section). Grant funds may be used for expenses related to organizational operations (see the *What can I use this grant award for?* section).

The application is open to any organization that fits the program's eligibility requirements (see the *Who is eligible to apply?* section). If there is a higher number of applications than available grants, RI Humanities staff will convene a panel that will prioritize applications based on program funding priorities (see the *What are the funding priorities?* section).

The program application opens January 26, 2024. The deadline to apply is 11:59 pm EST on March 22, 2024. Grant award announcements will be made by the end of April 2024 and funds will be disbursed to grantees in May 2024. Awardees must conclude their grant-funded activities by December 31, 2024, and will be required to provide a final report to complete their grant requirements.

A reference PDF of the application questions is available [here](#). Applicants must submit a completed application form online through the RI Humanities [grantmaking portal](#).

RI Humanities staff will be hosting information sessions and providing one-on-one support during office hours (see the *What if I need help?* section). If you have any questions, please contact RI Humanities grants staff at grants@rihumanities.org.

A reference PDF of THRIVE Program FAQs is available to [download here](#).

[APPLY FOR A THRIVE GRANT](#)

What if I need help?

- We are happy to answer your questions!
- **One-on-One Support Sessions:** you can sign up for a 15-minute one-on-one support session with Grants staff below. All meetings will occur by Zoom.
 - Sign up to speak with Grants staff here:
<https://rihumanitiesthrive.youcanbook.me>
- One-on-one support outside of the opportunities outlined above will be available as staff time allows. Please take advantage of the support provided as you consider your application. The sooner you begin the application process, the more time there will be for us to assist you!
- If you like, we can provide feedback on an application draft. If you would like us to do so, please save a draft in the grantmaking portal by **March 8** and send us an email request.
- And, of course, you can always contact us at grants@rihumanities.org with any questions.

I've received a THRIVE grant. Now what?!

- Congrats!!
- Award paperwork to complete and submit prior to receiving funds.
- Funds must be spent by Dec. 31, 2024.
- Required Reporting.
 - Final Report due on March 3, 2025.
- Contact us with any questions at grants@rihumanities.org.



Thank you!

RHODE ISLAND
HUMANITIES