

A Significant Increase in Federal Funding for Humanities Councils Strengthens Communities Across the Nation



Councils stimulate local economies.

Councils provided more than 3,700 grants to community organizations in 2023. More than \$38.6 million were granted to support museums, libraries, festivals, and other local organizations for free public programming. Councils help make communities more attractive to businesses and advance a skilled, educated workforce.



Councils invest federal dollars back into local communities.

On average, councils double the impact of each dollar received in federal funding with a matching ratio of 2 to 1. NEH support is the vital seed money that enables councils to raise additional funds from corporations, foundations, individuals, and state governments, to invest in local projects and grassroots organizations. Federal-level investments at councils have a direct impact locally in nearly every U.S. legislative district.



Councils create teacher and student resources.

Councils offer professional development, offering teachers the opportunity for lifelong learning with colleagues, helping recharge their commitment to the classroom and reduce costly teacher burnout and turnover. Local support for teachers is a defining feature of council work. In 2023, councils partnered with more than 1,360 K-12 schools and school districts, to provide support responsive to the unique needs of teachers in their communities.



Councils partner with over 6,575 organizations nationwide annually.

Their expansive, diverse partner networks include museums, libraries, K-12 schools and universities, senior centers, correctional facilities, veterans' hospitals, social service agencies, businesses, historical preservation and conservation organizations, chambers of commerce and state tourism offices, and more.



Councils promote the appreciation of local heritage and history.

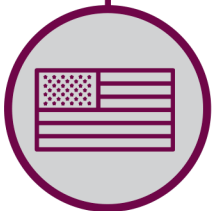
Councils connect people through humanities speakers, reading and discussion sessions, and programs in community libraries, museums, and centers. Documentary film productions and screenings, online encyclopedias, and oral history projects preserve and tell these stories for generations.

A Significant Increase in Federal Funding for Humanities Councils Strengthens Communities Across the Nation



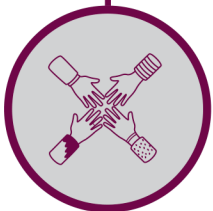
Councils support cultural enrichment in rural communities.

More than 80% of councils collaborate with rural communities to create exhibits and programs to highlight and preserve unique local histories. Councils invest in heritage organizations to strengthen ties between residents.



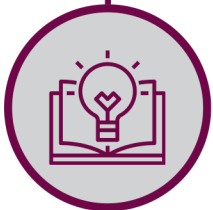
Councils support veterans.

More than 60% of councils deliver programs that serve veterans, active duty military, and their families. Workshops, documentary film screenings, and reading and discussion programs help veterans, their families, and the broader public process and better understand military experiences. Literature & Medicine programs allow VA hospital staff to better empathize with their patients, improving quality of care.



Councils reach diverse populations in tens of thousands of communities.

Council programs across the nation benefit diverse populations in tens of thousands of communities, including veterans, seniors, people with disabilities, rural residents, parents with young children, immigrant populations, people of color, Black, Native, and Indigenous peoples, LGBTQIA+ communities, and students and teachers.



Councils support lifelong learning and civic education.

Council programs encourage curiosity, civic engagement, critical reasoning, empathy, and understanding of diverse cultures – traits essential to building a more competitive workforce and stronger democracy in a rapidly changing, knowledge-based global economy.



Councils help explore, understand, and sustain our environment.

In 2023, public programs addressing the natural world and wilderness included communities exploring the future of farming, conversations about natural disasters, and assessing the needs of those affected by wildfires and flooding.