Humanities Washington opens minds and bridges divides by creating spaces to explore different perspectives.
The Speakers Bureau program welcomed our most diverse roster to date, spanning cultures, generations, and geographic locations.

SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS:

AFUA KOUYATÉ
Umoja (Unity): Sustaining African Cultural Arts

CLYDE FORD
Biased Code: Technology and Human Rights

CEASAR HART
Drag Culture: Beyond Entertainment

JULIE PHAM
Hidden Histories: The South Vietnamese Side of the Vietnam War

JAKE PRENDEZ
The Art of Rebellion: Social Justice and Chicana/Chicano Visual Arts

ROBERT HORTON
This is the End: How Movies Prepared Us for the Pandemic
Rena Priest was named Washington State Poet Laureate. Priest, a member of the Lummi (Lhaq’temish) Nation, is the first Indigenous poet to hold the position.

The Center for Washington Cultural Traditions launched Rites of Green: Journal of Washington State Folklife, an online multimedia journal showcasing Washington culture and heritage.

Prime Time Family Reading served families in 14 communities, with 99% reporting that they would continue reading together after the program ended.

“Prime Time is unique in that it brings together three of the most valuable learning resources in a child’s community: family, school, and the library.”
—Prime Time Program Coordinator, Mountlake Terrace

“The impact Humanities Washington made on my life as a culture keeper has changed my city of Spokane.”
—Heritage Arts Apprenticeship Program, Master Artist, Spokane
2021 In Review: We also...


- Awarded SHARP grants to 122 organizations from all over the state.

- Held our second virtual Cultural Documentation Field School, a free training program for community members.

- Took a deep dive into the state of democracy, voting, and civic engagement with our Re:building Democracy series.
  - Borders of Truth: Misinformation in the Immigration Debate
  - Pride and Power: The History and Future of LGBTQ+ Politics
  - Uncounted: The History and Impact of Voter Suppression

- Conducted a new Cultural Traditions Survey on food traditions statewide.

“Total paradigm shift, a new way of seeing a culture misunderstood. Wonderfully uplifting and insightful.”
– Program participant at American Democracy’s Indigenous Roots and Future, Marysville
By the Numbers
2021 Humanities Washington Stats

Audience Served: 30,762

7,561 people attended in-person or online Speakers Bureau Events

375 people attended Prime Time Family Reading Events

7,356 people attended 40 Poet Laureate Events

122 organizations received Over $1 Million in funding given to 122 organizations via Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan (SHARP) grants.

89 cities and towns hosted events

Serving Washington Communities from Aberdeen to Yelm

Number of programs and events: 358

Number of partners and host organizations: 234
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ADVISORY BOARD
Center for Washington Cultural Traditions

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PROGRAMS

**FAMILY READING** uses storytelling and discussion to explore cultural and ethical themes in children’s literature and emphasizes the importance of families reading together.

**GRANTS** assist local organizations in creating opportunities for their community to come together to discuss important issues using the humanities.

**SPEAKERS BUREAU** draws from a pool of leading cultural experts and scholars to provide free conversational lecture events for community partners to offer local audiences throughout the state.

**THINK & DRINK** brings hosted conversations on provocative topics and new ideas to pubs and tasting rooms around the state and online.

**WASHINGTON STATE POET LAUREATE** builds awareness and appreciation of poetry – including the state’s legacy of poetry – through public readings, workshops, lectures, and presentations throughout the state. Presented in partnership with ArtsWA.

**CENTER FOR WASHINGTON CULTURAL TRADITIONS** amplifies our state’s rich, diverse living cultural treasures through research and special programming. Presented in partnership with ArtsWA.

**MEDIA PROJECTS** brings online content such as live and recorded panel discussions and conversations, radio shows, and other accessible deep dives into important current topics to viewers on our YouTube channel.

“Wonderful activity. I felt very calm afterwards. I also learned a lot about an art form that I have seen but not understood. Art is a wonderful way to teach about the humanities.”
– Program participant at The Ancient Art of Madhubani Painting, Issaquah
Financials

2021 Total Expenses: $2,675,758

Programs 86% $2,306,109

Fundraising 10% $253,739

Administrative 4% $115,910

Humanities Washington is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Washington State.

SUPPORTERS

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“Simply….life changing.”
– Program participant at One Second of Hate:
A Story of Forgiveness, Spokane

Photos: Speakers Bureau speakers Nancy Koppelman, Fern Naomi Renville, and Rais Bhuiyan.
“Beautifully organized and presented, this talk brought a thorough analysis of various aspects required for a clear understanding of Israel through its history to the current socio-political and economic situation. At last! An unbiased [talk] for understanding this complex country.”
– Program participant at Understanding Israel, Clarkston
We make every effort to provide accurate donor information. If you prefer a different listing please contact shelley@humanities.org.

“...support from grants like this has been vital to our recovery, resilience, growth, and ability to continue being a vibrant and inclusive space for humanities and arts programming in our community.” – SHARP grantee, Port Townsend
2021 Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan (SHARP) Grantees

206 Zulu
9th and 10th Horse Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers Museum
Arbutus Folk School
Arts & Humanities Bainbridge
Asotin County Library Foundation
Bainbridge Island Museum of Art
Bellevue Arts Museum
Bushwick Northwest
Cascadia College
Celtic Arts Foundation
Central Washington University
Central Washington University – El Centro Latinx
Centro Cultural Mexicano
Children’s Museum of Skagit County
Clark County Historical Society
Coastal Interpretive Center
Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum
Confluence
Cowlitz County Historical Society
Densho
Desert Fiber Arts
Moses Lake Museum & Art Center
Everett Museum of History
Everett Public Library
Experience Learning Community
Fort Vancouver Regional Library Foundation
Fort Walla Walla Museum/Walla Walla Valley Historical Society
Foss Waterway Seaport Museum
Friends of Asian Art Association
Friends of Denny Ashby Library
Friends of Mukai
Gig Harbor Peninsula Historical Society dba Harbor History Museum
Gonzaga University
Grief Dialogues
Hedgebrook

Heritage University
Highline Heritage Museum
Historic Tacoma
Historic Whidbey
Historical Society Of Seattle And King County
dba Museum of History and Industry(MOHAI)
Holocaust Center for Humanity
Huong Viet Performing Arts Group
Imagine Children’s Museum
Inland Northwest Juneteenth Coalition
Issaquah History Museums
Jack Straw Foundation dba Jack Straw Cultural Center
Jefferson County Historical Society
KidsQuest Children’s Museum
Kitsap County Historical Society and Museum
Kittitas County Historical Society, Inc.
Knappton Cove Heritage Center
Kulshan Community Media (KMRE Community Powered Radio)
KUOW Puget Sound Public Radio
KYRS Thin Air Community Radio
Living Voices
Look Listen and Learn (LL+L)
Make.Shift Art Space
Maple Valley Creative Arts Council
Marysville Historical Society
Mason County Historical Society Museum
Meaningful Movies Project
Methow Arts Alliance
Methow Field Institute dba Methow Valley Interpretive Center
Mirror Stage
Music Fusion NW
National Nordic Museum
North Olympic History Center
Northeast Washington Community Radio Guild
(Northern Lights Public Radio KCHW)
2021 Opportunity Grant Recipients

Kent International Festival | Kent
Three Dollar Bill Cinema for Seattle Queer Film Festival | Seattle
The Family Guide for Spokane’s China Town/Japan Alley Historical Marker | Spokane
Asotin County Library for A Conversation with Anna Malaika Tubbs | Clarkston
Burien Arts Association for 7 Stories | Burien

Spokane Valley Heritage Museum
Stanwood Area Historical Society
Steilacoom Historical Museum Association
Steilacoom Tribal Museum
SV Archive (dba Scarecrow Video)
Tacoma Historical Society
Tasveer
The Family Guide
The South Sound Reading Foundation
Thorpe Mill Town Historical Preservation Society
Tieton Arts and Humanities
Upper Valley Historical Society dba Greater Leavenworth Museum
Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust dba The Historic Trust
Vashon-Maury Island Heritage Association
Village Theatre
Voices of the Children
Washington Museum Association
Washington State Historical Society
Washington State University Tri-Cities
Washington Trust for Historic Preservation
Washington’s National Park Fund
Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center
Whatcom READS
Window Seat Media
Wing Luke Memorial Foundation
WOW China
Yakima Valley Museum and Historical Association

“Your support for [this project] has made it possible to reach our community with this first-of-its-kind, signed film featuring two deaf Native storytellers, shot on location in collaboration with the Lower Elwha S’Klallam Tribe.”
– SHARP grantee, Seattle