



2023-2024 Public Humanities Fellows Call for Applications

Applications Due: June 15, 2023

[Apply Here](#) (or [Preview the Application Here](#))

Contact: Stone Addington, Director of Programs at stone@humanities.org

The public humanities is a vibrant field aimed at sharing the humanities outside of academic circles, but there are too few opportunities for hands-on training and professional development. In its mission to create spaces to bridge divides and open minds, Humanities Washington hopes to remedy this gap by seeking applications from the next generation of public humanists for innovative programming that serves Washington communities—especially those underserved and underrepresented in the academic humanities.

The Public Humanities Fellows program is designed for early-career humanists based in Washington (including graduate students, non-profit professionals, untenured professors, culture bearers, and other humanities experts), who are seeking to develop their program management and public humanities skills. Humanists from communities who are underrepresented in the humanities are encouraged to apply.

Fellows receive:

- \$5000 stipend
- \$3500 for project expenses
- Publicity and marketing for their project
- Membership in a statewide cohort of early-career public humanists
- Mentorship and technical assistance from experienced public humanists from Humanities Washington staff and networks
- Unique hands-on experience and professional development in designing and executing public humanities projects

Your Project

Apply with a project of your own design, which should be **free to experience or access, open to the public, robustly situated within the humanities**, and completable by May 15, 2024.* Projects that are **unique, innovative, and center audiences underserved by the humanities are especially encouraged.**

*Projects which are published outside the duration of the fellowship, like podcasts, are permitted with the approval of the Director of Programs. Additional reporting requirements apply.



Projects may take a variety of forms, but examples include:

public presentations, online exhibits, podcasts, discussion groups, video series, place-based programming, digital publications, and many more.

Accepted applications receive \$3500 of funding for eligible project expenses. Examples of **ineligible expenses** include:

additional compensation for the fellow; construction, purchase of real property, major alteration and renovation; 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.

Role and Responsibilities

- This role is designed for early-career, intrepid humanists (e.g. graduate students, new/untentured professors, culture-bearers, etc.) based in Washington state with an interest in the public humanities. **This program is specifically intended for individuals in the early stages of their careers.** This is typically defined as five or fewer years into a career path. Individuals serving in leadership roles or with extensive experience in the public humanities are likely outside the scope of this program.
- Responsibilities:
 - Participate in ten 75-minute cohort meetings via Zoom, from October through March
 - Submit a final report and reflection
 - Present to Humanities Washington board of trustees and staff
 - Provide timely updates to Director of Programs
 - Maintain project work plan and budget
 - Keep and organize records for final report, reflection, and presentation
 - Communicate and collaborate respectfully with colleagues, partner organizations, and audience members

To Apply

- Create an account with Foundant ([instructions here](#)).
- [Preview the application here.](#)
- [Apply here, due June 15, 2023](#)



Timeline

Date	Item	Notes
June 15	Applications Due	
Late August	Decisions Announced	Applicants will be notified of decisions via email.
October 2	Fellowship Begins	Program activity until completion of project. Ten cohort meetings weeks, spread between October and March (roughly two per month, to be scheduled with cohort)
May 15 2024	Completion of Project Activity	
Early June 2024	Presentation to Board of Trustees and Staff	Brief presentation outlining project, lessons learned, and next steps.
June 15, 2024	Project Report Deadline	All program activity funded by Humanities Washington must be completed by this date. Project summary, data, and reflection.

Program Priorities

- *Equity* – Projects serving and led by members of communities traditionally under-resourced in the humanities are prioritized by this program. These groups include people of color, people who identify as LGBTQIA+, people who live in rural areas, people with disabilities, people who identify as immigrants or refugees, and people whose first, or only, language is not English. (Please note that this is not an exhaustive list.)
- *Professional Development* – Humanities Washington aims to provide hands-on experience, a supportive community of learning, and direct access to subject matter experts to Fellows.
- *Respectful Relationships with Washington Communities and Organizations* – Fellows are encouraged to identify communities underserved by the humanities, and to develop thoughtful and respectful relationships with organizations and leaders who can help ensure that our support is equitable, ethical, and informed.
- *Program Incubation* – This program seeks to support innovation and experimentation in humanities project design and implementation, keeping in



mind the ultimate goal of serving the public with the humanities. If a program is particularly successful and sustainable, then there may be opportunities for continued support.

About Humanities Washington

Humanities Washington and its partners create spaces for people to come together to explore and consider what it means to be human and to reflect on our shared past, present, and future. We hold events and programs led by cultural experts, scholars, and storytellers, who discuss everything from Washington State history to philosophy to current social issues. We also support and partner with a wide network of communities, organizations, and individuals across the state.

In libraries, community halls, and cultural centers in every corner of Washington State, our programs and events challenge assumptions and spark insight for audiences ranging from adults at a Speakers Bureau presentation to children and families at a Prime Time Family Reading night. All Humanities Washington programs are open to the public, and nearly all are free of charge.

To learn more about our programs, visit our [programs page](#) or [view our organizational video](#).

Humanities Washington's work is made possible through contributions from many individuals, corporations, and foundations, the State of Washington, and the National Endowment for the Humanities

Learn more: <https://www.humanities.org/public-humanities-fellows>

Questions? Contact Stone Addington, Director of Programs, at stone@humanities.org.