

humanities
WASHINGTON | $\frac{h}{w}$

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

*Humanities Washington opens minds
and bridges divides by creating spaces
to explore different perspectives.*

humanities.org



A message from the Executive Director...

Dear Friends,

What happens when a global pandemic tears open the very fabric of society, isolating people in silos of anxiety? How does one even begin to bridge that divide? It's a question we have all grappled with over the last couple of years, a problem that deserves nuanced, innovative solutions.

As the humanities stewards for our state tasked with creating connections and promoting diverse thought, Humanities Washington got to work, adapting to support communities through a time of incredible, unprecedented uncertainty.

- In response to pandemic learning loss and exacerbated inequality, we expanded Prime Time Family Reading, committing to 100 programs over the course of the biennium.
- We also launched the Democracy Forward initiative to help high schoolers grapple with issues of identity, protest, voting rights, and more in the classroom.
- To address general feelings of isolation and discontent, we engaged with Washingtonians through the Humanities Challenge, a game meant to encourage creative thinking and human connection via the many branches of the humanities.

Your support has allowed us to take these big swings, helping Washingtonians connect through our shared humanity. It's a big task to reweave the social fabric of our communities, but there is only one way to do it: **together**.



With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie".

Julie Ziegler

2022 In Review: Our Programs



PRIME TIME

We expanded our Prime Time Family Reading program by **300%** in response to pandemic learning loss.

*Of the children that participated in Prime Time, **93%** experienced a positive change in their attitudes toward reading and 100% demonstrated improved critical thinking skills.*



SPEAKERS BUREAU

We developed a new **Democracy Forward** series, which sends democracy-focused Speakers Bureau presenters to high schools across the state. Along with specially developed Social Studies curricula, the program encourages deep conversation in the classroom to increase civil discourse. The program is free to high school teachers.



Photo: Prime Time family reads Julius, the Baby of the World at Imagine Children's Museum in Everett.

"[Washingtonians] needed the humanities more than ever this [year] as we turned to the difficult task of reweaving the social fabric of our communities in the wake of a global pandemic."

—Program participant

2022 In Review: Our Programs



HERITAGE ARTS APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

We welcomed a new cohort of **16 teams** of artists and craftspeople to conserve cultural traditions important to Washington's communities. Traditions included Nattuvangam recitation and cymbal playing, Mariachi music, bead weaving, ancient food preservation, Yakama nation cradleboard making, and much more.



THINK & DRINK

A record number of attendees, **700**, turned out for our online Think & Drink event called "What Are We Afraid Of?"



Photo: Master Shigeru Tateishi of Lynnwood and apprentice Sohshun Tateishi of Seattle practice Japanese Taiko drumming together as part of the Heritage Arts Apprenticeship Program.

"It is fascinating to consider the universality of certain stories and themes across different continents and peoples. From Iceland to Mexico City to the Pacific Northwest and even to Lake Powell, each story has its own cultural nuances, yet... all of these stories instill a fear of the unknown within their audience."

—"What Are We Afraid Of?" attendee

2022 In Review: New Programs

HUMANITIES CHALLENGE

We launched the first edition of the Humanities Challenge, an interactive game that prompted players statewide to explore different facets of humanity through philosophy, poetry, history, music, museums, and more. Here are some of the prompts:

- Make a music playlist that encapsulates the human experience.
- Cook a dish that has meaning to you and discuss how it tells the story of your life, family, or culture.
- Visit your local museum or historical society, then write to the staff about the objects or exhibits that had the biggest impact on you and why.

PUBLIC HUMANITIES FELLOWS

We welcomed our inaugural class of Public Humanities Fellows. The Fellows developed curricula, produced podcasts, and created an interactive online exhibit to showcase their work and engage the public.

A MORE PERFECT UNION RADIO SERIES

We collaborated with radio partners to broadcast a new series, *A More Perfect Union*, which explored civic education, Latine voting rights, and Native American ideas of democracy.



Photos: (top) Humanities Challenge game board; (bottom left) Humanities Fellow Megan Torgerson recording an interview for her podcast Reframing Rural; (bottom right) Violeta Martin interviews Dr. Karina Vega-Villa on science-informed activism for A More Perfect Union.

“[The Humanities Challenge] showed us how our beliefs, fears, relationships, and even family recipes are part of the humanities, and that we all are stakeholders in the questions and topics that the humanities alone can offer us.”

– Program participant



By the Numbers

2022 Humanities Washington Stats

Program Attendance:

27,727

91

cities and towns
hosted events

Serving Washington Communities from

Aberdeen *to* Yelm

Number of
programs
and events:

335

Number of
partners and host
organizations:

297



5,701

people attended
in-person or online
Speakers Bureau
Events



483

people attended
Prime Time Family
Reading Events



6,083

people attended
40 Poet Laureate
Events

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Makaela Kroin

Linley Logan

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**All listed are active at the time of the 2023 publication date. 2022 Staff & Board may have varied.*

CONTACT:

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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.



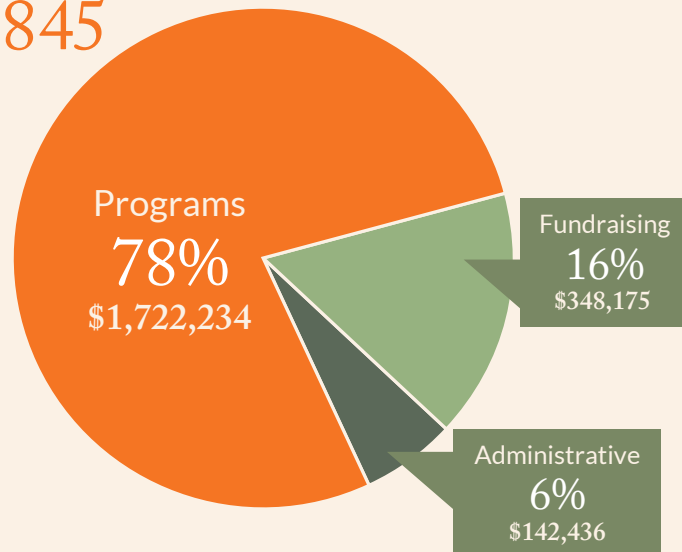
MEDIA PROJECTS brings online content such as live and recorded panel discussions and conversations, radio shows, and other accessible deep dives into important current topics to viewers on our YouTube channel.

"I heard from several families that the discussions we [started] on Zoom inspired richer conversation at home throughout the week." – Prime Time Storyteller, Granite Falls

Financials

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

2022 Total Expenses:
\$2,212,845



“At this time in our culture our shared humanity needs reinforcement and affirmation.” – Grantee, Burien

Photo: Washington State Poet Laureate Rena Priest joined Tod Marshall, Jourdan Imani Keith, and Zinnia Hansen for Poetry and Civic Life, a reading and conversation event tackling the intersection of poetry and politics.



SUPPORTERS

Individuals

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 Bridget & Paul Piper

Photo: Audience members watch Jake Prendez's Speakers Bureau talk, The Art of Rebellion: Social Justice and Chicana/Chicano Visual Arts, at the Franklin County Historical Museum

"I'm 60 years old... Thank you all for making this information available. You give me hope for the future I will not see."

— Speakers Bureau attendee, Mill Creek



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 David Powers & Amy Chasanov
 John & Cynthia Purdy
 Mike Ramey
 Anna Rapp
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 Wockner Foundation



Photo: Participants at the Writing on the Farm workshop, a part of the Center for Washington Cultural Tradition's Cultural Traditions Survey on foodways.

2022 Opportunity Grant Recipients

Uncaged Art from Art Forces, fiscally sponsored by Allied Arts Foundation | Olympia

Internment, Assimilation, and Service: A Poet's Reckoning from Arts & Humanities Bainbridge | Bainbridge Island

Free Capoeira Roda from Capoeira Life | Seattle

Pattachitra Art Workshop from Deepti Designs Inc., | Bothell

Native Plants, Poems and Musical Improvisations from EcoArts on the Palouse | Pullman

Ay Va el Chisme!—Building Community Power for Health, Justice, and Racial Equity from Estelita's Library | Seattle

Vashon Island Ceramics Celebration from Friends of Mukai | Vashon

Artist Leo Adams Video Interview from Governor's Mansion Foundation | Olympia

Crossing Borders with the Kiss Alley/El Callejon del Beso from Guanajuatenses en Washington | Lake Forest Park

Chief Leschi & Medicine Creek Treaty Memorial Year Initiative from Leschi Learning Legacy | Olympia

Community Conversations from Lower Columbia College | Longview

Crossroads in the Country from Music Community Resources | Kingston

Native American Read-In 2023 from Read-a-Rama | Seattle

Into the Fire: Sharing the history of the Triple Nickel Smokejumpers at the home of Smokejumping from Shafer Historical Museum | Winthrop

Spokane Is Reading | Spokane

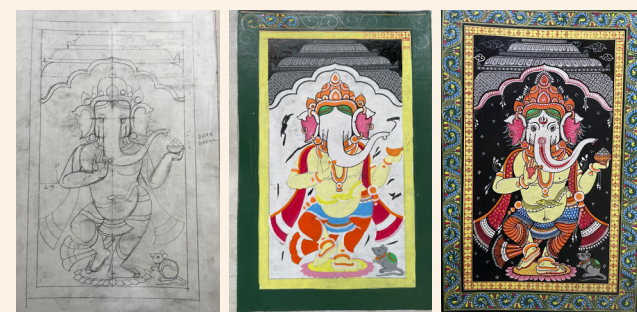
6th Annual Historic Sites Tours of Stanwood and Camano Island from Stanwood Area Historical Society | Stanwood

Archiving Yoni Ki Baat—Documenting South Asian stories as cultural memory from Tasveer | Redmond

Spokane's Diwali & Vegan Food Fest from The Family Guide | Spokane

Seattle Queer Film Festival from Three Dollar Bill Cinema | Seattle

Day of the Dead: V contest of altars, literary skulls and catrinas/catrines from WAGRO Foundation | Lynwood



Photos: (top) Progress over three days at the Pattachitra Art Workshop from Deepti Designs; (bottom) Attendees at WAGRO Foundation's Day of the Dead celebration

"Thank you, Humanities WA, for being so generous with your support in bringing ancient heritage and traditional arts to the state and to the folks who love and enjoy it."
— Grantee, Redmond



2022 Washington Stories Fund Recipients

Public Lands UnEarthed from Golden Bricks Events,
fiscally sponsored by Young Women Empowered | Seattle

*Transrural Lives: Connecting Trans+ Elders and Youth in Washington
through Digital Storytelling* from Helen House | Ellensburg

Home Front/War Front historical educational multimedia program
from Living Voices | Seattle

Community Speaks 2023—South Asian social justice storytelling
from Tasveer | Redmond

Japanese American Resisters to WWII Incarceration—Exhibition
from Wing Luke Memorial Foundation | Seattle

Photo above: Friends of Mukai – Akio Takamori Ceramics Celebration
on Vashon Island.

COMMUNITIES SERVED IN 2022

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Toppenish
Tukwila
Tulalip
Tumwater
Vancouver
Vashon
Waldron
Walla Walla
Wenatchee
Westport
Woodinville
Zillah

*“I want to learn so much more – it was education that I was
innately craving.”* – Speakers Bureau attendee, Federal Way