

Grant writing: State Humanities Councils

Calvert Johnson

Treasurer / Councillor for Finance & Development

National Convention, American Guild of Organists, Boston, 2014

What are the humanities?

Stanford Humanities Center

1. The humanities can be described as the study of how people process and document the human experience.
2. Since humans have been able, we have used philosophy, literature, religion, art, **music**, history and language to understand and record our world.
3. These modes of expression have become some of the subjects that traditionally fall under the humanities umbrella.
4. Knowledge of these records of human experience gives us the opportunity to feel a sense of connection to those who have come before us, as well as to our contemporaries.

What Are the Humanities?

National Endowment for the Humanities

The study of **history**, literature, language—modern and classical, philosophy and archaeology;

as relevant to the human environment

with particular attention to **reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history**

and to the **relevance of the humanities to the current conditions** of national life.

What Are the Humanities?

Georgia Humanities Council

1. The humanities include literature, philosophy, **history**, ethics, religion, **art criticism and theory**.
2. They form the building blocks of learning and provide crucial knowledge of our past that helps us make informed decisions for the future.
3. Because democracy depends on wisdom, civility and mutual respect, our democracy could not survive for long without the influence of the humanities.

What Are the Humanities?

Colorado Humanities

The humanities convey and help us understand what it means to be human.

They document and interpret human struggle, achievement and community life through history, literature, and other fields of knowledge.

The humanities provide tools with which to examine and make sense of the human experience in general and our individual experiences in particular, asking fundamental questions of value, purpose and meaning, and making connections to the lives of those around us, to those who have gone before, and to those who will come after.

In addition to history and literature, humanities fields of study include philosophy and ethics, the **history and criticism of the arts**, comparative religion, languages and linguistics, cultural anthropology and archaeology, jurisprudence, and the social sciences when they employ historical and interpretive methods.

What Are the Humanities?

Massachusetts Humanities Council

Massachusetts Humanities supports programs that use **history**, literature, philosophy, and the other humanities disciplines to enhance and improve civic life throughout Massachusetts.

Humanities? Why Do They Matter?

GEORGIA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

1. We present stories and ideas that help individuals understand themselves and others.
2. We provide **continual learning opportunities** that are important for a functioning democracy.
3. We provide **opportunities for reflection and thoughtful discussion that help enhance learning experiences.**
4. We partner with libraries, museums and other **cultural and educational institutions** to carry out each program.

Identify a Humanities Program

Historic Organs

Historic Organ Music and Composers

Historic Performance Practices

The Organ in Your Community's Cultural Life

OBJECTIVES

Historic Organs of Atlanta: Past & Present

A panel discussion on significant organs from the past century and their importance in Atlanta's cultural life

PowerPoint Slide Show with Audio Clips

1. Churches & Synagogues
2. Theatres & Concert Halls
3. Homes
4. Educational Institutions

Special Focus: GHC 2014-2015

Connections can cover a wide range of topics showing **relationships between** the past and the present, the old and the new, or between the centuries and the generations. The connections theme could also apply to **collaboration between local organizations** working on the project together.

NARRATIVE: Identify Humanities Content

Describe numerous pipe organs in the area and their **histories**, using historic photographs and recordings, detailing their **importance in the cultural life** of the booming Southern metropolis.

Newer instruments that represent new fashions in organ building will also be featured.

The panel discussion will focus on **restoration work undertaken on historic organs and their preservation**, as well as the **use of organs from the past in new contexts**.

HUMANITIES SCHOLARS

Names of Scholars

Institutional Affiliations

Humanities Disciplines (musicology, music theory)

Participation (research, lecture, workshop, etc.)

How they will engage the audience in the humanities

Brief Bios, focusing on Humanities and this project

PUBLICITY

Advertisements

AGO Newsletter and Website

Direct mailing (individuals; related organizations)

Local media (newspapers, radio, television, cable)

Social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.)

Posters

BUDGET: In-Kind

DONATIONS WITH CASH VALUE

Venue: rental equivalency (\$1000 for auditorium)

Audio-visual equipment (rental equivalency)

Musical instrument tuning (donated) if needed

Volunteers (ushers, assistants, greeters, planners)
determine a reasonable hourly rate (\$25/hour?)

Transportation (especially local)

Advertising/Publicity

BUDGET: actual cash

Honoraria (from grant)

Transportation, Hotel, Meals (from grant)

Identify hourly rate and benefits paid by host institution

Secretarial assistance

Janitorial

Security (if needed)

Advertising; publicity

Printing/duplication

Postage and supplies

TIMELINE

Beginning after the grant is approved; Include:

confirmation of details with presenters and host institution

publicity mailing dates

orientation with volunteers

finalize in-kind donations

duplication of hand-outs and evaluation forms

check audio-visual materials

confirm donated food

review evaluations after the event

thank you letters (presenters, volunteers, host institution)

CHECKLIST

501c3 letter

Legislative District, County information

Project Director, Financial Officer, Authorizing Official: signatures

Grant Proposal Narrative Questions answered fully

Timeline

Budget and Budget Narrative

Include minimum of one Humanities Scholar

Project is a Humanities Topic

Project begins after Grant approval deadline (often 4 months later)

(7) Copies of proposal, stapled

Mailed by postmark date

EVALUATION

You must have an evaluation plan and review the results

Collect demographic information (age, gender, race/ethnicity)

State the objectives of the program: Ask if the objectives were met (content)

Evaluate

- program quality

- the presenters

- the venue

- the audio-visual quality

Use a simple 1 2 3 4 5 scale for ease in tabulation and analysis

strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree