



CALIFORNIA HUMANITIES

A STATE OF OPEN MIND

2023 Impact Report

\$1,842,785 awarded in 2023

139 grants made in 2023

991 grantee programs hosted

632,828 attendees

OUR MISSION

To connect Californians to ideas and one another in order to understand our shared heritage and diverse cultures, inspire civic participation, and shape our future.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

While 2023 marks a leadership transition at California Humanities, I am delighted to report that the grantmaking impact continued to have a positive effect on how Californians participate in dynamic humanities programming. This is a testament to the effective staff at California Humanities. Their institutional knowledge and deep experience with grantmaking have allowed us to maintain our systems of advancing the humanities across the state. I am grateful to take leadership of California Humanities as the organization approaches its 50th anniversary in 2025, which you will learn more about this year.

This 2023 Impact Report highlights the cornerstone grantmaking programs of California Humanities such as the Humanities for All grants—both Project Grants and Quick Grants—as well as our California Documentary Project and surrounding programs like the CDP Screening Series. In addition, California Humanities offered issue-related programs such as the Library Innovation Lab and the Emerging Journalist Fellowship. We also launched a pilot phase of Humanities + Civics Middle Grades and a series of public presentations on anti-hate in partnership with Zócalo Public Square, as part of the National Endowment for the Humanities response to the White House initiative *United We Stand*.

As the state affiliate to the National Endowment for the Humanities, California Humanities is the only nonprofit dedicated to advancing the humanities in California. We are fortunate that the state of California has an established network of humanities providers that we support and collaborate with, and we are committed to connecting Californians and building the field of humanities practitioners, from academics to elders and culture bearers.

Rick Noguchi, President and CEO



Do We Need More Food Fights?, Los Angeles



Youth Civic Learning panel at National Humanities Conference, Indianapolis



Hi Desert Queer & Trans Oral History Project, Joshua Tree



Headlands Library Posada, Headlands



Ovarian Psychos screening, Sacramento



Afróntalo, San Bernardino



Emerging Journalist Fellows at El Camino College, Alondra Park

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

California Documentary Project (CDP)

California stories, national audiences

Through CDP we continue to bring essential California stories to both statewide and national audiences, with grants to 18 new media projects and co-presenting screenings and discussions with community partners in Sacramento, San Diego, Riverside, San Rafael and more.

CDP NextGen

Supporting media literacy and young storytellers

We made 10 grants supporting youth media programs serving filmmakers and podcasters under 18. Projects include a multimedia workshop for Indigenous youth as they explore their tribal history, language, and culture; and a community-based youth-led radio reporting projects serving Los Angeles' Boyle Heights neighborhood.

Civics + Humanities Middle Grades Grants

Empowering middle-schoolers to engage in civic life

California educators used Middle Grades Grants for a traveling exhibit on Anne Frank, translating classroom texts into Spanish, tours of San Francisco's Japantown, and creating a field trip program to Wauhoga Village, the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation's Teaching & Healing Center in Yosemite National Park.

Emerging Journalist Fellowship

Amplifying the voices and perspectives of student journalists

We partnered with nine California community colleges to provide training and opportunities for student journalists to conduct in-depth reporting projects on issues of importance to their campuses and communities, including award-winning projects on coastal erosion due to climate change, housing insecurity, and programs for formerly incarcerated students.

Humanities for All Projects Grants

Engaging experiences that help strengthen California's vibrant humanities ecosystem

Grants to non-profit organizations and public agencies across the state supported thought-provoking and eye-opening humanities programs that increased public understanding of California's cultural diversity and complex history.

Humanities for All Quick Grants

Funding small-scale projects that help us understand local stories

Offered three times a year, this program fosters interactive humanities-centered experiences weaving local stories and shared exploration—with more than half of all applicants submitting as newcomers to this program.

Library Innovation Lab

Engaging immigrants through the public humanities

10 California public libraries experimented with new programs to center immigrants and build more inclusive communities through an immersive "learn by doing" professional development program.

Literature & Medicine

Centering humanities at the heart of healthcare

By exploring texts that examine subjects such as healing, empathy, and narrative, participating healthcare providers at VA Medical Centers in Fresno, Sacramento, San Francisco, Palo Alto, and Kaiser Permanente's Los Angeles Medical Center delve into the stories of their patients and the contexts that shape their lives.

United We Stand

Resilience against hate

Do We Need More Food Fights? launched an NEH-supported partnership with Zócalo Public Square that uses public presentation and civic dialogue to combat hate through programs that foster understanding, empathy, and resilience.

Donors & Supporters

Contributions from individuals, corporate entities, and institutions provide essential support to fund ongoing operations, help us launch and expand special projects and programs, and otherwise assist us with promoting the humanities throughout California. Thank you to the following donors who supported our work in 2023!

Kerry Adams Hapner
Ann Andersen
Anonymous (2)
Anonymous*
Thomas K. Arnold
Paolo Asuncion
Neha Balram
Jesse Block
Barbara Borden
David Brown
Melinda Burns
Richard Calderwood
Lois Capps
Genevieve Carpio
Tia Carrere
Constance M. Carroll, Ph.D.
Nelson Chan*
Honora Chapman†
Milton Chen and Ruth Cox
Pamela Chin*
Sandy and Chris Chong*
Sharleen Cooper Cohen‡
Nesha Crossman

Kenya Davis-Hayes
Sabine De Maussion
DeWeese Family*
Karen English
Gillian Etherington
Jo Farb Hernandez
HKIT Architects
Shiva Farivar
R Faszholz
Robert Feyer*†
Joan Forman
Fritz Friedman
Joan Fujii*
Gerald Gast*
Abigail Ginzberg
Rachel and Aaron Hatch
Luis and Nancy Herrera
Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi*†
Marjorie Howard-Jones
Deborah Kaufman
Felicia Kelley
Stephen C. Klein
Rafael Lemus

Daniel Lewis
Amy Lyons
Jane Manley
Jessica Mele
Anne Merrill
Cornelius Moore*
Darren Newell
Emiko Ono
Mina Para Matlon
Mona Pasquil Rogers
Skye Patrick
Janine Paver
Duane E. and Laurie P. Phillips†
Oliver and Karen Pollak
James Quay*
Roy Recio
Gil Robertson
Oliver Rosales
Bidhan Chandra Roy
Judy E. Salter
Diane Sanchez
Ruth Sasaki*

Catherine Schell
Sara Sealander*
Margaret Shelleda
Christianna Shortridge
Charlene Simmons*†
Linda and George Spain de Bruin
Peter Stansky
Jennifer Steele
Fred Tejada*
Jocelyn Tetel
Naomi Ture
Mary Valentine
Julie Wakelee and Brad Pierce*
Jessica Weare†
Daryle Williams
Linda Wilson
Penelope Wong
Luke Woodle*
Judy Wydick
Maya Yee
Prof. Gay Yuen

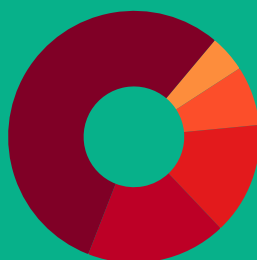
*Nancy Hatamiya Arts & Humanities Fund

†Library Innovation Lab Fund

‡Sharleen Cooper Cohen Endowment Fund

Institutional Donors

National Endowment for the Humanities
The State of California through the
California State Library
California Arts Council
California Wellness Foundation
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
The McConnell Foundation
National Endowment for the Arts



FY23 Pre-Audited Financials

- Core Programs: \$2,279,267.11
- Management & General: \$743,081.30
- Periodic Initiatives: \$595,653.12
- Fundraising: \$315,272.50
- General Programs: \$195,690.02

Total Expenses: \$4,128,964.05



OAKLAND

538 9th Street, Suite 210
Oakland, CA 94607
(415) 391-1474

LOS ANGELES

1000 N Alameda Street, Suite 240
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(415) 391-1474

CALHUM.ORG

