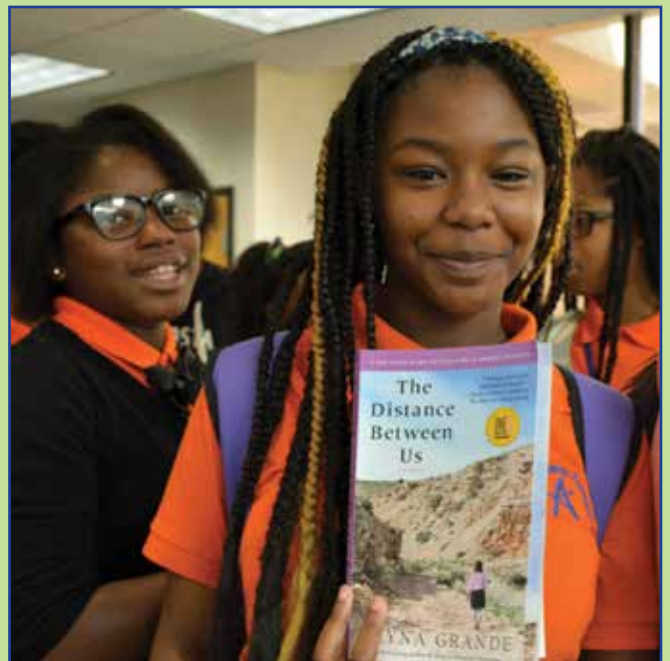




# MARYLAND HUMANITIES COUNCIL

Opening eyes. Opening ears. Opening minds.



## ANNUAL REPORT 2014



# MISSION

The Maryland Humanities Council creates and supports educational experiences in the humanities that inspire all Marylanders to embrace lifelong learning, exchange ideas openly, and enhance their communities.

# WELCOME

*We believe the humanities help prepare us to interpret our past, analyze our present, and envision our future. We believe this is why you choose to support our work. You understand that the humanities are relevant to our everyday lives.*

*Literature, history, ethics, philosophy: these give us the perspective to be active participants in the life of our communities. And these are just a few of the lenses through which we explore the world in our free programs.*

*Thank you for your belief and commitment. Your support of the Maryland Humanities Council makes everything we do possible. Every program, every event, every broadcast, every article. Whether you know it or not, you're changing people's lives.*

*Last year we reaffirmed our commitment to education and lifelong learning. We embraced a new mission that better reflects the powerful programs we offer. A mission that invites you to continue to play a part in making Maryland better.*

*Please spend a few moments savoring some highlights of what you made happen in 2014. We think you'll be impressed by the incredible impact and vast breadth of activity. What a future we have ahead of us...again, thank you!*



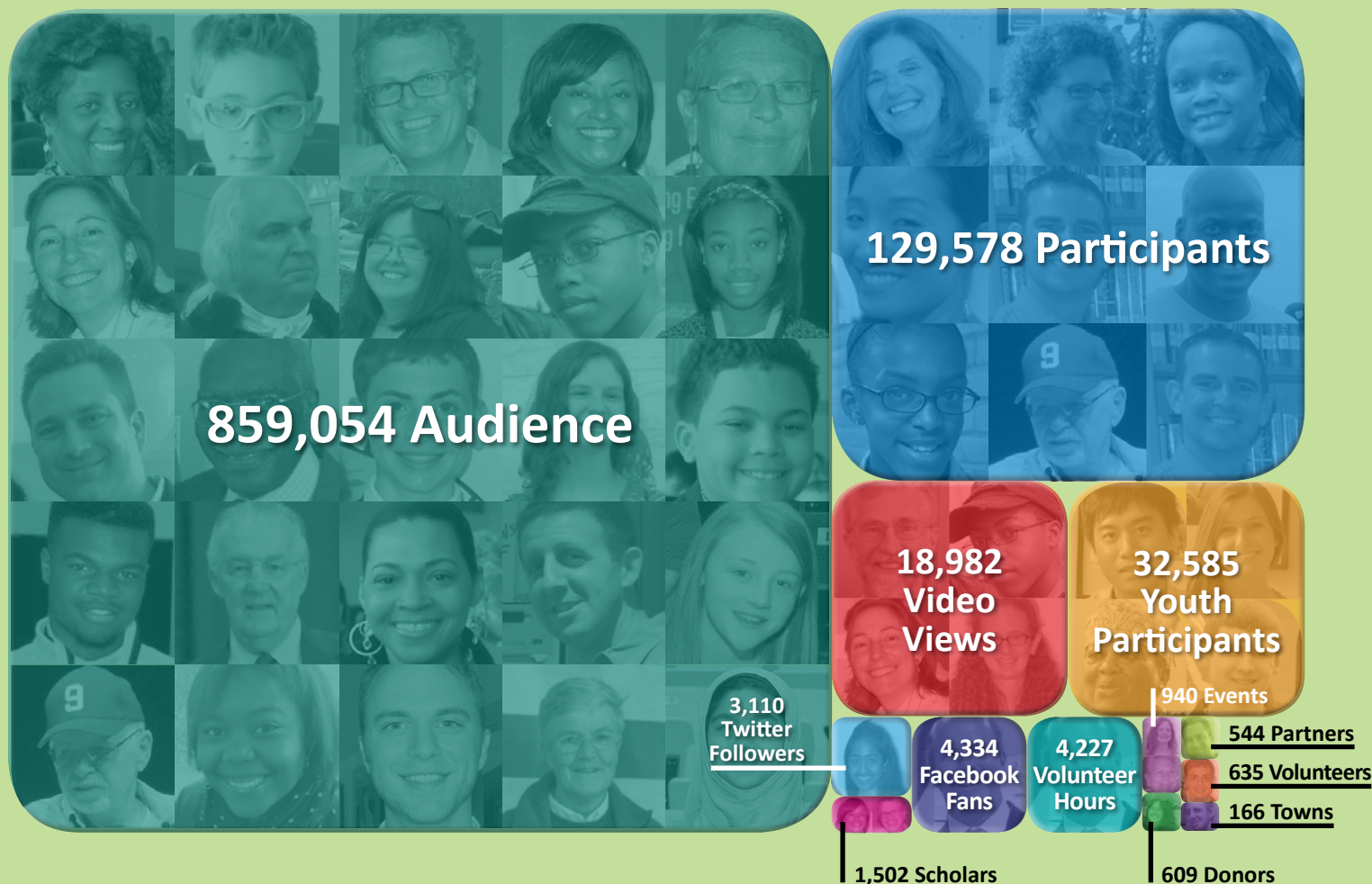
Lenneal J. Henderson, Jr.  
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Phoebe Stein  
Executive Director

# 2014 BY THE NUMBERS

Thanks to the tremendous generosity of you—our supporters, partners, and friends—we are able to offer impactful humanities programs throughout Maryland. Here's a snapshot of our Fiscal Year 2014 (Nov 2013–Oct 2014).



# VISION 2020: CHARTING A NEW COURSE FOR MHC

For more than 40 years, MHC has brought humanities education to Maryland's public in a variety of engaging ways that touch every corner of the state. In all of our work, MHC has collaborated with program partners and grantees in every county and Baltimore City. In the process we have gained an enviable reputation for high-quality, substantive programs; hundreds of partnerships that are fully engaged and based on trust; and a creative, committed staff and Board of Directors.



Beginning in summer 2012, MHC Board and staff worked with two consultants to produce a new guiding mission, vision, values, strategic framework, and implementation plan. Our committee utilized research, program evaluation, focus groups, and one-on-one meetings with partners, volunteers, and program participants throughout Maryland. The Board voted unanimously to approve the new strategic plan in late 2014.



Above: *One Maryland One Book*, Catonsville;  
Top Right: *Maryland History Day*, Catonsville

Our new mission can be found at the top of the facing page. Our new vision for MHC follows:

*We envision a Maryland where the humanities are understood as central to everyday life because they help us reflect on the past, understand the present, and shape the future. The result will be a state where thoughtful and informed Marylanders are committed to a lifetime of learning that invigorates and strengthens our democracy through an open-minded exchange of ideas.*

As a result of our strategic planning work, we sunset two programs (Practicing Democracy and Speakers Bureau) at the end of 2014 and launched two new programs focused on veterans of military service. We believe our current lineup now fully aligns with our goals, mission, and vision as an educational non-profit organization.

The chart below highlights a few of the strategic shifts we're undertaking as we work to fulfill our mission and achieve our vision by 2020.

## STRATEGIC SHIFTS

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| MHC mission focuses on civic engagement.  | ➤ | MHC mission focuses on education and lifelong learning in the humanities.                                  |
| MHC is a convener on critical issues.   | ➤ | MHC is an advisor on how the humanities can further dialogue on community issues.                          |
| MHC is product-focused: develops programs and then markets them to various audiences. | ➤ | MHC is market-focused: targets specific audiences, assesses their needs, and tailors programs accordingly. |
| MHC develops seasonal relationships with event-specific partners to deliver programs. | ➤ | MHC fosters long-term relationships with strategic partners for program co-creation and delivery.          |



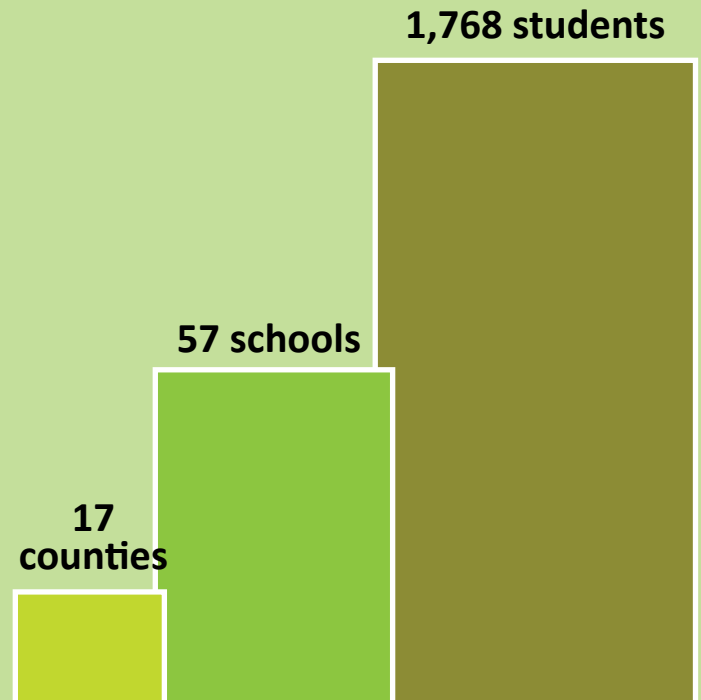
# ENGAGING YOUTH

The Maryland Humanities Council is devoted to providing opportunities for a lifetime of learning. A curious, seeking intellect nurtured from childhood throughout adulthood is invaluable. Of course, making sure that youth have opportunities to build critical thinking and writing skills is essential. By giving them a solid foundation in the humanities, they're better prepared to be civically and culturally engaged community members as adults. That's why many of MHC's most impactful programs focus on students in public, private, and home schools.



**Letters About Literature** fosters a love of reading while honing students' creative, analytical, and writing skills. In this national contest, young people pen personal essays to authors whose work has had a profound effect on them. Each spring, Maryland's finalists and winners are honored during Baltimore's CityLit Festival. Among those honored at the 2014 awards ceremony (pictured) were Level II runner-up Uma Phatak, Level II winner Jisoo Choi, and Level I runner-up Maija Dixon. Choi would go on to be the national Level II winner for her letter to Anne Frank.

## LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE



## ONE MARYLAND ONE BOOK



Top Left: Letters About Literature, Baltimore;  
Below: One Maryland One Book, Baltimore



**One Maryland One Book** is a dynamic program for both youth and adults. MHC provides thousands of free copies of the chosen book to schools, libraries, and community partners annually. Thousands of students are reading, analyzing, and applying themes explored to their own lives. Several hundred Baltimore City Public Schools students also meet the author. The 2014 selection was *The Distance Between Us*, Reyna Grande's moving memoir of her tumultuous childhood, first as a child left behind in Mexico by her immigrant parents, then as an undocumented adolescent in Southern California. The book proved particularly resonant for young women in Maryland's growing Hispanic community including this group from Baltimore's Esperanza Center.



**Maryland History Day** gives middle and high school students a solid foundation in critical thinking, research and analysis, writing, and public speaking. Working solo or in small groups, students devote an average of 70+ hours to create original documentaries, exhibits, performances, research papers, or websites exploring a tremendous breadth of historical topics. Students progress through competitions at the school, district, state, and national levels. A national study found History Day participants outperform peers on state assessments in social studies, as well as reading, science, and math. The program experienced significant growth in 2014 thanks in part to expanding professional development opportunities for teachers wishing to include History Day in their curriculum.

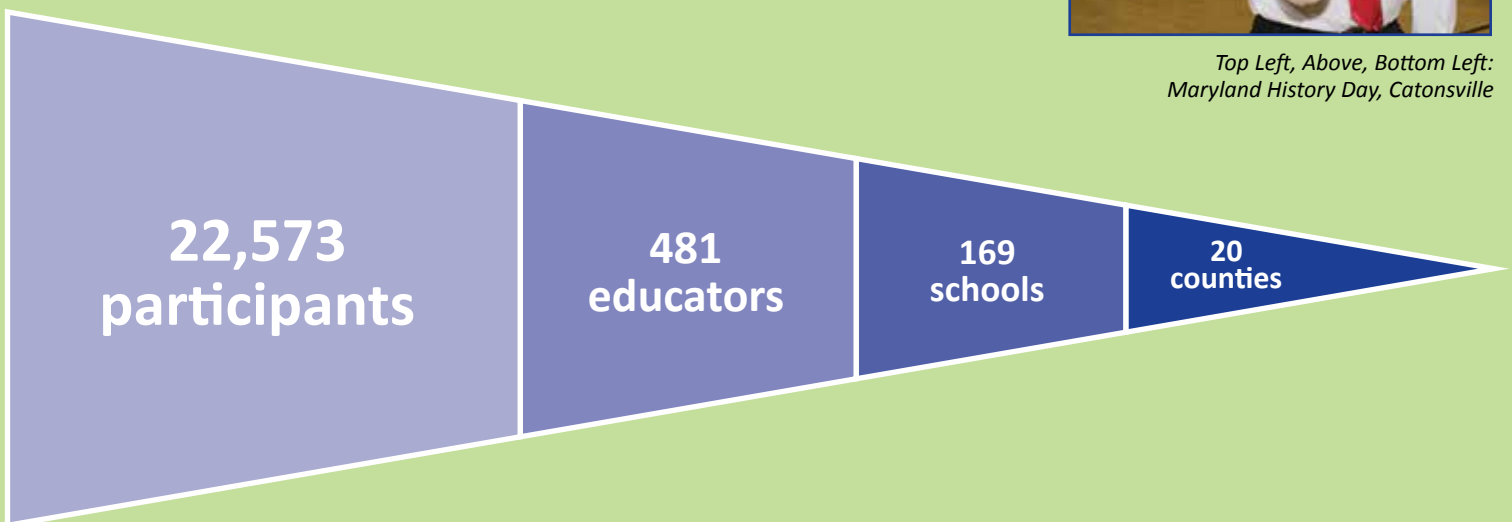
Among the dozens of students honored was Jacqueline Dianis of Prince George's County, winner of the junior division Special Prize in African American History.

A newly cherished tradition at the state awards ceremony is the trivia contest. Students who correctly answer questions receive a Maryland History Day bear featuring the current year's commemorative button. Calvert County's Jon Bury won one such prize in 2014.



*Top Left, Above, Bottom Left: Maryland History Day, Catonsville*

# MARYLAND HISTORY DAY



Maryland History Day has a profound and lasting effect on participating students, many of whom go on to careers informed by their experiences. It can also have unexpected results, such as projects living on beyond the life of the competition.

Last year, Allegany County collaborators Demetri Cendo and Ethan Greist took first place in the senior group documentary category for *Nuremburg: The Modern Foundation for Human Rights* at both the state and national contests. They are pictured at left along with Maryland Senate President Mike Miller and Bill Pencek, Executive Director of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. Their film was additionally awarded The Judges James and Constantine Kit Sfekas Award for Law and Society. Following its honors, the film

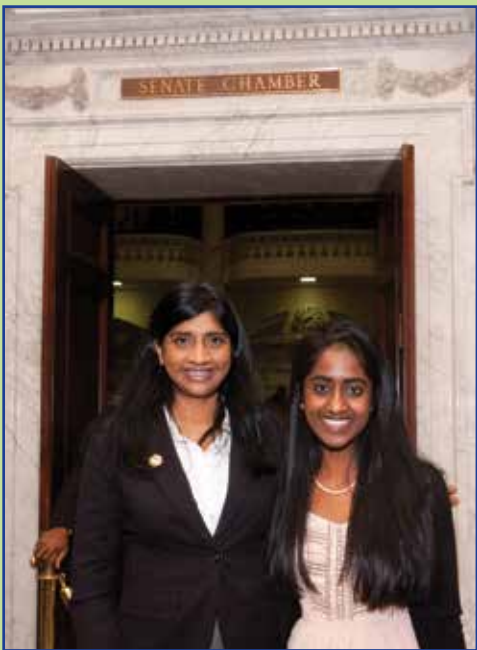
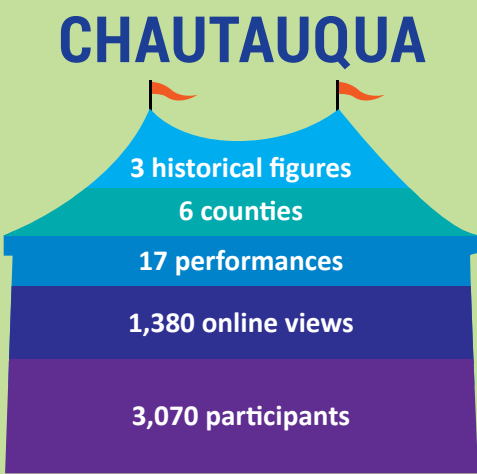
has been featured in two classes at the University of Baltimore Law School. Demetri is in his first year at the University of Maryland, while Ethan recently served as a page during the General Assembly session in Annapolis.





# ENRICHING COMMUNITIES

Gathering with friends and strangers, classmates and coworkers. Sharing our stories with one another. Considering history to give context to our current moment. Providing crucial grants for educational projects. These are just some of the ways in which the Maryland Humanities Council helps us enrich our communities.

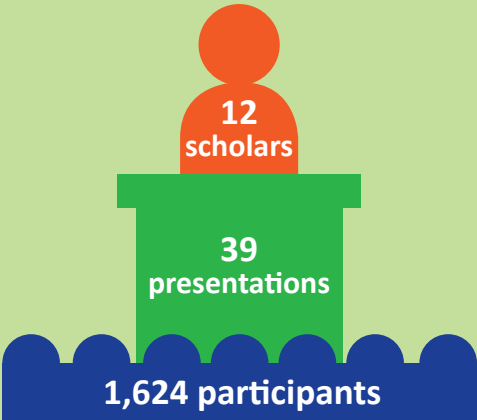


Top: Chautauqua, St. Michaels; Middle Left: Chautauqua, La Plata; Middle Right: Maryland History Day, Annapolis;  
 Above: Literary Mount Vernon Walking Tour, Baltimore





# SPEAKERS BUREAU



Above: One Maryland One Book, Baltimore; Below: One Maryland One Book, Westminster



## ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Grant-Supported Events	286 events
Humanities Connection	48 broadcasts
Literary Mount Vernon Walking Tour	10 tours
Literature & Medicine	10 discussions
Making Sense of the American Civil War	36 discussions
Museum on Main Street	6 workshops
Practicing Democracy: Defying Definitions	9 discussions
Book Festivals	4 festivals

# DONORS

*In order to keep our hundreds of annual program offerings free and accessible to audiences, the Maryland Humanities Council relies almost exclusively on our donors for annual operating support. Contributors to the annual fund of \$1,000 or more are members of our Leadership Circle. We offer our sincerest appreciation to the following organizations and individuals for their generous financial support (for the 14-month period, November 2013—December 2014). We make every effort to provide accurate acknowledgement of our contributors. To advise us of corrections, please call 410-685-4183.*

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*Above: One Maryland One Book, Baltimore*

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*# Matching Gift*

# GRANTS

MHC supports innovative humanities projects with grants of up to \$10,000. During Fiscal Year 2014, we awarded 16 grants totaling \$83,021. Recipient organizations came from six Maryland counties and Baltimore City, plus one based in Washington, DC for programming in Baltimore City Public Schools. One grant was funded through special support from the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. All grants were leveraged to secure additional community supporting funds, totaling \$281,774 for all recipients.

## Anne Arundel County

Maryland State Archives, Annapolis  
American Archives Month in Maryland  
\$1,000

## Baltimore City

Baltimore City Historical Society  
Roots & Branch: New Perspectives on the Baltimore  
NAACP and Civil Rights in the 20th Century  
\$1,200

## Baltimore Museum of Industry

Making Music: The Banjo in Baltimore & Beyond  
\$10,000

## Center Stage

Trayvon Moments  
\$4,200

## Jewish Museum of Maryland

Mendes Cohen Living History Character  
(War of 1812 Project)  
\$8,200

## Loyola University Maryland

Conversations with Oedipus  
\$5,000

## The Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University

Moving History: Stepping Down the Path of Peabody  
Dance through 100 Years of Maryland History  
\$5,500

## Wide Angle Youth Media

International Engagement Radio & Video Project  
\$3,300

## Dorchester County

Nanticoke Historic Preservation Alliance, Cambridge  
2014 Nanticoke River Jamboree: "400 Years  
in Indiantown"  
\$1,200

## Harford County

Harford County Public Library, Belcamp  
Just Write. Writers Conference  
\$1,200

## Montgomery County

Community Mediation Maryland, Takoma Park  
Civic Reflection: Inside & Out  
\$9,426

## Sandy Spring Museum, Sandy Spring

Local Traditions  
\$4,600

## Prince George's County

Accokeek Foundation, Accokeek  
Food for Thought Festival  
\$9,000

## Afro American Historical & Genealogical Society, Fort Washington

Maryland Legacy Day: Celebrating 150 Years  
of Freedom  
\$1,195

## Wicomico County

Migrant Clinicians Network, Salisbury  
Sharing Stories Through Images: A Humanistic Look at  
Immigrants on Maryland's Eastern Shore  
\$10,000

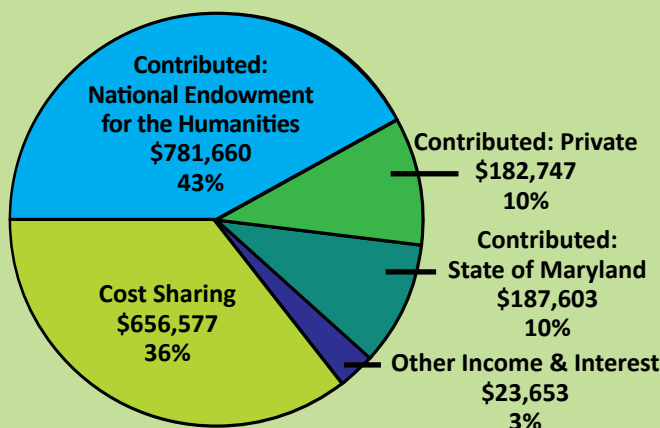
## Washington, DC

PEN/Faulkner Foundation  
Writers in Schools  
\$8,000

# FINANCIALS

## REVENUES

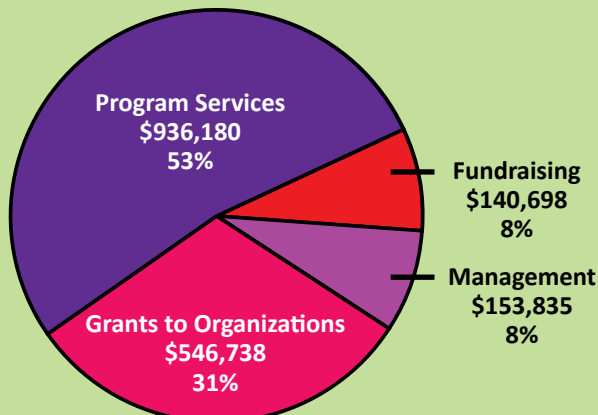
Total \$1,832,240



Change in Net Assets \$54,789

## EXPENSES

Total \$1,777,451



## Statements of Financial Position: FY14

### Assets

Cash	\$ 474,950
Receivables	\$ 257,049
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 17,444
Property & Equipment	\$ 150,110
Security Deposits	\$ 2,500

**Total \$ 902,053**

### Liabilities and Fund Balances

#### Liabilities

Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$ 57,942
Refundable Advances	\$ 7,500
Deferred Revenue	\$ 1,100
Regrants Payable	\$ 10,942
Loans Payable	\$ 8,364

**Subtotal \$ 85,848**

#### Fund Balances

Net Assets - Unrestricted	\$ 557,975
Net Assets - Temporarily Restricted	\$ 258,230

**Subtotal \$ 816,205**

**Total \$ 902,053**

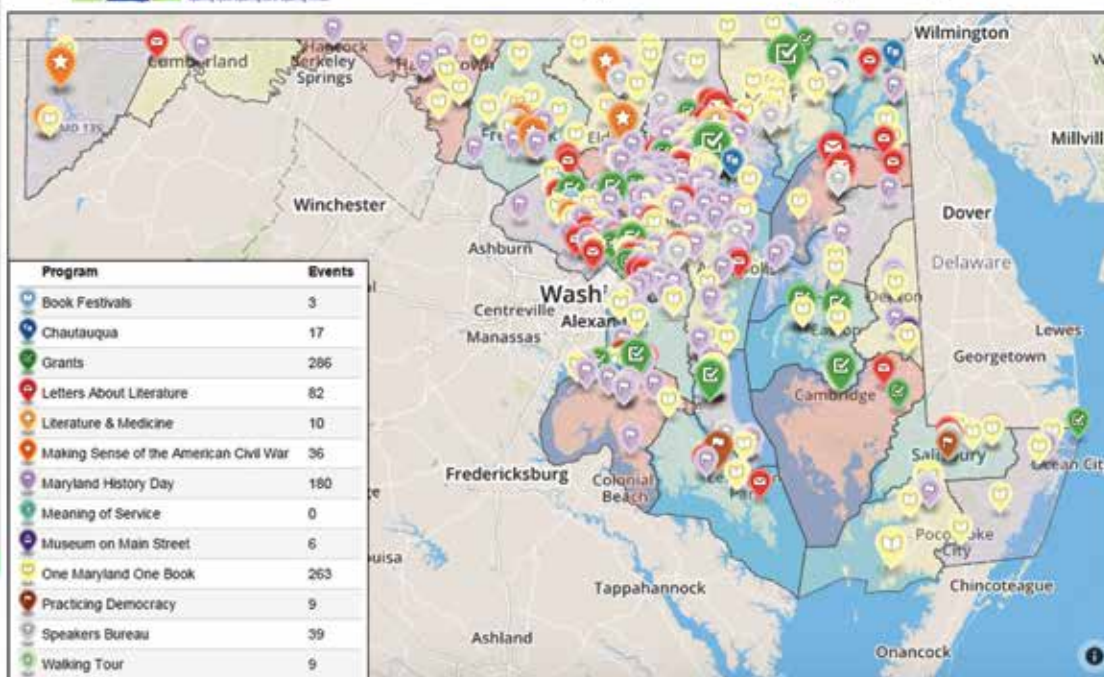


County	Events
Allegany	6
Anne Arundel	44
Baltimore	47
Baltimore City	297
Calvert	41
Caroline	10
Carroll	30
Cecil	15
Charles	37
Dorchester	9
Frederick	38
Garrett	14
Harford	45
Howard	41
Kent	20
Montgomery	57
Prince George's	61
Queen Anne's	9
Somerset	12
St. Mary's	16
Talbot	25
Washington	39
Wicomico	16
Worcester	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>940</b>

Visit us online at [mdhc.org](http://mdhc.org) to explore our interactive Program Activities Map. You can sort by program, county, legislative or congressional district, and year. Zoom in on what we've been doing in your community.



## 2014 Maryland Humanities Council Program Activity Map



# WHO WE ARE

## Staff

**Phoebe Stein**  
Executive Director

**Jessica Baldwin**  
Program Assistant

**Kathleen M. Curtin**  
Institutional Giving Manager

**Judy D. Dobbs**  
Program Officer

**Marilyn Hatza**  
Program Officer

**Aaron Heinsman**  
Director of Development

**Courtney Hobson**  
Program Assistant

**Katy Kincade**  
Office Manager/Executive Assistant

**Jim Kitterman**  
Fiscal Officer

**Grace Leatherman**  
Maryland History Day Outreach Coordinator

**Andrea Lewis**  
Program Officer

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*Vice Chair*  
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Oxon Hill

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La Vale

**Michael S. Glaser**  
St. Mary's City

**O.F. Makarah**  
Largo

**Hilary B. Miller**  
Potomac

**Adrianne Noe**  
Silver Spring

**Dr. Maarten L. Pereboom**  
Salisbury

**Matt Power**  
Odenton

**Cynthia Raposo**  
Silver Spring

**Dr. Nancy E. Rogers**  
Dickerson

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**Keith Stone**  
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**Yolanda Maria Vazquez\***  
Columbia

**David W. Wise**  
Annapolis

*\*Gubernatorial appointee*



MARYLAND  
HUMANITIES  
COUNCIL  
Opening eyes. Opening ears. Opening minds.



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MarylandHumanitiesCouncil



mdhumanities



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This Page: Clockwise from Top Left: Maryland History Day, College Park; Letters About Literature, Baltimore; Chautauqua, La Plata; Maryland History Day, College Park  
Front Cover: Clockwise from Top Left: Grants, Darlington; One Maryland One Book, Catonsville; Letters About Literature, Baltimore; Grants, Baltimore