MISSION

Maryland Humanities creates and supports educational experiences in the humanities that inspire all Marylanders to embrace lifelong learning, exchange ideas openly, and enrich their communities. Through collaborations with local partners in every county and Baltimore City, we offer the humanities both for their inherent pleasure and for their tremendous power to transform. Thank you for joining us on this journey—we can’t do this important work without you.

WELCOME

Hon. Stephen J. Sfekas
Chair, Board of Directors
Phoebe Stein
Executive Director

We are so grateful that you’re a friend of Maryland Humanities. Whether you’re a program partner or a participant, a donor or a grantee, a public official or an educator, you play a critical role in helping nearly a million Marylanders benefit each year from our inspiring work. It is through local partnerships that we offered lifelong learning opportunities in 170 communities last year. These free educational programs happen because of the generosity of the people, companies, organizations, and government bodies that support our work.

We hope you’ll enjoy this look back at an action-packed 2016—one that saw an average of more than four events per day—and a glance forward at what we have in store in the months ahead. Thank you for making so much impact possible for Maryland!

THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

Thanks to your tremendous generosity—our supporters, partners, and friends—we are able to offer substantive, impactful humanities programs throughout Maryland. Here’s a snapshot of our Fiscal Year 2016 (November 2015—October 2016).

Volunteer Hours (est.): 7,069
Events: 1,602
Donors: 650
Towns: 170
Virtual Events: 69
Audience: 880,047
Partners: 538
Youth Participants: 41,660
Scholars: 1,532
Volunteers: 775
Value of Volunteer Hours: $166,546
Social Media Followers: 10,282
Video Views: 11,889
LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

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, along with an outstanding educator. Among those honored in 2016 was Level III finalist Angela Estavillo—pictured with her proud family—for her letter to Kekla Magoon, author of How It Went Down.

ONE MARYLAND ONE BOOK

One Maryland One Book is a dynamic program for both youth and adults. With your support, we provide thousands of free copies of the chosen book to schools, libraries, and community partners annually. An estimated 12,000+ students read, analyze, and apply themes explored to their own lives. Hundreds of these lucky students get inspired during the statewide author tour, like those pictured above from Boonsboro High School. Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely, the award-winning co-authors of All American Boys—the 2016 selection—were extremely popular with teen readers with their candid and dynamic talk. Their novel of how a violent encounter between an African American youth and a police officer shakes a school, a community, and ultimately the nation resonated with urgency and drew praise from students, teachers, parents, and members of law enforcement.

MARYLAND HISTORY DAY

Maryland History Day gives middle and high school students a solid base in critical thinking, research and analysis, writing, and public speaking. Working solo or in small groups, students 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 again experienced its highest participation level last year among students since its launch, surpassing 27,000 drawn from 22 counties. Among the dozens of student competitors who advanced to the national competition were this group of documentarians from Parkside High in Wicomico County. Pictured with Matt LePore of Wegmans—the sponsors of the documentary category—are Adit Abraham, Ahmed Ahmed, Sumit Sharma, Benyam Ephrem, and Chris Taylor.
ENRICHING COMMUNITIES

Gathering with friends and strangers, classmates and coworkers. Sharing our stories with one another. Examining history to give context to our current moment. Spurring conversations across cultural, economic, and generational divides. Providing crucial grants for educational and cultural projects. These are just some of the ways in which Maryland Humanities brings Marylanders together to enrich their communities.

BUILDING COMMUNITY COALITIONS

Launched early in October 2015, the Lower Shore Humanities Network (LSHN) regularly convenes 32 cultural and educational organizations and university departments to consider, promote, and grow their collective impact in local communities. The Network was created through a partnership between the National Humanities Alliance, Salisbury University, and Maryland Humanities.

With the support of a round of mini-grants from the National Humanities Alliance Foundation, LSHN members have launched collaborative projects that range from philosophy workshops for elementary school-aged students to a documentary film about the desegregation of local public schools. The LSHN is working to launch an internship program for humanities students within the community.

Below, LSHN member Dr. Cristina Cammarano, Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Salisbury University, reflects on why Maryland Humanities’ work matters.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Cristina Cammarano
Salisbury
Collaborator since 2015

What would you tell others to inspire them to support Maryland Humanities?

Maryland Humanities sustains concrete projects for specific communities by encouraging collaborations among local stakeholders and providing funding. They help make an ideal real by promoting local initiatives that widen the reach of humanities daily and for everyone. The humanities are a place for humankind to know itself and its worth. It is by reading, discussing, learning about philosophy, poetry, history, art, music, and all the ways in which the human race has expressed and understood itself, that we can become better at being who we are. I think everyone—regardless of their age, income bracket, gender, ability, or race—should be granted access to the humanities. This is what Maryland Humanities strives to achieve and why it deserves your support.

From top: One Maryland One Book, Baltimore; Grants, Baltimore; Veterans Oral History Project, Harwood

Clockwise from top left: Chautauqua, La Plata; Veterans Oral History Project, Harwood; One Maryland One Book, Baltimore; Chautauqua, La Plata

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

BOOK FESTIVALS: 3 festivals
VETERANS STANDING TOGETHER: 6 oral history workshops for youth
HUMANITIES CONNECTION: 50 broadcasts
VETERANS BOOK GROUP: 15 discussions
LITERATURE & MEDICINE: 9 discussions
LITERARY MOUNT VERNON WALKING TOUR: 9 tours
MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET: 2 professional development workshops
GRANTS: 691 grant-supported events
HISTORICAL FIGURES: 3
COUNTIES: 7
PERFORMANCES: 18
PARTICIPANTS: 2,434
Our volunteers are a vital part of our success. Hundreds of generously share their time and talent with us in a variety of capacities, including:

- Evaluating research projects as judges or mentoring competitors in workshops for Maryland History Day
- Identifying outstanding student writers for Letters About Literature
- Choosing the annual One Maryland One Book selection
- Bringing history alive as a Literate Mount Vernon Walking Tour docent
- Identifying worthy humanities projects for funding on our Grant Committee
- Ensuring efficient operations and successful pursuit of our mission as members of the Board of Directors

Last year, an estimated 775 wonderful volunteers donated more than 7,000 hours in service to the work of Maryland Humanities, providing nearly $167,000 in essential labor that helped make many of our programs possible.

Spotlighted here are two such volunteers who’ve done much over the years to ensure our continued growth and effectiveness, Carla Du Pree and Mike Flint—one of our 2016 Volunteers of the Year.

If you’d like to get involved, opportunities are often posted on our website or announced in our monthly eNewsletter.

**Volunteer Spotlight**

Mike Flint
Toadvon Volunteer Since 2015

Why is Maryland Humanities’ work important to you?

I’ve come to appreciate how essential the humanities are to us all, collectively and individually. The subject encompasses the most fundamental aspects of our being: past, present, and future. Within recent years much emphasis has been given to the importance of science, technology, engineering, and math, those fields are intricately woven into the fabric of the humanities and, hence, life itself. In the three short years I’ve been volunteering with Maryland Humanities and the Maryland History Day program, I’ve witnessed how the staff of the organization creatively introduce, educate, and the Maryland History Day program, I’ve witnessed how the humanities are appreciation of the humanities will enable them to better understand where they come from, where they are, and the choices they have to shape tomorrow.

**What is your favorite Maryland Humanities experience or memory?**

I enjoy coming to know the “behind-the-scenes” aspects of any organization I’ve supported. Through my wife, Pam, and I attend a variety of Maryland Humanities events throughout the year, our greatest enjoyment comes from Maryland History Day. Each student, teacher, school, and volunteer we’ve been fortunate to work with has taught us something. Each step in planning, resource development, preparation, publicity, and culmination of the Maryland History Day program, we’ve been fortunate to work with has taught us something.

**What is your favorite Maryland Humanities experience or memory?**

My relationship with Maryland Humanities spans well over ten years. It’s no wonder that it’s difficult to pare it down to one experience when there have been so many. It might be easier to draw on the most recent ones, such as having two historical powerhouses—Isabel Wilkerson and Taylor Branch—grace the same stage, or the insightful and richer and meaningful discussions discussing selections for One Maryland One Book, which continues to give me a new appreciation for the collaborative work Maryland Humanities partakes in.

Perhaps the most unique encounter was years ago when my then middle school-aged son participated in Maryland History Day and engaged in full-blown research of the narrative of Olaudah Equiano, a slave who purchased his freedom and went on to work with the British government to abolish the slave trade. Equiano’s written work on the horrific conditions of the Middle Passage haunts my son ever since he first read his work and I could tell by the weeks of preparation, he built the equivalent of the space on a slave ship that Equiano would occupy, down to the measurements of a life-sized wire body that fit into the narrow space in a wooden box. That project steered him in such a way as to seek out an understanding of the Holocast and the Black Death—the bubonic plague—so much so that he was teaching his peers about the perils of slavery. There is nothing like watching a child spurred to action by being exposed to a challenge and a choice. Maryland Humanities provided both.
GRANTS

Maryland Humanities supports innovative humanities projects with grants of up to $10,000. During Fiscal Year 2016, we awarded 29 grants totaling $159,041. Recipient organizations were based in six Maryland counties and Baltimore City. Most grants were leveraged to secure additional community supporting funds, totaling $471,554. The grants awarded last year included 10 grants totaling $49,691 through the Humanities Fund for Baltimore, which supported projects that explored the historical context for and contemporary ramifications of the Baltimore Uprising of 2015.

Baltimore County
Community College of Baltimore County Reimagining Baltimore: Creativity, Civic Engagement and Neighborhood Transformation $1,200
Towson University Department of Theatre Arts Maryland Consortium Residency Project $10,000
Baltimore City
African Youth Alchemy Documentary Film: Inequality in Housing $5,000
B&O Railroad Museum The B&O Railroad and the Strike of 1877 $5,000
Baltimore Museum of Industry Then & Now: Baltimore Neighborhoods in the Public Eye $9,000
Black Mental Health Alliance for Education and Consultation Baltimore Rising: Summoning the Village $8,860
Baltimore Center Stage CS Mobile Unit Pilot Program – Incubator Phase $5,000
Anna Deavere Smith: The Prison Pipeline Project $7,120
ClayCit Project Anniversary of an Uprising with Claudia Rankine $5,000
City Neighbors Foundation Does History Still Matter? A Student Exploration and Documentary $1,000

Eubie Blake National Jazz Institute and Cultural Center Our Baltimore $9,000
URBAN EXPRESS/Baltimore $5,000
Maryland Institute College of Art Laying by Time: Revisiting the Works of William A. Christenberry $10,000
New Lens Blackromatics: Housing Event $5,000
Penn North Kids Safe Zone Our Road to Freedom: “A Child’s Journey from the Uprising” $5,000
Promise Heights, University of Maryland, Baltimore School of Social Work Seeds of Promise Book Club $4,691
Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture All Baltimore Voices: Stories About and Beyond the Uprising $5,000
University of Baltimore Division of Legal, Ethical, and Historical Studies The Uprising in Focus: The Image, Experience, and History of Inequality in Baltimore $3,800
William A. Christenberry Laying by Time: Revisiting the Works of William A. Christenberry $10,000

Cc County
Cecil County Public Library Analysis of Outsider $1,000
Frederick County Delaplaine Arts Center Art History Timeline $1,000
Prince George’s County ExxonMobil Foundation Dialogues on Race, Agriculture, and Historical Legacy $9,950
The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center Black Theatre Symposium $2,500
University of Maryland Department of Art Portraits of Baltimore $7,750
University of Maryland Department of English Democracy Then and Now: Citizenship and Public Education $6,350
Talbot County Tilghman Watermen’s Museum Tilghman Watermen’s Museum: A Documentary $9,950
Wicomico County Salisbury University Inside/Out Philosophy Symposium at Eastern Correctional Institution $1,200
Our Baltimore and Cultural Center Eubie Blake National Jazz Institute and Cultural Center Our Baltimore $9,000
URBAN EXPRESS/Baltimore $5,000
Maryland Institute College of Art Laying by Time: Revisiting the Works of William A. Christenberry $10,000

DONOR SPOTLIGHTS

Consuela Kelly
Upper Marlboro
Donor & Volunteer Since 2013

What is your favorite Maryland Humanities experience or memory?
There are a few that stick out, but if I had to choose I would have to go with Maryland History Day. It is such a great event! For me, it exhibits what is SO important about the humanities: teaching critical thinking and analysis, which leads to understanding and compassion for fellow man. Through this event AND the arts and humanities more broadly, students are able to “walk a mile in another’s shoes,” to experience and try to understand perspectives that are different from their own.

What would you tell others to inspire them to support Maryland Humanities?
I would simply encourage others to participate in an event. There are SO many! Maryland Humanities is very good at providing a wide variety of programs. There is always something for everyone— AND most of the events are free.

James T. Brady
Ijamsville
Donor Since 2004

Why is Maryland Humanities’ work important to you?
The humanities provide us with the foundation to lead successful, productive, caring lives. At a time when they are receiving diminished emphasis in our schools and community conversations, it is particularly important that an organization uniquely devoted to celebrating the special relevance of the humanities be generously supported. Maryland humanities is precisely that organization in Maryland.

What is your favorite Maryland Humanities experience or memory?
Of all the activities my personal favorite is the annual Chautauqua series. For an unabashed history buff such as myself, it brings to life impactful historical figures and provides audiences with the ability to not only learn about them but to also engage in fascinating dialogues with their re-enactors after the performances.

This page clockwise from top right: Chautauqua, La Plata; Grants, Baltimore; Maryland History Day, Catonsville
Facing page: Grants, Baltimore
WHO WE ARE

REVENUES

Total $1,539,106
Contributed: State of Maryland
$306,836 20%
Contributed: Other Federal
$101,129 6%
Other Income & Interest
$26,270 2%
Contributed: Private & Special Events
$307,231 20%

Change in Net Assets ($2,051)

EXPENSES

Total $1,541,157
Management
$171,433 11%
Fundraising
$257,402 16%

FINANCIALS

Program Services
$8,10,946 53%
Grants to Organizations
$910,376 20%

Statements of Financial Position: FY14

Assets
Cash $545,811
Receivables $153,832
Prepaid Expenses $19,120
Property & Equipment $185,239
Security Deposits $2,500
Total $906,502

Liabilities and Fund Balances

Liabilities
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses $85,924
Refundable Advances $10,500
Regrants Payable $11,405
Subtotal $107,829

Fund Balances
Net Assets - Unrestricted $723,091
Net Assets - Temporarily Restricted $75,580
Subtotal $798,673
Total $906,502

Now that you've had a look at some of the highlights of 2016, please enjoy this overview of some exciting new developments for this year.

Looking Ahead

In conjunction with The Baltimore Sun's four-part, in-depth series examining segregation in Maryland schools published throughout the month of March, Maryland Humanities partnered with The Sun, Loyola University Maryland's Office of Academic Affairs, and its Center for Innovation in Urban Education for a community conversation on March 29

This engaging forum included a panel of education scholars, activists, and leaders that had the nearly 300 attendees rapt and eager to participate in a Q&A session. If you weren't able to attend, watch the archived live stream on The Sun's Facebook page.

Humans and the Legacy of Race and Ethnicity in the United States

Building upon last year's special grant fund for Baltimore-based nonprofits examining the historical contexts leading to the Baltimore Uprising of 2015, we recently offered a special competitive funding opportunity for any organization statewide who wanted to explore the legacy of race and ethnicity in America from a humanities perspective.

Supported through a special grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, we awarded five grants of $3,000 to four Baltimore-focused projects and one in Cambridge. Full details on awardees and their projects can be found on our website. All public events supported by these grants will be listed on our online events calendar at mdhumanities.org/events.

Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Program: Online Resources and Summer Teacher Institutes

Last fall, Maryland Humanities was chosen to be a Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Program Partner, one of two of the 22 organizations chosen via a competitive grant process that is not a college or university. Our project develops four learning modules and sixty American History inquiry kits in collaboration with teachers and Maryland Humanities' partners.

In addition to these new activities, we hope you'll also join us for our regular program activities, a few of which are highlighted below.

• This year's Chautauqua will observe the centennial of the United States' entry into World War I with Voices from the Great War, featuring portrayals of President Woodrow Wilson, General John Pershing, and W.E.B. Du Bois.

• The Way We Worked, our current Museum on Main Street exhibit presented in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution, continues its tour across Maryland. Future stops include the Carroll County Farm Museum, Brunswick Heritage Museum, and Salisbury University Art Galleries.

• This year's One Maryland One Book selection is Purple Hibiscus, the debut novel of noted author, feminist, and MacArthur "genius" Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, published in 2003. Hundreds of programs will take place this fall across Maryland, including the author tour.

We hope you are as excited as we are for what's to come this year. We look forward to seeing you at many of these events and others in future. Your support makes all this possible; thank you!
This page from top: Grants, Baltimore; Grants, Baltimore; Maryland History Day, Catonsville; One Maryland One Book, Baltimore

Front cover from top: Veterans Oral History Project, Harwood; Maryland History Day, Catonsville; Letters About Literature, Baltimore; Letters About Literature, Clarksville