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, and we hope our work brought you great comfort over the past months. We can’t do this without you!

WELCOME

As you revisit 2020 with us, we hope that you are inspired by the events and activities that took place during a very unique year. Our primary goal is to provide critical opportunities throughout the state that ensure awareness of and underline the importance of the humanities. With the onset of the pandemic, Maryland Humanities quickly pivoted to provide online learning opportunities, as well as emergency relief funding to the most vulnerable of our colleague organizations. It was a year in which a worldwide pandemic changed our lives and one that we weathered, like all of you, to the best of our ability.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Maryland Humanities. Our year was made possible through your support and your continued belief that the humanities are what connects us, even during difficult times. You attended our events and programs, you connected through social media, and you supported the critical role of the humanities in our current and future lives. As you look back with us, we hope you discover something new about our programs and find a highlight which brings you a smile. Here’s to the humanities, and here’s to the people who bring the humanities to life!

Lindsey Baker  
Executive Director

Mary Hastler  
Chair, Board of Directors
Thanks to your tremendous generosity—our supporters, partners, and friends—we are able to offer substantive, impactful humanities programs throughout our state and, new last year, beyond Maryland’s borders online. Here’s a snapshot of our service during our Fiscal Year 2020 (November 2019–October 2020).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Participants</td>
<td>81,479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Participants</td>
<td>37,952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audience</td>
<td>190,862</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Person Events</td>
<td>725</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virtual Events</td>
<td>296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donors</td>
<td>413</td>
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<tr>
<td>Towns</td>
<td>123</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partners</td>
<td>364</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteers</td>
<td>873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Hours</td>
<td>6,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of Volunteer Hours</td>
<td>$171,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partners</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholars</td>
<td>15,443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media Followers</td>
<td>15,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video Views</td>
<td>15,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of Volunteer Hours</td>
<td>$171,811</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ENRICHING COMMUNITIES**

Gathering in-person or virtually with friends, neighbors, coworkers, classmates, or strangers. Spurring conversations across cultural, economic, generational, political, and racial divides. Sharing our stories with one another. Examining history and literature to give context to our current moment. Providing crucial grants for educational and cultural projects or to help keep small organizations afloat during a global pandemic. These are just some of the ways in which Maryland Humanities brings people together to enrich and strengthen our communities.

**Chautauqua**

- 4 Historical Figures
- 26<sup>th</sup> & Final Year
- 28 Streaming Days
- 3,969 Viewers / Streams
Veterans Book Groups

- 5 Host Partners
- 24 Discussions
- 176 Participants

Museum on Main Street

- 222 Exhibition Days
- 9 Field Trips
- 12 Book Clubs
- 83 Additional Activities
- 29,685 Participants
- 1 Exhibition on the Oxford-Bellevue Ferry

Additional Programs

- 87 Grant-supported events
- 5 Regional Humanities Networks
- 5 Humanities Connection broadcasts
- 21,787 Humanities Connection streams
- 1 Maryland Center for the Book book launch (Fredrik Backman’s Anxious People)
- 1 Maryland Center for the Book book festival (National Book Festival)
Maryland Humanities is devoted to cultivating curiosity and inspiring lifelong learning. Making sure that youth have ample opportunities to build critical thinking and writing skills is essential to future success in college and the workplace. By partnering to offer young people a solid foundation in the humanities and nurturing the joy and power of discovery, we help prepare them to be civically and culturally engaged adults. That’s why some of our most impactful programs serve students and those who teach them in public, private, parochial, and home schools.

**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 synthesize their research into original documentaries, exhibits, performances, papers, or websites. Exploring a tremendous breadth of historical topics on an annual theme, these young scholars progress through contests at the school, district, state, and national levels. A national study by Rockman et al found National History Day participants outperform peers on state assessments in social studies, reading, science, and math.

In the 2019–20 school year, the program experienced its highest participation ever, surpassing 33,000 students at the classroom level. Students and teachers benefit from workshops, mentoring, and professional development throughout the school year.
**One Maryland One Book** is a dynamic reading and discussion 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. This includes printed, electronic, audio, and Braille copies. We also provide stipends to support partner-generated local activities and bring the author to Maryland to meet readers from across the state—for the first time virtually in 2020. An estimated 10,200 people participated last year, reading Lisa See’s riveting tale of friendship, *The Island of Sea Women*.

While the word humanities may call to mind a myriad academic disciplines, our programs tend to center upon history and literature as the most broad-based access points for greater engagement in them for youth and adults alike. But the humanities aren’t simply subjects of study; they’re grounded in activities we engage in to make sense of our lives and relate to our world. Passing down treasured family traditions, comparing past seasons’ performances by favorite sports teams, and responding to the actions of government officials entrusted to lead us all are all examples of “doing the humanities” in our daily lives.
Maryland Humanities supports innovative humanities projects with grants of up to $10,000. During Fiscal Year 2020, we awarded 28 grants totaling $147,921. Recipient organizations were based in 10 Maryland counties and Baltimore City, plus two out-of-state recipients with projects focused on Maryland stories or participants. Every grant was leveraged to secure additional community supporting funds, totaling $417,851.

**Anne Arundel County**

- **Banneker-Douglas Museum Foundation**
  - The Black Vote Mural Project
  - $8,000
- **Forest Woods Media Productions/Bunny and Crocodile Press**
  - The Poet and the Poem: Voices of Maryland Poets
  - $1,000
- **Lost Towns Project**
  - Anne Arundel’s African American Heritage through Culinary Traditions
  - $10,000

**Baltimore City**

- **Baltimore School for the Arts Foundation**
  - Between the Shelves
  - $5,150
- **Coppin State University Development Foundation**
  - A Long Walk for African American Women: 125 Year Journey for Voting Rights (1895 to 2020)
  - $1,000
- **The Peale Center for Baltimore History and Architecture**
  - Universal Design Today
  - $9,498

**Baltimore County**

- **Deer Creek Chorale**
  - Celebrating the Gunpowder River in Poetry and Song
  - $1,195
- **From the Heart Productions**
  - Open Secrets Documentary
  - $9,650

**Calvert County**

- **Anne Arundel's African American Heritage through Culinary Traditions**
  - $10,000

**Frederick County**

- **Catoctin Furnace Historical Society**
  - Stories of Slavery, Songs of Freedom: Exploring the Experience of Slavery in Maryland
  - $1,200

**Howard County**

- **Bloc By Block News: Maryland**
  - $10,000
- **PatapSCO Heritage Greenway**
  - PatapSCO Days 2020
  - $1,200

**Montgomery County**

- **Blair Network Communications**
  - SilverLens
  - $1,200
- **Docs in Progress**
  - Silver Spring Screening Room
  - $10,000

**Prince George's County**

- **Accokeek Foundation**
  - Strategic Land and River Conversations: Exploring Race and Culture through Stories from the Earth
  - $8,000
- **Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts**
  - Generations: Music and the Black Family Series
  - $10,000

**Prince George's Community College Foundation**

- **Black Culture Matters Series**
  - $1,000

**Somerset County**

- **United Covenant Union**
  - Crisfield Crab Pickers Oral History Project
  - $9,592

**Washington County**

- **Urban Rural Action**
  - Deepening Connection and Understanding Across Maryland's Urban/Rural Divide
  - $1,000

**Wicomico County**

- **Salisbury Middle School**
  - Salisbury Poetry Week
  - $999
- **Wicomico Public Libraries**
  - Jazz and the Civil Rights Movement
  - $2,500

**Out of State**

- **MedStar Institute for Quality & Safety, Center for Healthcare Narratives**
  - Please See Me: An Online Literary Journal for Healthcare Narratives
  - $7,750
- **University of Nebraska—Lincoln**
  - The Bell Affair: A Documentary Animated Film Reframing American Slavery and Freedom
  - $8,399
We were privileged to be entrusted by the US Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities with awarding more than a half-million dollars in COVID-relief funding to Maryland nonprofit organizations negatively impacted by the effects of the pandemic. We awarded 100 grants of $5,150 to the following organizations, each with an annual operating budget of $300,000 or less, reaching 22 counties and Baltimore City.

**Allegany County**
- Allegany Museum
- Evergreen Heritage Center Foundation
- Frostburg Museum Association

**Anne Arundel County**
- American Institute of Architects, Chesapeake Bay Chapter
- Banneker-Douglass Museum Foundation
- Chesapeake Children’s Museum
- Galesville Community Center
- Severn Crossroads Foundation/Baldwin Hall

**Baltimore City**
- Afro Charities
- Bach in Baltimore/Bach Concert Series
- Baltimore Architecture Foundation
- Beloved Community Services Corp
- B’nai Israel Congregation
- CHARM/Writers In Schools
- CityLit Project
- DewMore Baltimore
- DreamWorks CDC
- Friends of President Street Station
- Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle
- Lillie Carroll Jackson Civil Rights Museum/MSU Foundation
- Mid-Atlantic Regional Moving Image Archive
- MTM Foundation
- Muse 360 Arts
- New Lens
- Peale Center for Baltimore History and Architecture
- Poe Baltimore
- Raymond Banks ‘A Way With Words’ Foundation
- Society for the Preservation of Federal Hill and Fell’s Point
- Star-Spangled Banner Flag House Association

**Carroll County**
- Union Mills Homestead Foundation

**Cecil County**
- Port Deposit Heritage Corporation

**Charles County**
- Farm Heritage Conservancy
- Life Journeys Writers Club
- Maryland Veterans Museum at Patriot Park
- Neighborhood Creative Arts Center
- Society for the Restoration of Port Tobacco

**Dorchester County**
- Cambridge Community Radio
- Cambridge Main Street
- Richardson Maritime Museum

**Frederick County**
- African-American Resources Cultural Heritage Society/AARCH
- Brunswick Potomac Foundation
- Catotin Furnace Historical Society
- Frederick County Landmarks Foundation
- Global Z Recording Project

**Garrett County**
- Garrett County Historical Society
- Garrett Lakes Arts Festival

**Harford County**
- Friends of the Concord Point Lighthouse
- Havre de Grace Maritime Museum
- Historical Society of Harford County
- Hosanna Community House/Hasanna School Museum
- Steppingstone Museum Association
- Susquehanna Museum of Havre de Grace

**Howard County**
- Howard County Historical Society

**Kent County**
- Eastern Shore Heritage
- G.A.R. Post #25/Summer Hall

**Montgomery County**
- Ally Theatre Company
- Association of Vietnamese Americans
- Docs In Progress
- Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County
- Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation Ltd.

**Prince George’s County**
- Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts
- Educare Resource Center
- Global Health and Education Projects
- James Agee Film Project

**Queen Anne’s County**
- Queen Anne’s County Arts Council

**Somerset County**
- Crisfield and Smith Island Cultural Alliance
- Crisfield Heritage Foundation

**Tarbot County**
- Character Counts Mid Shore
- Chesapeake Film Festival
- Oxford Community Center
- Oxford Museum

**Washington County**
- Doleman Black Heritage Museum
- Hagerstown Aviation Museum
- Hagerstown Roundhouse Museum
- Sharpsburg Historical Society
- Washington County Historical Society

**Wicomico County**
- Tri Community Mediation

**Worcester County**
- Delmarva Discovery Center & Museum
- Friends of the Julia A. Purnell Museum
- Rackliffe House Trust
Thanks to our generous donors, we are able to keep hundreds of annual program activities free and accessible to all. This list reflects gifts and pledges received between November 1, 2019 and December 31, 2020. Individual contributors to the annual fund of $1,000 or more are members of our Leadership Circle. Please call (410) 685-4183 to notify us of any errors.
NEW HORIZONS FUND

The New Horizons Fund was launched in late 2019 to both honor the leadership of then-Executive Director Phoebe Stein and to establish an opportunity fund for her successor to pursue special initiatives and opportunities that arise outside of our normal planning process. This list represents all gifts to the fund since November 1, 2019.

Anonymous (2)
Anne & Sandy Appar
Dr. Karen L. Arnold &
Mr. Gary Arnold
Bill Barry & Joan Jacobson
Carl & Jane Belt
Randi Wallenstein Benshe &
Adam Benshe
Edward & Ellen Bernard
Kay Berney
Kim Berney & Jerry Dresner
Mindy L. Berry
Allison Black Woodson
Debbie Blum
Marc & Leonor Blum
H. E. Bowless
James T. & Francine G. Brady
Eric & Meredith Brotman
Robyn Busch
Deborah Winston Callard
Mary Callis
Elizabeth Cannon & John Guy
Scott E. Caipes
Adrienne Cassara
Grace Cavaleri
George Cicle & Richard Cleaver
Paola Cleggett
Peggy & Ron Cohen
Dr. Naomi F. Collins
Judy Cooper
Lynn Cripps
Kathy Curtin
Con & Lola Darcy
David Bruce Smith Foundation
Judy Dobbs & Bob Condlin
Elaine Eff
Juliet Eurich & Louis Thalheimer
Mimi & Allan Fallow
Mary Kay & Tom Finan
Ann Finkbeiner
Michael & Pamela Flinton
Kim & Jim Fortney
Tucker & Anne Fulwiler
Joyce Garzynski
Auni Gelles
Michal A. Gill
Michael & Kathleen Glaser
Lisa Godfrey
Amy Haines & Richard Marks
Nancy Hall
Thomas E. Hall & Linell Smith
Mary & Mark Hastler
Aaron Heisman
Maria M. Heysel
Heidi Holst
Jeanne L. Howe
Mark A. Irwin
Paula J. Johnson
Darryl & Mary Jurkiewicz
Edward & Pam Kasmeyer
Lisa & Duncan Keir
Jim & Devra Kitterman
Linda F. & Julian L. Lapides
Pat Lasher & Richard Jacobs/
The Joshua Fund
Joseph Latta & Judi Moore Latta
Maureen Lavan & Ronald Nowaczyk
Jonna & Fred Lazarus
Mariana & Pete Lesher
Joyce Leviton
Susan Leviton
Andrea D. Lewis
Lois and Irving Blum Foundation
Lawrence Lubetsky
Jacquelyn Lucy
Amy Mach & George Grose
Esther Mackintosh
Eddyth & Louis Manza
Martin & Julia Madden Family
Charitable Gift Fund
Mara Mayor
Scott & Christina McComb
Courtney McKeldin
Kathleen Mitchell & Dennis Bigley
Randy & Jennifer Ontiveros
Ed & Jo Orser
Stuart Parnes & Sue Ellen Thompson
Maarten & Ruth Pereboom
Wendy L. Peters
David & Charla Phillips
Jeanne Pirtle
Mary Louise & Frederick Preis
Nancy Proctor
Cynthia Raposo & Joe Furey
Gale Rasin
Nancy Ellen Rogers
Carmel M. Roques
Michael Ross
Michael Sarbanes
Stephen & Elizabeth Sefkas
Jennifer Shea & Peter Bruns
Rob Sheehan
Nancy Shull
Mary & Robert Shull
Margie Simon
Frederick C. Sisk & Allison Weiss
The Skillman Family
Elmor C. Sklar
Skyelean
Graylin & Blondell Smith
Guiffie & Catherine Smith*
Judith & Turner Smith
Rosie & Jim Smith
Clarke Speicher
Nessa Spitzer
John & Sharon Stanton
Dick & Christina Staufenberger
Kate Stein
Phoebe Stein*
Sarah Stein
Anne D. Stephenson

* Leadership Circle   ^ in-kind gift   ~ deceased

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The Judy Dobbs Fund for History was launched in early 2019 to both honor the more than three decades of service to Maryland Humanities by Program Officer Judy Dobbs upon the occasion of her retirement and to establish a fund to support projects and programs with a focus on history. This list represents all gifts to the fund since January 1, 2019.
PARTNERS

Maryland Humanities is able to serve every corner of the state thanks to our amazing local partners. The following is just a partial list of the hundreds of cultural, education, government, history, and social service organizations that help us support the humanities in your communities.

Allegany County
Allegany County Public Schools
Evergreen Heritage Center: Living Off the Land Agricultural Museum

Anne Arundel County
Anne Arundel County Public Library
Anne Arundel County Public Schools
St. Mary’s Elementary School

Baltimore County
Al Rahmah School
Baltimore County Public Library
Baltimore County Public Schools
Church of the Annunciation
Community College of Baltimore County
Immaculate Conception School
Immaculate Heart of Mary
Loyola Blakefield
Northwest Academy of Health Sciences Park School
Saint Clement Catholic Church
St. Mark School
Saint Michael the Archangel Catholic Church
Stevenson University
Towson University
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Baltimore City
Baltimore City Public Schools
Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts
Bryn Mawr School
Enoch Pratt Free Library
Gilman School
Hippodrome Theatre
Institute of Notre Dame
Johns Hopkins University and Hospital
Maryland State Library for the Blind and Print Disabled
Mercy High School
Motor House
Mount Saint Joseph’s High School
Red Emma’s Bookstore Coffeehouse
School of the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen
Stavros Niarchos Foundation Parkway Theatre
Stone Soup Productions
Strong City Baltimore
WYPR

Calvert County
Calvert Library
Calvert County Public Schools
Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum

Caroline County
Caroline County Public Library
Caroline County Public Schools

Carroll County
Carroll County Public Library
Carroll County Public Schools
St. John Roman Catholic Church

Cecil County
Cecil College Elkton Station
Cecil County Public Library
The Tome School

Charles County
Cambridge Main Street
Charles County Public Library
Charles County Public Schools
Church Book Club
Neighborhood Creative Arts Center

Dorchester County
Dorchester County
Dorchester County Public Schools

Frederick County
Frederick County Public Libraries
Frederick County Public Schools
Frederick Homeschoolers
Hood College
Maryland Iron Festival
Maryland School for the Deaf
Saint John’s Catholic Prep

Garrett County
Garrett County Public Schools
The Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County

Harford County
Caprichos Books
Harford County Public Library
Harford County Public Schools

Howard County
Homewood Center
Howard County Library System
Howard County Public Schools
Resurrection - St. Paul School
St. Augustine School

Kent County
Kent County Public Library
Kent County Public Schools

Montgomery County
Barrie School
Bullis School
Classic Residences
Montgomery County Public Libraries
Montgomery County Public Schools
St. John’s Episcopal School
The Journey School

Prince George’s County
Accokeek Foundation
Montpelier Arts Center
National Archives
Prince George’s County Memorial Library System
Prince George’s County Public Schools
St. Vincent Pallotti High School

Queen Anne’s County
Queen Anne’s County Public Schools
Queen Anne’s Library System

Somerset County
Crisfield Heritage Foundation
Somerset County Library
Somerset County Public Schools

St. Mary’s County
Father Andrew White, S.J. School
Historic Sotterley
St. Mary’s County Public Library
St. Mary’s County Public Schools

Talbot County
Talbot County Free Library
Talbot County Public Schools

Washington County
Washington County Free Library
Washington County Museum of Fine Arts
Washington County Public Schools

Wicomico County
Salisbury Art Space
Salisbury University
United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore
Wicomico County Public Schools
Wicomico Public Libraries

Worcester County
Worcester County Library
Worcester County Public Schools

Statewide
Maryland Council for Social Studies
Maryland Department of Planning
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Public Television
Maryland State Arts Council
Maryland State Department of Education
Maryland State Library
Preservation Maryland

National
Akiuk Memorial School
Center for Schools & Communities
Federation of State Humanities Councils
Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Program
Middle States Council for the Social Studies
National Book Festival
National Council for History Education
National Council for the Social Studies
National Endowment for the Humanities
National History Day
National Humanities Alliance
Smithsonian Institution
Traveling Exhibition Service
TPS Northern Virginia
WHO WE ARE

STAFF

Lindsey Baker
Executive Director

Isabella Altherr
Program Assistant, Maryland History Day & Maryland Voices

Lia Atanat
Maryland History Day Outreach & Professional Development Coordinator

Stephanie Boyle
Program Officer, Maryland History Day & Maryland Voices

Dennett Edwards
Director of Administration

Eden Etzel
Program Assistant, Maryland Center for the Book

Marilyn Hatza
Director of Grants & Community Engagement

Aaron Heinsman
Director of Advancement

Kelly King
Grants Specialist

Andrea Lewis
Director of Programs

Emmie Michalkiewicz
Maryland History Day Outreach & Professional Development Assistant

Maya Moretta
Program Assistant, Grants & Community Engagement

Sarah Weissman
Communications Specialist

Theresa Worden
Program Officer, Traveling Exhibitions & Program Evaluation

Mary Hastler*
Chair
Harford County

Keith Stone
Vice Chair
Baltimore City

Jim Cornelsen
Treasurer/Finance Committee Chair
Washington, DC

Mark Irwin
Secretary
Montgomery County

Julie Madden*
Government Liaison
Howard County

Cynthia Raposo
Immediate Past Chair
Montgomery County

Mary Callis*
Garrett County

Chanel Compton
Baltimore City

Dr. Mary Kay Finan
Allegany County

The Honorable Pete Lesher*
Program & Communications Committee Chair
Talbot County

Tiffany McGhee
Baltimore County

Alicia Jones McLeod
Racial Equity Work Group Chair
Baltimore County

Heather Mitchell
Howard County

Dr. Ron Nowaczyk
Allegany County

Dr. Randy Ontiveros
Prince George’s County

Soo Park
Baltimore County

Dr. Maarten Pereboom
Grants Committee Chair
Wicomico County

Jeanne Pirtle
St. Mary’s County

Tom Riford
Mercersburg, PA

Dr. Nancy Rogers
Montgomery County

Carmel Roques
Howard County

Jennifer Shea
Development & Governance Committee Chair
Montgomery County

Saima Sitwat
Baltimore City

Guffrie Smith
Calvert County

Sharon Whitney
Anne Arundel County

Jayson Williams
Baltimore City

Allyson Black Woodson
Anne Arundel County

*Gubernatorial Appointee

FINANCIALS

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION: FY20

Assets
Cash & Investments $ 726,719
Receivables $ 633,037
Prepaid Expenses $ 18,678
Property & Equipment $ 50,853
Total $ 1,429,287

Liabilities and Fund Balances
Liabilities
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses $ 55,224
Regrants Payable $ 999
Capital Lease $ 21,195
Loan Payable $ 188,871
Subtotal $ 266,289

Fund Balances
Net Assets: Unrestricted $ 1,128,929
Net Assets: With Restrictions $ 34,069
Subtotal $ 1,162,998
Total $ 1,429,287

REVENUES
Total $2,272,404
Contributed: Other Federal $194,355 / 9%
Contributed: State of Maryland $162,716 / 7%
Contributed: Private & Special Events $351,930 / 15%
In-Kind Services $30,540 / 1%
Other Income & Interest $14,057 / 1%
Contributed: NEH $1,518,806 / 67%

EXPENSES
Total $2,294,724
Management $284,612 / 12.5%
Fundraising $192,761 / 8.5%

Contributed: NEH $1,518,806 / 67%

Change in Net Assets ($22,320)

Grants to Organizations $873,388 / 38%
Program Services $943,963 / 41%

WHO WE ARE

SAFETY

Lindsey Baker
Executive Director

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Saima Sitwat
Baltimore City

Guffrie Smith
Calvert County

Sharon Whitney
Anne Arundel County

Jayson Williams
Baltimore City

Allyson Black Woodson
Anne Arundel County

*Gubernatorial Appointee

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Contributed: NEH $1,518,806 / 67%

Change in Net Assets ($22,320)

Grants to Organizations $873,388 / 38%
Program Services $943,963 / 41%
Now that you’ve had a look back at some of the highlights of 2020, please enjoy this overview of some exciting new developments for the next 12 months.

**SHARP Grants**
Building upon our experience with the CARES Act Emergency Relief Fund, we are honored to distribute $910,000 through our Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan (SHARP) Recovery Grants Fund. Our goal is to sustain Maryland’s public humanities infrastructure. The grants ensure that small organizations negatively impacted by COVID-19 can continue to provide opportunities for Maryland’s communities to access and engage with public history, cultural heritage, and civic learning during this ongoing crisis. Grants will support general operating expenses. We have purposely focused our efforts on creating the most simple process with the widest reach for organizations around the state.

**Grants Program Shifts from Project to General Operating Support**
We will soon transition our grant program to awards exclusively for General Operating Support—unrestricted funding that allows a non-profit organization to focus on its mission instead of specific projects. We are following best practices and trends in grantmaking as they evolve. A growing number of funders are listening and trusting that organizations are best positioned to determine their needs to support sustainable programming, and we now join them in doing so. We have heard repeatedly that general operating support allows grantees to concentrate on doing great work, not just creating programming that matches a funder’s criteria. This shift broadens our interest in the health and success of the whole organization and their mission instead of a narrower focus on a one-time program.

**Growth of the Regional Humanities Networks**
Our Regional Humanities Networks (RHN) are focused on how organizations in different sectors—including but not limited to community organizations, universities, colleges, libraries, museums, and historical societies—can pool their resources in order to assess, enhance, and communicate their public impact in ways that ultimately foster greater regional support for the humanities. The result of these convenings is that local humanities organizations will collaborate, share resources, and demonstrate to local stakeholders and policymakers the value of humanities work in their communities. We look forward to expanding our RHN this year, both in number and in capacity.

**Towards a More Perfect Union**
With special funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, we will create opportunities for Marylanders to reflect on our shared history, the way in which our democracy works, and their roles in our great civic experiment. This project will build upon the framework of several of our existing programs to highlight themes of civic engagement, racial equity, citizenry, belonging, and other relevant themes to be identified by our partners. Keep an eye out for our growing statewide digital young voter story collection initiative, opportunities for deeper statewide professional development among nonprofit professionals and educators, and support to schools seeking to build back stronger in 2022 and beyond.

**Racial Equity**
Building upon the work we have done so far, we will continue identifying, learning, and practicing racial equity, both internally and externally. We will continue examining our organization’s practices, policies, and programming, with the intention of coordinating institutional resources to prioritize racial equity for our staff, board, community partners, and the greater Maryland community. This will include both a continuation of our Beyond the Statements speaker series on operationalizing equity principles in humanities organizations and creating new standards of collaboration for internal and external stakeholders.