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.

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!

Phoebe Stein
Executive Director

Lenneal J. Henderson, Jr.
Chair, Board of Directors

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).

129,578 Participants
859,054 Audience
18,982 Video Views
3,110 Twitter Followers
4,334 Facebook Fans
4,227 Volunteer Hours
1,502 Scholars
32,585 Youth Participants
940 Events
544 Partners
635 Volunteers
166 Towns
609 Donors
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.

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

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

**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.

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.
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Events/Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant-Supported Events</td>
<td>286 events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities Connection</td>
<td>48 broadcasts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literary Mount Vernon Walking Tour</td>
<td>10 tours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature &amp; Medicine</td>
<td>10 discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making Sense of the American Civil War</td>
<td>36 discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum on Main Street</td>
<td>6 workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practicing Democracy: Defying Definitions</td>
<td>9 discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Festivals</td>
<td>4 festivals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Above: One Maryland One Book, Baltimore; Below: One Maryland One Book, Westminster
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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Gary & Syrioux Visscher
Joanna Wade
Caroline McKeldin Wayner
Samantha & red Ganim
Andrea Vespoint

Above: One Maryland One Book, Baltimore
Carolee Schupfer
Domenic Sciamanna
Sheila & James Scott
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Joanna Shapiro
Robert A. Shafer
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* Deceased
# 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
$10,000

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

Contributed:
National Endowment for the Humanities
$781,660 43%

Cost Sharing
$656,577 36%

Other Income & Interest
$23,653 3%

Change in Net Assets $54,789

EXPENSES
Total $1,777,451

Program Services
$936,180 53%

Fundraising
$140,698 8%

Management
$153,835 8%

Grants to Organizations
$546,738 31%

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
WHO WE ARE

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- **Phoebe Stein**
  Executive Director

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  Program Assistant

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