NEH Grants, Children’s Museums, and the Common Good

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What is NEH?

An independent federal agency, established in 1965

Mission:

“Because democracy demands wisdom, NEH serves and strengthens our republic by promoting excellence in the humanities and conveying the lessons of history to all Americans.”
What are the humanities?

“The term ‘humanities’ includes, but is not limited to, the study and interpretation of the following: language, both modern and classical; linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archaeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, criticism and theory of the arts; [and] those aspects of social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods...”

National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act, 1965
What are the humanities?

history  culture  ideas

values
Initiative designed to demonstrate the critical role the humanities can play in our public life. Projects might ask...

How can the humanities illuminate the **legacies of recent wars** and conflicts and contribute to the achievement of a deeper and broader public understanding of the experience and lessons of war?

How can the humanities contribute to the understanding of the relationships between **humans and the natural world**?

How can the humanities assist the country in addressing the challenges and opportunities created by the **changing demographics** in many American communities?
Division of Public Programs grants available to children’s museums

Public Humanities Projects

Supports museum exhibitions, historic site interpretation, and public discussion programming

Planning: up to $40,000 (up to $75,000 for particularly ambitious projects)

Implementation: $50,000 to $400,000

Next deadlines: August 10th, 2016 and January 2017
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Digital Projects for the Public

Supports websites, digital games, mobile apps, and other digital formats, either stand-alone or as part of larger project

*Discovery*: up to $30,000

*Prototyping*: up to $100,000

*Production*: up to $400,000

Next deadline: **June 8, 2016**
Awards to children’s museums

Boston Children’s Museum – Native Voices: New England Tribal Families

Brooklyn Children’s Museum – World Brooklyn

The Power of Children: Making a Difference
Public Programs review criteria

Projects should **engage broad public audiences**, including audiences of children, their families, caregivers, and educators.

Projects must be grounded in **sound humanities scholarship**.

Projects must involve collaboration between the project team and **advisers drawn from the humanities**.
Where to go to learn more

www.neh.gov

...for information on NEH-funded projects; press releases; agency initiatives; and contact information for every division and office

www.neh.gov/grants

...for grant guidelines, sample applications, FAQs, and more!

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