MISSION
At the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, we harness the power of the humanities to strengthen our pluralistic society.

VISION
Our vision is a New Jersey that delights in diversity, appreciates that there are no easy answers, and finds joy and understanding in the humanities.

How do we do this? By enabling public programs and humanities experiences that deepen our understanding of ourselves and our world. NJCH is a grantmaker, program provider, partner, convener, and innovator. We work with statewide and community organizations to bring dynamic programming to the local level.
As the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum on Main Street “Water/Ways” exhibition traveled around the state, thousands of New Jerseyans were able to visit the exhibit in 6 different locations. In addition, NJCH convened “What is your water story?” an interactive community discussion program, in all 21 counties.

Accessible Programs

Over $350,000 was awarded to nearly 40 organizations, helping organizations address important topics and big questions in their communities. By investing in public humanities projects, organizations create opportunities for community members to become more informed, empowered, and empathetic.

Strong Infrastructure

The NJCH Board of Directors welcomed 5 gubernatorial appointments, strengthening the governing body of the Council. Appointed by Governor Phil Murphy, the following members joined the board: Jacqueline Colgan, Joyce Hendricks, Ruth Mandel Ph.D., Lacey Rzeszowski, and Mei-Mei Tuan.

Resources & Support

NJCH is more than a source of funding for public humanities programming. In addition to administering the Incubation & Action Grant program, the Council shares information about important resources and opportunities. Hundreds of nonprofit professionals and community members participated in professional development opportunities, like our NJCH workshop series.

Getting Ready for 2020

Through the Public Scholars Project and other special initiatives, NJCH began preparations to honor the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage. Alongside partners like the New Jersey Historical Commission and the Alice Paul institute, the Council is proud to participate in the yearlong “NJ Women Vote: The 19th Amendment at 100” initiative.