

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 1, 2021**

NJCH awards nearly \$402,000 in first round of COVID-19 Response grants throughout the state

(Camden, NJ) - The New Jersey Council for the Humanities (NJCH) recently awarded \$401,977 in COVID-19 Response Grant funding to thirty-six organizations. The COVID-19 Response Grant program provides funding opportunities for New Jersey nonprofit organizations that produce humanities programming for public audiences. Grants are available in two types of awards: General Operating Support (GOS), ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 and Program support (PS), ranging from \$2,000 to \$20,000.

To access the complete list of the thirty-six organizations that were awarded in the first round of COVID-19 Response grantmaking, visit <https://njhumanities.org/grants/covid-19/covid-19-impact/>.

As part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP), approved by the U.S. Congress and signed into law by President Joseph R. Biden, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) received \$135 million in supplemental funding to respond to and recover from the coronavirus pandemic. Forty percent of those funds were allotted to the national network of nonprofit state humanities councils, including the New Jersey Council for the Humanities.

Public humanities programming allows individuals to engage in lifelong learning and share in the exploration of history, values, cultures, and beliefs. NJCH supports and acts as a resource for cultural and service-oriented nonprofit partners as they bring the public humanities to the residents of New Jersey.

“We are all still trying to manage the ongoing health crisis and at the same time figure out how to recover from COVID and move forward” said Executive Director Carin Berkowitz. “The New Jersey nonprofits that serve their communities through work in the public humanities continue to be adversely affected. We are so pleased to offer this vital funding to the historical and cultural infrastructure of our state.”

The New Jersey Council for the Humanities received \$1,191,310 from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The COVID-19 Response Grant program was initially created in the

spring of 2020, after the Council received \$649,620 in emergency seed funding from the CARES Act, which was also allocated via the NEH.

Information about the New Jersey Council for the Humanities programming can be found at njhumanities.org.

About the New Jersey Council for the Humanities

The New Jersey Council for the Humanities is a nonprofit state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities. NJCH harnesses the power of the humanities to strengthen our pluralistic society. We envision a New Jersey that delights in diversity, appreciates that there are no easy answers, and finds joy and understanding in the humanities. We work statewide with cultural and community organizations to bring dynamic programming to the local level.

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