

Awarded Grants FY 2024

Grants Awarded November 1, 2023 – October 31, 2024*

Updated on March 28, 2024



North Carolina
humanities

SMALL PROJECT GRANTS

Small Project Grants provide up to \$5,000 to cultural organizations to support the implementation of public humanities projects.

Appalachian State University (Boone)

Conversations about Ancient Art & Visual Culture and Contemporary Contexts

Grant Award: \$5,000

Grant funding will support a discussion series for public and campus audiences about the damages caused by long-term political conflict and colonialism through the lens of visual arts. One key example is the lamassu – ancient Assyrian guardian figures that protected cities in ancient Mesopotamia, such as the city of Nineveh in Iraq, destroyed by ISIS in 2015, and recreated in 2018 as contemporary art by Michael Rakowitz. Rakowitz and other art historians will lead discussions and roundtable events about ancient art and architecture in contemporary contexts. Conversations will empower rural North Carolinians to see themselves as part of larger international issues and debates.

Jane Austen Summer Program (Chapel Hill)

Jane Austen and the Brontës

Grant Award: \$5,000

Building on previous NC Humanities grant support, this series will explore Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*, Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*, and Austen's *Northanger Abbey* and *Emma*. Participants will walk away with a better understanding of the lives of these authors, how these works were influenced by the culture in which they were written, how these writers are relevant to contemporary discussions on gender and the vocation of writing and publishing, and more. The project will also create digital resources for future use in classrooms, book clubs, and other spaces of literary discussion, and additional public library workshops and a statewide letter-writing contest for middle and high school students will be held.

The Stagville Memorial Project (Durham)

"Making A Way Out of No Way" Exhibit

Grant Award: \$5,000

Grant funding will support the construction of narratives from previously collected data, which will be displayed in this digital exhibit in visually compelling and engaging ways. Narratives will be constructed by graduate students from UNC Chapel Hill's MSIS/MLIS programs and students from NC Central University's graduate history program. Prior to Durham's incorporation in 1869, the surrounding area was home to Stagville Plantation; a 30,000-acre slave labor camp which enslaved over 3,000 people from the mid 1700's up until 1865. After emancipation, approximately 900 newly freed people went on to establish many of the historically Black neighborhoods that are still in existence today. This exhibit will explore the contributions to the community and culture of Durham made by descendants of those formerly enslaved on Stagville Plantation.

Winston-Salem Symphony Association (Winston-Salem)

200 Years of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony

Grant Award: \$4,290

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This project series aims to demystify classical music and make it more accessible and relevant to people from all walks of life. A film screening will demonstrate the worldwide and ongoing impact of the music; a panel will address how the piece relates to politics, disability, and local history; and a series of online videos will share historical insights with the masses. The finale of the 9th Symphony, with its famous "Ode to Joy," is a musical landmark. With its symbolism of universal brotherhood and peace, it will serve as a catalyst for discussions on social inclusion and cultural diversity.

MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET: VOICES & VOTES: DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA TOUR 2024-2025

Six venues are selected to host NC Humanities' tour of *Voices & Votes: Democracy in America*, a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition made possible in North Carolina by NC Humanities. The exhibition explores democracy, citizenship, and voting. Optional grant funding (up to \$5,000) allows each venue to develop complementary exhibits about local histories and cultures, offer public programs, and facilitate educational initiatives. Venues receive their grant funding towards the start of their tour dates.

Iredell County Public Library (Statesville)

April – May 2024 tour dates

Grant Award: \$4,991

**Note: Some grant projects may be altered, cancelled, or return funding. For questions, please call our office at (704) 687-1520.*

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