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Minnesota Humanities Center

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AT A GLANCE

In the most recent year, from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016:

- 50 organizations chose to partner with MHC.
- 8,352 people participated in 81 events.
- 895 unique individuals engaged in 50 programmatic offerings.
- Reached 47 counties through programming and partnerships.
- 356 meetings and events were held at the Event Center, serving 8,575 clients.
- 900+ resources were available in an online Absent Narratives Resource Collection, presented to 655 educators at 16 schools and conference events.

PURPOSE

The mission of the Minnesota Humanities Center (MHC) is to build a thoughtful, literate, and engaged society.

MHC brings the humanities into the lives of all Minnesotans through building relationships, active engagement, and programs of the highest quality.

MHC strengthens and expands transformational work in advancing excellence and access for educators and learners through the humanities.

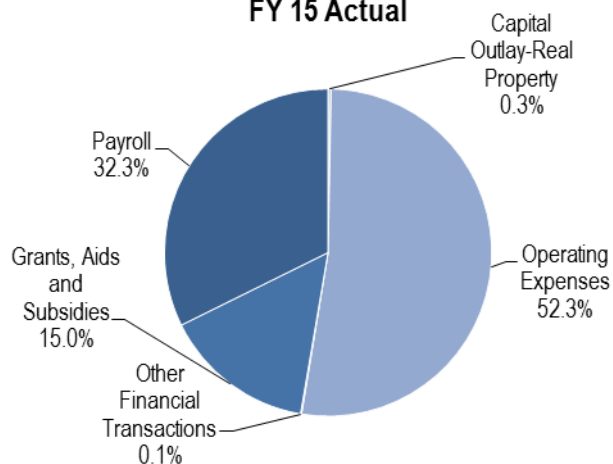
MHC partners with individuals, groups, and organizations to engage multiple perspectives to build a more inclusive Minnesota.

MHC's full-service Event Center is a place where diverse points of view are respected and an environment for active participation.

MHC supports the following statewide outcome: **Minnesotans have the education and skills needed to achieve their goals**

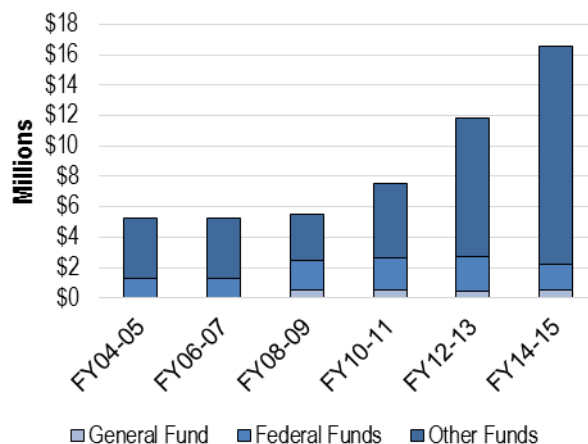
BUDGET

**Spending by Program
FY 15 Actual**



Source: Humanities Center records

Historic Spending



Federal Funds are appropriations from the National Endowment for the Humanities, etc. Federal funds for the Humanities Center do not flow through the state's budget or treasury and are typically not included in statewide reporting.

Other Funds include: Legacy, State agencies, Individual, Corporate & Foundation donations. Legacy and state agency funds flow through the state's budget and treasury; other funds in this category do not and thus are typically not included in statewide reporting.

Source: Consolidated Fund Statement and Humanities Center records

STRATEGIES

MHC's humanities-based K-16 Education Strategy builds partnerships with schools and districts across the state to provide rigorous professional development opportunities for K-16 educators that further the schools' and districts' priorities. Through immersion-based learning, a robust resource collection, and in-person and online workshops, educators in Minnesota are building their skills, networks, and increasing student engagement in the classroom. Offerings include: Bdote field trips, Increase Engagement Through Absent Narratives workshops, and a weeklong Summer Institute.

Veterans' Voices is an initiative that cultivates a network of Veterans who draw on the power of the humanities to call attention to their stories and contributions. This initiative amplifies, honors, and recognizes Minnesota Veterans in their own voice and fosters connection through storytelling, plays, educator and literature discussion groups, and the Veterans' Voices Award.

Water/Ways is a traveling exhibition and community engagement initiative of the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street project, led by the Humanities Center, state and federal partners, and six greater Minnesota communities in Spicer, St. Peter, Red Wing, Sandstone, Lanesboro, and Detroit Lakes. Through this initiative, the public explores the meaning of water as part of their identity, history, and culture.

The Public Humanities series allows MHC to continue to develop its tradition of hosting public events to foster dialogue with Minnesotans around a range of issues and perspectives. This initiative allows MHC to be responsive to emerging needs in community through dialogue, literature, and the arts.

Other programming includes:

- Managing state grants for 18 cultural organizations; statewide connections with other cultural organizations making an impact.
- *Why Treaties Matter: Self-Government in Dakota and Ojibwe Nations* exhibit, in partnership with Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, MnSCU, Itasca Community College, Blandin Foundation, Northland Foundation, and more than 16 education and non-profit partners, completed its two year state-wide tour in the Grand Rapids and Metro areas.

RESULTS

MHC has no regulatory authority; no one is required or obligated to use any of our services or programs. One key measure of success is demand: Do people and communities use MHC's programs and services and is there continuing and increased demand? Do partners and participants experience a new level of engagement in their communities, classrooms, and organizations as a result of working with MHC?

MHC evaluates and learns from how its programs and projects are working through the implementation of Utilization-Focused Developmental Evaluation plans. Internal and/or external evaluations are completed, with close attention focused on outcomes, criteria for success, and highlighting information and findings that key stakeholders can use to make improvements.

The success of MHC's work can be attributed to many factors. Program staff work in close partnership with community members, partner organizations, and community leaders to ensure authentic programming that meets real needs. MHC monitors and responds to feedback in real time, ensuring the most relevant and meaningful experience possible for participants. MHC staff also seeks out resources to support important initiatives as needs emerge.

Type of Measure	Name of Measure	Previous	Current	Dates
Quantity	Professional Development Offerings (# of events/# of participants)	21/584	24/666	FY15, FY16
Quantity	Community/Public Offerings (# of events/# of participants)	20/1,159	26/1,270	FY15, FY16

<i>Type of Measure</i>	<i>Name of Measure</i>	<i>Previous</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Quantity	Traveling Exhibits (# of exhibits/# of host sites/# of visitors)	2/37/27,223	3/31/6,416**	FY15, FY16
Quantity	Event Center Usage (# of events/# of participants)	356/9,246	356/8,575	FY15, FY16
Quantity	Grant Awarded to Other Agencies (# of grants/# of dollars awarded)	6/\$1,145,500	18/\$1,901,480	FY15, FY16

**9 host sites have not reported visitor attendance records to MHC.

M.S. 138.911 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=138.911>) charges MHC with providing leadership, programs, and resources that advance the study of the humanities in schools, colleges, and cultural organizations throughout the state.

Expenditures By Fund

	Actual FY14	Actual FY15	Actual FY16	Estimate FY17	Forecasted Base		Governor's Recommendation	
					FY18	FY19	FY18	FY19
1000 - General	291	251	675	770	675	675	700	700
2301 - Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund	1,521	1,954	2,465	2,013	62	0	62	0
Total	1,812	2,205	3,140	2,783	737	675	762	700
Biennial Change				1,906		(4,511)		(4,461)
Biennial % Change				47		(76)		(75)
Governor's Change from Base								50
Governor's % Change from Base								4

Expenditures by Program

Program: Humanities Center	1,812	2,205	3,140	2,783	737	675	762	700
Total	1,812	2,205	3,140	2,783	737	675	762	700

Expenditures by Category

Compensation							25	25
Grants, Aids and Subsidies	1,812	2,205	3,140	2,783	737	675	737	675
Total	1,812	2,205	3,140	2,783	737	675	762	700

1000 - General

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Forecast Base		Governor's Recommendation	
	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY18	FY19
Direct Appropriation	291	251	675	770	675	675	700	700
Expenditures	291	251	675	770	675	675	700	700
<i>Biennial Change in Expenditures</i>				903		(95)		(45)
<i>Biennial % Change in Expenditures</i>				167		(7)		(3)
<i>Gov's Exp Change from Base</i>								50
<i>Gov's Exp % Change from Base</i>								4

2301 - Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Forecast Base		Governor's Recommendation	
	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY18	FY19
Balance Forward In	0	204	0	0	62	0	62	0
Direct Appropriation	1,725	1,750	2,465	2,075	0	0	0	0
Net Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Expenditures	1,521	1,954	2,465	2,013	62	0	62	0
Balance Forward Out	204	0	0	62	0	0	0	0
<i>Biennial Change in Expenditures</i>				1,003		(4,416)		(4,416)
<i>Biennial % Change in Expenditures</i>				29		(99)		(99)
<i>Gov's Exp Change from Base</i>								0
<i>Gov's Exp % Change from Base</i>								0

Minnesota Humanities Center

FY18-19 Biennial Budget Change Item

Change Item Title: Grant Administration Accounting and General Office Support

Fiscal Impact (\$000s)	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
General Fund				
Expenditures	25	25	25	25
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Funds				
Expenditures	0	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Net Fiscal Impact = (Expenditures – Revenues)	25	25	25	25
FTEs	0	0	0	0

Recommendation:

The Governor recommends increasing general funds by \$25,000 a year to cover staffing expenses for new state programs administered by the Minnesota Humanities Center (MHC).

Rationale/Background:

With increased financial support, MHC will be able to improve the services it provides to the Healthy Eating Program and Legacy grantees and better support the needs of its own programs. MHC has increased the number of events and participants served, and increased the number of Legacy grants it administers. Over the last year, MHC programs have served more than 11,000 people as it works to build a thoughtful, literate and engaged society by working in partnership with schools, colleges, cultural organizations and state agencies.

Current programs include:

- Minnesota Education Strategy, which served more than 1,200 Minnesota educators through a variety of programs and online access to the Absent Narratives Resource Collection
- Veterans' Voices programs that draw on the power of the humanities to call attention to the stories and contributions of Veterans. In FY16 this initiative reached more than 400 Minnesotans through six public events, including plays, a dance performance, and facilitated conversations that amplified, honored and recognized the stories and contributions of Minnesota Veterans. In addition, twenty-five Veterans across the state were honored at the 2016 Veterans' Voices Award Ceremony for their work going above and beyond to make exceptional, positive contributions that improve the lives of Minnesotans.
- Traveling Exhibits –
 - *Why Treaties Matter: Self-Government in the Dakota and Ojibwe Nations* reached more than 8,400 Minnesotans who learned how treaties with the U.S. government affected the lands and lifeways of the Indigenous peoples of the place now called Minnesota and why these binding agreements between nations still matter today.
 - MHC launched **Water/Ways**, a traveling exhibition and community engagement initiative of the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street program. The exhibit will tour six communities in greater Minnesota.

Proposal:

The Governor proposes increasing MHC's general fund appropriation by \$25,000 per year for MHC programs to continuously evolve to support the needs of Minnesota communities so they remain vital and continue to include the multiple voices and peoples now in our state.

State support is the foundation of funding for MHC and it leverages other sources of funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and numerous private sources. The funds also support the operation of MHC's event center – one of only two state humanities councils in the nation with such a facility. This enables MHC to generate business income and serve as a safe

convening space for the civic discussion of difficult topics, such as war, the future of education, the sovereign nation status of the Ojibwe and Dakota peoples, the significance of Military culture, Water Ways and more.

Staff impact: Increased state operating funds enables MHC to add a part-time position to assist with general operating support and administrative functions so it can offer a high quality service level as it continues to expand programming throughout Minnesota. The salary and benefit cost to add a ½ time FTE will be \$25,000.

Equity and Inclusion:

MHC was established by the state in 1971 and affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. MHC focuses on bringing the unique resources of the humanities to the challenges and opportunities of our times. The mission of the Humanities Center is to build a thoughtful, literate, and engaged society without limitation or exclusion. MHC values in-depth engagement and involvement of communities, partners and supporters. Our goals are to: Offer meaningful resources to bring the humanities into the lives of all Minnesotans, building relationships, active engagement, and connections; Strengthen our transformational work in advancing educational excellence and access for students and learners through the humanities; Expand our collaborative and partnership work with individuals, groups, and organizations to engage multiple perspectives in order to build a more inclusive Minnesota. It meets real needs by creating original literature and content in partnership with many diverse cultures and communities throughout Minnesota and co-creates programs with multiple peoples and cultures.

Results:

MHC has no regulatory authority; no one is required or obligated to use any of its programs or services. One key measure of success is demand: do people and communities use MHC's programs and services and is there continuing and increased demand? Do partners and participants experience a new level of engagement in their communities, classrooms, and organizations as a result of working with MHC? The answer is yes – trends indicate increased usage and in-depth involvement.

MHC values in-depth engagement over time more than spectacular numbers but weak involvement. MHC's education strategy involves extensive in-depth involvement over time, leading to new content, books, online resources, and professional development approaches.

MHC's Veterans' Voices is a primary indicator of its significance. External funding continues to grow through committed partner organizations and collaborating on programing and raising public awareness and engagement for the program.

MHC's Water/Ways exhibition is another outreach in greater MN than has generated partnerships and external funding by committed partner organizations that have collaborated on programming, public awareness and engagement.

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