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Minnesota Humanities Center

Agency Profile 1

Minnesota Humanities Center — Agency Profile

https://www.mnhum.org/

AT A GLANCE

In communities across Minnesota and beyond its borders, through collaborations with educators, creators, authors, nonprofit, business, and governmental organizations, elders, and so many others, we invited people to grow their capacity for change. Here's just a snapshot of the change-sparking moments we facilitated during FY 2024 & 2025:

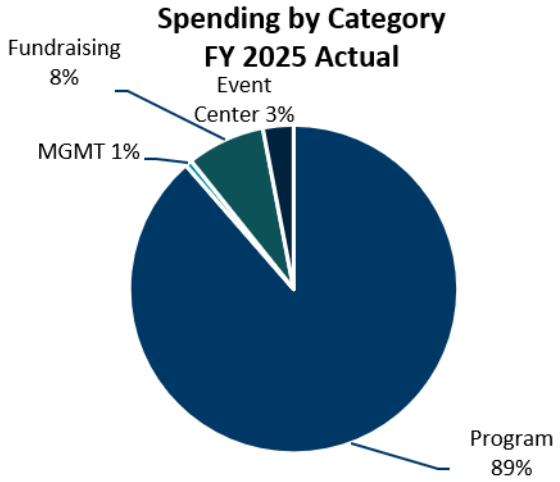
- Over 18,000 people participated in over 100 events.
- Statewide outreach.
- Resource database for educators, scholars, and the public around Minnesota Humanities Center (MHC) statewide programming.
- Over 500 activities at our Event Center with close to 20,000 people participating.

PURPOSE

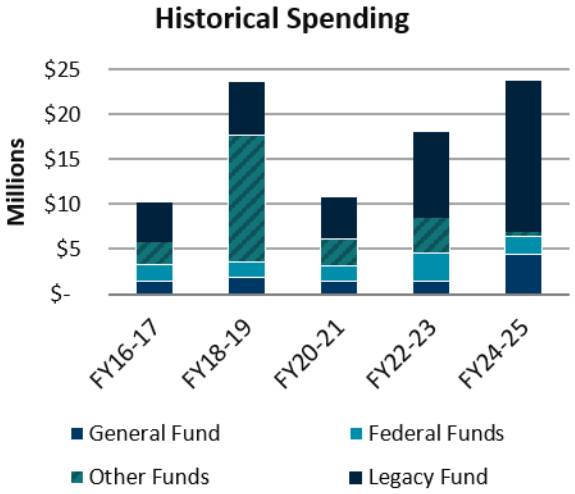
To spark positive change by increasing collective understanding of ourselves, our communities, and our histories through stories and experiences.

We envision a just society that is curious, connected, and compassionate.

BUDGET



Source: Humanities Center records.



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*Note: **Federal Funds** are funds 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 grants from state agencies and individual, corporate, and foundation donations. These funds are typically not included in statewide reporting for the Humanities Center.*

STRATEGIES

Prioritize Organizational Strength

- MHC will be a strong, diverse, and inclusive organization that excels in operations, governance, and financial management.

Champion Innovative and Responsive Programming

- MHC will curate and enter into collaborations to create innovative and responsive humanities programming that increases mutual understanding in society with particular emphasis on stories of traditionally marginalized and underrepresented communities.

Ensure Broad Humanities Support

- MHC will support the Minnesota Legislature, National Endowment for the Humanities, and private donors to support the development of legislation, appropriation of funding, and issuance of gifts that support individuals, creatives, scholars, and organizations in creating humanities programming in Minnesota.

RESULTS

Part A: Performance Data

Throughout Minnesota in 2024 & 2025, MHC partnered with communities and individuals to create spaces for learning, dialogue, and reflection- spaces where people could be heard and engage with one another. We worked to build connections between people to see their common humanity because that is essential to a vibrant democracy. We held events, convened neighbors, and provided grant funding throughout the state for a stronger Minnesota, for a curious, connected, and compassionate Minnesota.

MHC evaluates and learns from how these programs and projects work. Internal and 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. These include partnerships with community members, organizations, and community leaders to ensure authentic programming that meets needs. MHC monitors and responds to feedback, ensuring the most relevant and meaningful experience possible for participants. MHC staff also seek out resources to support important initiatives as needs emerge.

Measure	Measure type	Measure data source	Historical trend	Most recent data
Educational Programming	Quantity	MHC utilizes Blackbaud Altru to track attendance and registrant data.	MHC expanded within education, working with administrators and educators to develop professional development and resources.	Held around 60 events with 2,000 people in attendance over the last two years.
Public & Immersive Programming	Quantity	MHC utilizes Blackbaud Altru to track attendance and registrant data.	MHC expanded partnerships with local organizations offering programming to the public.	Around 175 events with around 10,000 people in attendance over the last two years.
Traveling Exhibits	Quantity	MHC utilizes Blackbaud Altru to track attendance and registrant data.	MHC continues to work with the community by offering exhibits on community sites to share stories on We Are Water and Why Treaties Matter.	Around 25 events with around 12,775 people in attendance over the last two years.

Measure	Measure type	Measure data source	Historical trend	Most recent data
Grants awarded	Quantity	Reports are shared on the website summarizing grants awarded.	MHC continued seeing a significant increase in grant dollars during the FY 24-25 biennium period.	175 Awardees; $15,400,000 Awarded
Event Center	Quantity	Report from Event Management tool.	The Event Center continued getting closer to pre-pandemic numbers.	Around 500 events with around 18,000 people in attendance over the last two years.

Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

MHC has not yet adopted evidence-based practices, as we are in the early stages of implementation, with consistent data collection and development of internal control processes within our CRM system. We have also started implementing the evaluation process, utilizing surveys and working with Dr Patton to identify the best ways to collect relevant information.

M.S. 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.
https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/138.911