

<http://www.mnhum.org/>

**AT A GLANCE**

The Minnesota Humanities Center (MHC) brings the humanities to all Minnesotans through building relationships, active engagement, and programs of the highest quality. In fiscal year 2018:

- 77 organizations chose to partner with MHC.
- 15,395 people participated in 90 events.
- MHC reached 41 counties through programming and partnerships.
- 370 meetings and events were held at the MHC Event Center, serving 11,137 clients.
- More than 1,000 original resources were available in an online Absent Narratives Resource Collection, presented to 687 educators at 13 schools and conference events.

**PURPOSE**

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

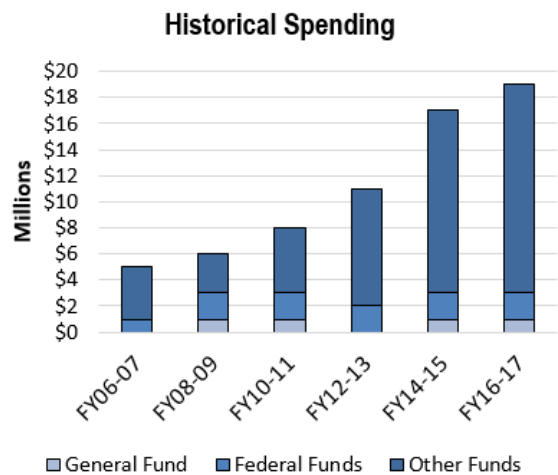
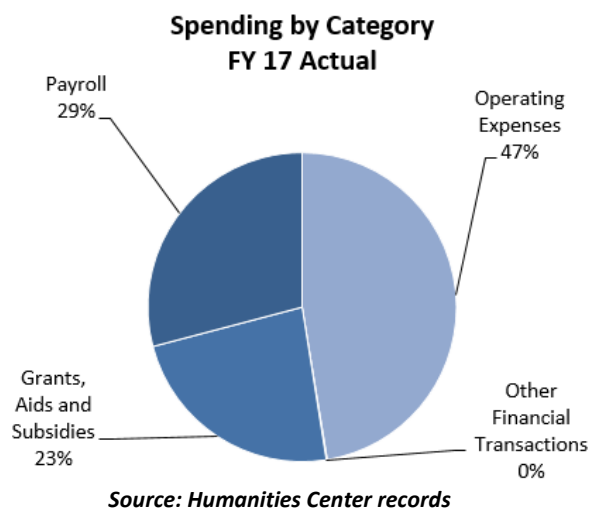
MHC partners with individuals, groups, and organizations to engage multiple perspectives, promote excellence in teaching, and build a more inclusive Minnesota.

MHC’s full-service Event Center is a community resource where diverse organizations gather in conversation and active participation.

MHC supports the following statewide outcome:

- **Minnesotans have the education and skills needed to achieve their goals**

**BUDGET**



Federal funds for the Humanities Center do not flow through the state’s budget or treasury and are typically not included in statewide reporting, these funds are appropriations from the National Endowment for the Humanities, etc. Other Funds include Legacy funds, grants from state agencies, and 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.

## STRATEGIES

MHC's humanities-based K-12 Education Strategy builds partnerships with schools and districts across the state to provide rigorous professional development opportunities for K-12 educators that further the schools' and districts' priorities. Through immersion-based learning, an online resource collection, and in-person workshops, educators in Minnesota are building their networks, and increasing student engagement in the classroom. Offerings include: Learning From Place 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 the voices of Minnesota Veterans and fosters connection through storytelling, educator and literature, and documentary-based discussion groups, and the Veterans' Voices Award.

We Are Water MN is a traveling exhibition and community engagement initiative that emerged from the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street project. Continued by the Humanities Center and several state partners, six greater Minnesota communities (Spicer, St. Peter, Red Wing, Sandstone, Lanesboro, and Detroit Lakes) hosted the exhibit in 2016-2017, and eight communities are scheduled to host the exhibit in 2018-2019 (Saint Paul, Bemidji, Crookston, Cloquet, Austin, Northfield, Grand Rapids, and Onamia). Through this initiative, the public explores the meaning of water as part of their identity, history, and culture.

MHC debuted the Cascading Conversations series as part of the Public Humanities program, bringing acclaimed and diverse authors together in conversations about war, memory, humanity, and connection. The Public Humanities initiative allows MHC to be responsive to emerging needs in communities through the humanities.

Other programming includes:

- Grant-making: Administering 17 legislatively mandated state grants, and awarding 43 small competitive grants to cultural organizations that foster 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, received new funding for the FY18-19 biennium that will result in a new statewide tour and educational resources beginning October 2018 through June of 2019. The exhibit is also now permanently displayed at the Minnesota State Capitol.

## RESULTS

Since 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.

<i>Type of Measure</i>	<i>Name of Measure</i>	<i>Previous</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Quantity	Professional Development Offerings (# of events/# of participants)	48/1,936	46/992	FY17, FY18
Quantity	Community/Public Offerings (# of events/# of participants)	39/885	38/1,765	FY17, FY18
Quantity	Traveling Exhibits (# of exhibits/# of host sites/# of visitors)	2/7/7,941	2/6/12,638	FY17, FY18
Quantity	Event Center Usage (# of events/# of participants)	344/9,349	370/11,137	FY17, FY18
Quantity	Grant Awarded to Other Agencies (# of grants/# of dollars awarded)	16/\$1,685,820	60/\$2,413,805	FY17, FY18

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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>)