

Become a presenter on our Speakers Directory

The Council is always looking for talented presenters to showcase our state's unique culture and heritage. Speaking opportunities are available around Florida, and can take place with museums, historical societies, libraries, or other venues.

To be considered as a Speakers Series presenter starting in fall 2020, applications are due at Noon on Friday December 6, 2019.

Speaking engagements can take on one, or more, of the following forms:

Florida Talks—These one-off speaking opportunities are sponsored by the Florida Humanities Council and offered around the state.

Humanities Speaker Series—Speakers may be asked to participate as a part of an FHC Speaker's Series, a collection of four to six speakers selected from the FHC Speaker's Directory.

Grant Participants—Speakers may be asked to participate as a scholar or presenter for an organization's grant project

External Opportunities—Partner organizations may gain initial familiarity with a speaker via the Florida Humanities Council. Because of this, it is possible that a speaker is requested to participate in an event not sponsored by FHC.

Speakers typically have backgrounds which include, but are not limited to:

- College or university professors
- Published authors
- Chautauqua

- Storytellers
- Journalists
- Former public officials

In particular, FHC strongly encourages applications from individuals with diverse backgrounds.

The Florida Humanities Council connects communities with scholars and individuals who discuss contemporary and compelling subjects. Lecture topics should appeal to, and draw, diverse audiences. Presenters who can speak about the following topics are strongly encouraged to apply:

- The history or culture of African-Americans, Hispanics, Women, or the LGBTQ community
- Popular or Classic Literature
- Film & Cinema
- Philosophy & Ethics
- Civics & Politics
- Religion
- Poetry

Presenters will be selected based on their qualifications, proven speaking ability, and proposed program topic. Consideration will also be made for geographic diversity and the background of the applicant. In your application, include a link to videos of previous talks you have given, or mention the date and location of any future public talks you may be giving.

The Florida Humanities Council does not directly facilitate speaking engagements between hosting organizations and members of the Speaker's Directory. All presenters must respond to speaking queries (via email or phone) from hosting organizations within a reasonable time frame. Travel, mileage, and an honorarium are provided by the hosting organization.

How many speaking events will I be booked for each year?

This varies, depending on the interests of applying organizations and the dates of the presentations. We cannot guarantee a minimum number of annual speaking engagements.

Do I have to speak at every requested event?

No. You only have to accept speaking events based on your availability.

However, we request that presenters respond to any inquiry from a hosting organization within a reasonable time frame.

What if I have to cancel a speaking engagement?

Notify the hosting organization immediately. Excessive last-minute cancellations may result in removal from the roster.

How will I be reimbursed for expenses?

We provide all funds related to a speaking engagement to the hosting organization; in turn, the hosting organization pays the speaker directly. We strongly recommend that a written agreement is established between you and the hosting organization with logistics and payment information.

Is there a maximum amount of honorarium I can request?

Presenters must agree to accept no more than \$500 for a FHC-sponsored speaking event. Note that the \$500 limit does not include any travel expenses.

How many topics can I offer?

Each presenter can offer a maximum of two topics. Once a year, presenters have the option to change the two speaking topics they would like to offer.

How long should my presentations be?

We strongly recommend that presentations do not exceed 45 minutes, in addition to a Q&A opportunity with the audience.

What kind of equipment is available for my presentation?

This varies, depending on the host organization. Presenters should confirm the availability of needed equipment (projector, laptop, A/V system) in advance of a speaking engagement, or plan to bring their own equipment.

How are presenters advertised?

Every year, the Florida Humanities Council creates a roster of all speakers and their available topics. We also utilize email communications, social media, print flyers, and conference presentations to advertise presenter availability.

Can I encourage a museum or library I know to book me?

Yes, interested organizations are encouraged to visit our website to learn more about how to book a speaking engagement.

What happens if I do not get any speaking engagement opportunities?

If you have not been booked during your first two years on the roster, you may be removed. Those that are removed for this reason are eligible to reapply in the future.

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