

Florida Humanities Council 2017–2018

floridahumanities.org

The programs of the Florida Humanities Council annually touch Floridians in every region of the state. From our reading and discussion programs and engaging Speakers Series, to our exhibition partnership with the Smithsonian Institution, and summer seminars for teachers and high school students, we are dedicated to convening Floridians in community-based programming that brings us together and deepens our understanding of Florida.

Museum on Main Street

Museum on Main Street is a partnership program that brings Smithsonian Institution exhibitions, resources, and programming to small towns across the state. These high-quality exhibitions are designed to bring revitalized attention to underserved and rural communities and serve as a launching point for storytelling and local pride.



Grant Funding for Local Humanities Projects

Since 1971, the Florida Humanities Council has awarded more than **\$8-million in federal funding statewide** in support of the development and presentation of humanities-rich cultural resources and public programs. These projects help preserve Florida's rich history and heritage, promote civic engagement and community dialogue, and provide opportunities for reflecting on the future of our state.



Florida Stories Walking Tour app

Our downloadable walking tour app allows users to delve behind the scenes of Florida towns with an emphasis on local history, culture and architecture. Connected via a statewide platform, the tours create sustainable cultural tourism products that increase knowledge and appreciation of local history. In 2019, 36 tours statewide will be available for download in the app.

2017–2018 Our Impact Statewide

\$386,305 awarded in grant funding for local humanities projects

109,400 people attended public programs statewide

70,000 FORUM magazines reached more than **175,000** readers

60,800 visitors to Smithsonian Institution "Museum on Main Street" exhibits in **15** small towns

20,897 students participated in the "Poetry Out Loud" competition statewide

4,344 people attended reading and discussion programs in public libraries



FORUM Magazine

Through its insightful perspectives on Florida, FORUM magazine provides readers with engaging and colorful stories about the people and places that define our state. Each issue of this award-winning magazine is distributed to over 20,000 people statewide. To highlight the wonderful literary accomplishments in the state, an annual issue of FORUM recognizes and honors the annual winners of the **Florida Book Awards** and the **Lifetime Achievement Award for Writing**.



Poetry Out Loud

Poetry Out Loud is a national poetry recitation contest for high school students hosted annually in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation.

Participating students not only learn about great poetry through memorization, they also master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about our literary history.



“100 Faces of War”

The Florida Humanities Council has partnered with the Smithsonian Institution to bring the acclaimed **“100 Faces of War”** traveling exhibit to Florida. Through the eyes of soldiers who participated in the Iraq and Afghanistan theaters, “100 Faces of War” gives voice to the warriors among us by featuring 100 personal essays and oil portraits of veterans from every state. The exhibit highlights the importance of the humanities both in helping Americans to understand the experiences of service members and in assisting veterans as they return to civilian life. Host sites include the Museum of Arts & Sciences in Daytona Beach (Sept–Nov 2018), Pensacola Museum of Art (Oct 2019–Jan 2020) and Coral Springs Museum of Art (Sept–Nov 2020).



Seminars for Educators and High School Students

Each summer, K-12 educators and high school students from across the state participate in challenging and interdisciplinary studies of the humanities at one of our enriching seminars. Led by distinguished scholars, the seminars combine classroom sessions with relevant field experiences that highlight our state’s history and culture.



Speakers Series

As part of FHC’s Speakers Series, expert historians, storytellers, researchers and authors travel the state to talk about a wide variety of subjects related to Florida. Programs are free for the public to attend and are presented in partnership with civic organizations, museums, historical societies, libraries and other groups interested in bringing thought-provoking programs to their community.

PrimeTime Family Reading Time

A six-week reading and discussion program for underserved families with young children. Held in public libraries, this program demonstrates how literature can enrich one’s life, models strategies for continued family bonding through children’s books, and provides information for families about library resources.



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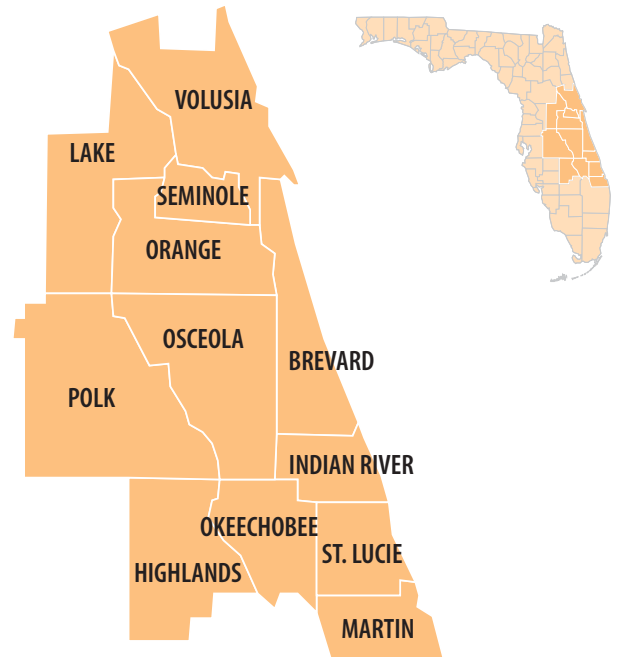


Funding for the Florida Humanities Council comes from the National Endowment for the Humanities; the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture; and private donations.

Grant Funding for Local Humanities Projects—\$70,000

More than \$70,000 in funding was awarded to East Central Florida projects in 2017-2018.

- **\$20,000—Museum of Arts and Sciences**— “100 Faces of War.” The Museum of Arts and Sciences in Daytona Beach hosted this compelling traveling exhibit from the Smithsonian Institution from September through November 2018. The exhibit features 100 personal essays and life-sized oil portraits of veterans who have served in the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. The exhibit was complemented by a series of programs for the public as well as for veterans and their family members.
- **\$10,000—Valencia College Peace and Justice Institute**— “The 1920 Ocoee Massacre and Beyond: Paths to Truth and Reconciliation,” a series of community conversations about the era of racial terror and lynchings that occurred in Central Florida in the 1920s. Also funded “Peace Week 2018,” a series of programs with civil rights activist and musician Daryl Davis.
- **\$5,000—Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens**— “Lay of the Land: The Art of Florida’s Cattle Culture,” a collaborative exhibit with the Florida Cattlemen’s Association and complementary public programs that focus on the art of the cowmen and women known as Florida “crackers”.
- **\$5,000—Urban Think Foundation**— “Functionally Literate,” a quarterly reading series that pairs national award-winning writers with noted writers from Central Florida.
- **\$5,000—onePULSE Foundation**— “Town Hall Forum Series - How Ending Hate is Possible,” a town hall forum with national speakers to discuss race and racism.
- **\$5,000—Polk County History Center**— “2019 Race and Culture Lecture Series,” a six-part speakers series focused on raising racial awareness and promoting cultural diversity in Polk County.
- **\$4,360—University of Central Florida**— “The Jones High School Museum Online Exhibit,” UCF’s History Department and their RICHES program will assist the Jones High School Historical Society with archiving their museum collections dating back to 1882.
- **\$4,140—New Birth Corporation**— “The Life, Legacy & Public Memory of Dr. Howard Thurman,” an oral history project designed to archive the work of Dr. Howard Thurman, a minister and intellectual involved in the Civil Rights movement.



- **\$3,000—Indian River State College**— “Indian River State College’s Great American Read,” library programming to complement the national broadcast of PBS’s “Great American Read” series in fall 2018.
- **\$2,500—Polk Museum of Art**— “Goya, Picasso & the Heritage of Spain: Exploring Spanish Culture in Florida from 1513 to Today,” a panel discussion with noted scholars discussing the roles Goya and Picasso played in creating popular images of Spanish culture and how those influences were later recognized in Florida.
- **\$2,400—Ormond Beach Historical Society**— “From Colored to Black: The Stories of North Central Florida,” a theatrical presentation based on oral histories of African Americans from North Central Florida as collected by the Samuel Proctor Oral History program at the University of Florida.
- **\$2,150—Orange County Library System**— “Celebrate the Great American Read,” library programming to complement the national broadcast of PBS’s “Great American Read” series in fall 2018.
- **\$1,915—Osceola County Historical Society**— “Traduciendo El Pueblo (Translating the Village),” design and printing of a bilingual self-guided walking tour map for the historical society’s Pioneer Village.
- **\$500—Maitland Public Library**— “Great American Read,” library programming to complement the national broadcast of PBS’s “Great American Read” series in fall 2018.



Museum on Main Street

A partnership program with the Smithsonian Institution that brings high-quality, nationally touring exhibitions to small towns and underserved communities across Florida. More than **28,000 people** toured the exhibit, attended complementary public programs, or participated in school field trips in the following communities.

Program partners:

- Enterprise Preservation Society
- Lake Wales Museum & Cultural Center
- Okeechobee County Tourist Development Council
- Polk County History Center



Florida Stories Walking Tour App

Downloadable walking tours featuring the history and culture of unique Florida communities. Connected via a statewide platform, the tours provide sustainable cultural tourism products for community partners.

Program partners:

- City of Lake Mary
- Eau Gallie Arts District Mainstreet
- Lake Wales Museum and Cultural Center
- Lincoln Park Main Street
- Main Street Fort Pierce
- Ormond Beach Historical Society
- Polk County Historical Association (Bartow)
- Southeast Volusia Historical Society (New Smyrna Beach)
- West Volusia Historical Society (DeLand)



Poetry Out Loud

A national poetry recitation contest for high school students offered in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. More than **11,000 students** statewide participate in local competitions each year.

Student participation:

- Over **6,200 students** from Brevard, Lake, Okeechobee, Orange, Polk, Seminole, St. Lucie, and Volusia counties competed in local competitions with winners sent to the statewide competition.
- **2017 statewide winner** was Alexis Schuster, a junior at Winter Park High School in Orange County.



Speakers Series

FHC annually partners with community organizations statewide to present informative and lively lectures and community conversations about Florida's rich history and culture.

Program partners:

- **Over 9,000 people** attended programs hosted by the following organizations: A.E. Backus Museum, Association to Preserve African American Society, History and Tradition, Bethune-Cookman University, Eastern Florida State College - Palm Bay Campus, Farmworker Association of Florida, Highlands Hammock State Park, Lady Lake Historical Society, Lake Wales Museum and Cultural Center, Ormond Beach Historical Society, Osceola Library System, Stetson University, The Emerson Center, Volusia County Public Library



PrimeTime Family Reading Time

A six-week reading and discussion program for underserved families with young children. Held in public libraries, this program demonstrates how literature can enrich one's life, models strategies for continued family bonding through children's books, and provides information for families about library resources.

Program partners:

- Brevard County Public Libraries
- Orange County Library System
- Osceola Library System



English Classes for Families

Funded by the Florida Humanities Council with a 2017 NEH Chairman's special initiative grant, the Orange County Library System (OCLS) expanded their existing ESOL program to include Puerto Rican families displaced by Hurricane Maria. The pilot phase launched in September 2018 with programming scheduled to continue through 2021.

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