

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.

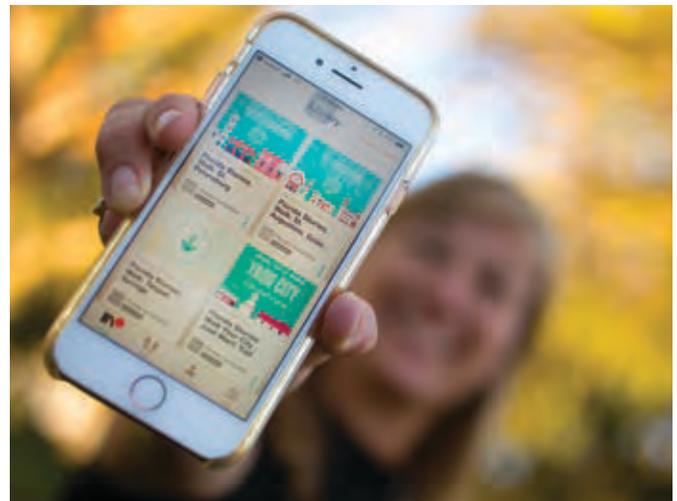
Museum on Main Street

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.

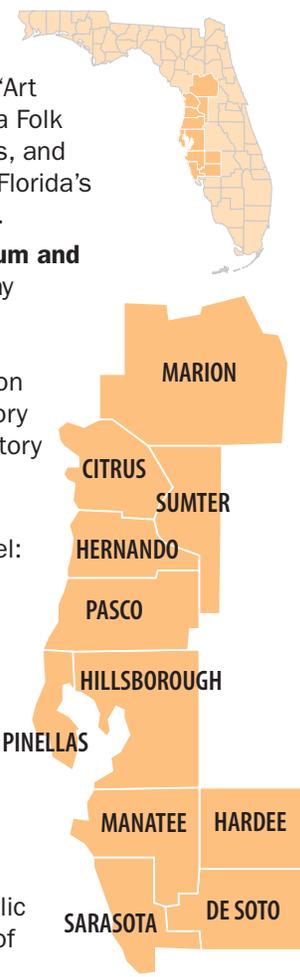


Funding for the Florida Humanities Council comes from the National Endowment for the Humanities; the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture; and private donations.

Grant Funding for Local Humanities Projects—\$83,000

More than \$83,000 in funding was awarded to West Central Florida projects in 2017-2018.

- **\$5,000—Citrus County Historical Society**—“Man and Manatees,” an exhibit and speaker series that highlight the history and identity of one of Florida’s most iconic creatures, the manatee.
- **\$5,000—City of Tarpon Springs, Dept. of Arts & Historical Resources**—“The Greek Community of Tarpon Springs,” a documentary and public programs about the vibrant culture of the city’s Greek community.
- **\$5,000—Easter Seals Southwest Florida**—“Coming out of History’s Dark Corners,” an oral history program that pairs 10th graders from the Out of Door college prep school with students at VIP Academy, a high school program for students with a range of disabilities.
- **\$5,000—Florida Museum of Photographic Arts**—“Community Gallery & Speaker Series,” an annual speaker series on a variety of contemporary topics that complement rotating photographic exhibitions in the museum’s community gallery.
- **\$5,000—Friends of Sarasota County Parks**—“Shaping Sarasota: Four Memorable Women,” public lectures and an exhibition that highlight the stories of four noted women (Nettie Keith, Bertha Palmer, Mable Ringling and Marie Selby) connected to Sarasota’s history and who were instrumental to its development.
- **\$5,000—Henry Plant Museum**—“Upstairs/Downstairs at the Tampa Bay Hotel,” a series of living history portrayals and scholar lectures that explore the noted visitors to the Tampa Bay Hotel in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
- **\$5,000—Oaktree Community Outreach**—“Back to Angola Festival,” a two-day event featuring scholar-led panel discussions that explore and celebrate the Black Seminole settlement of Angola and its connections to the Bahamas.
- **\$5,000—Pasco County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources**—“Lectures on the Lawn - Cultural Event Series,” a series of four community events featuring presenters from FHC’s speakers directory.
- **\$5,000—Reflections of Manatee**—“Angola’s Freedom Seekers and Florida’s Underground Railroad,” a series of public programs and an exhibit that portray and interpret the significance of the maroon community of Angola and the role the area played as part of the Underground Railroad.
- **\$5,000—Saint Petersburg Preservation**—“Unseen St. Pete: Hidden Faces and Unknown Places,” a lecture series that explores some overlooked aspects of the city’s development history.

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- **\$5,000—Sulphur Springs Museum and Heritage Center**—“Art for Us All: A Celebration of Florida Folk Art,” public programming, exhibits, and community events that focus on Florida’s noted folk and self-taught artists.
 - **\$5,000—Sulphur Springs Museum and Heritage Center**—“Florida Holiday Traditions: History, Meaning, and Importance,” a series of public programs and a traveling exhibition from the Florida Museum of History that examine and explore the history of Florida’s holiday traditions.
 - **\$5,000—The Florida Holocaust Museum**—“Dr. Susannah Heschel: Genocide and Human Rights Awareness Movement,” two free public lectures by Dr. Susannah Heschel, daughter of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, a friend and confidant of Dr. Martin Luther King.
 - **\$5,000—University of South Florida Humanities Institute**—“Frankenstein Turns 200,” a month-long series of public events to mark the bicentennial of the publication of Mary Shelley’s “Frankenstein”.
 - **\$5,000—Your Real Stories**—“Hurricane Stories: One Year Later,” public programming that shares the stories of Tampa Bay community members who were affected by Hurricane Irma and those that relocated from Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria.
 - **\$3,300—Vickie O Heritage Productions**—“Newtown Alive,” conversion of oral histories of the community’s African American residents into podcasts that will be accessible online and through a mobile app.
 - **\$3,270—Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe of Florida**—“WBTT Voices: Perspectives on James Baldwin and “The Amen Corner”, panel discussions with scholarly experts exploring Baldwin’s influence on American literature and society.
 - **\$1,500—Marie Selby Botanical Gardens**—“Gauguin: Voyage to Paradise,” a free public program at the Selby Library with scholar Dr. Elizabeth Childs who will speak about how Gauguin’s work was influenced by his travels to Tahiti.



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 **14,000 people** toured the exhibit, attended complementary public programs, or participated in school field trips in the following communities.

Program partners:

- Dunedin History Museum
- Pioneer Florida Museum and Village
- Sulphur Springs Museum and Heritage Center
- Tarpon Springs Center for Gulf Coast Folklife



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 Tarpon Springs
- Friends of Sarasota County Parks
- Manatee County Public Library System
- Safety Harbor Public Library
- St. Petersburg Preservation
- Ybor City Museum



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 3,500 students** from Hillsborough, Manatee, Marion, Pasco, and Sarasota counties competed in local competitions with winners sent to the statewide competition.
- **2018 statewide winner** was Natalie Schimek, a senior from Pine View School in Sarasota County.



Seminars for Educators and High School Students

Each summer, educators and high school students from across the state participate in challenging and interdisciplinary study of the humanities at our enriching weeklong residential seminars.

Program partner:

- Over 150 students and teachers have attended summer seminars hosted by **Eckerd College** since 2014.



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 **2,100 people** attended programs hosted by the following organizations: Citrus County Historical Society, Dunedin Public Library, Family Heritage House, Florida Museum of Photographic Arts, Friends of the Largo Library, Friends of the Sarasota County History Center, Historic Hernando Preservation Society, Manatee Village Historical Park, Palm Harbor Public Library, Safety Harbor Public Library, Sarasota County Library System, St. Petersburg Museum of History, and Young Performing Artists.



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 partner:

- North Sarasota Public Library



Democracy and the Informed Citizen Initiative

As part of a 2018 national initiative funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, FHC partnered with the **Village Square** and the **Poynter Institute** to host public programs that examined the connections between democracy, the humanities, journalism, and an informed citizenry.

- Over **50 high school students and their parents** attended a fall 2018 program at the Poynter Institute to learn strategies for evaluating the credibility of online news and information.



Florida Humanities Lifetime Achievement Award for Writing

FHC's annual award honors a living Florida author for a distinguished body of work that has had a major influence on Floridians.

- **2018 Award: Jeff Klinkenberg**, *Tampa Bay Times* "Real Florida" columnist and author of seven books on Florida culture and heritage.

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