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THE FLORIDA HUMANITIES COUNCIL, A NONPROFIT CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION, BUILDS STRONG COMMUNITIES AND INFORMED CITIZENS BY ENGAGING FLORIDIANS IN THE HERITAGE, TRADITIONS, AND STORIES OF OUR STATE AND ITS PLACE IN THE WORLD.
Dear Friends and Supporters of the Florida Humanities Council

In a complex state that has 18 million residents and stretches nearly 850 miles from Pensacola to Key West, it’s difficult to become recognized as a statewide organization. Florida’s size, diversity, and dramatic contrasts present a challenge, but, more importantly, many opportunities. Our state is home to the oldest city in the United States—and to new towns that crop up every day. It is home to Cape Canaveral—and to some of the largest cattle ranches in the country. It is a state of migrants and immigrants, natives and newcomers, Cubans and Crackers. It is a bellwether state, a snapshot of America’s future.

The Florida Humanities Council connects all of us together as Floridians. FHC is one of the few statewide organizations engaged in establishing a statewide identity by developing programs and resources that build bridges among our state’s diverse regions and peoples. This year, alone, FHC provided more than $2.1 million to help fund and create community-based humanities programs, teachers’ workshops, and family-literacy programs. These funds came from the National Endowment for the Humanities, from the State of Florida through a generous allocation during the 2007 legislative session, and from an ever-increasing number of private contributors.

Our statewide public-television documentary, The Florida Dream, was viewed by an estimated one million Floridians in 2007. It offered a compelling look at the state’s meteoric growth over the past half-century—a perspective that may help Floridians better understand how we got to where we are today and how we can deal with current issues.

FORUM—our award-winning magazine read by some 60,000 people across the state—also examined Florida’s modern transformation from “Dreamscape to Megastate.” In addition, during 2007 FORUM explored the fascinating 20th-century story of Florida’s Indians and delved into the year’s best books on Florida.

Almost every day an FHC program takes place somewhere in Florida. In 2007, we helped to create more than 350 programs in 150 communities, reaching tens of thousands of people. Our public-radio programs on Florida history and heritage, which air four times a month on Florida public-radio stations, reach an average of 110,000 listeners per program.

FHC’s Board of Directors embraces the mission of this organization: to provide citizens with the opportunity to discuss, teach, study, reflect, debate, and analyze the events that have shaped our past and the issues that affect our future. By bringing Floridians together in communities across the state, FHC is working to create a truly statewide organization and a statewide identity for this complex and dynamic place we share and call home.

Sincerely,

Frank Billingsley
Chair of the Board of the Florida Humanities Council
Broadcasting the Story of Modern Florida

*The Florida Dream*, our public-television documentary on Florida’s dramatic growth and change since World War II, premiered in October 2007 and was viewed by an estimated one million people across the state.

This documentary, which we produced in partnership with WEDU-TV of West Central Florida, chronicles Florida’s 60-year metamorphosis from a sleepy, southern backwater to today’s urbanized megastate, home to an international mix of more than 18 million people.

To complement *The Florida Dream*, we also:

- Created a companion website, www.floridadream.org, which uses a multimedia approach in offering a wide range of information on the evolution of modern Florida—and provides detailed lesson plans designed by Florida teachers for Florida teachers
- Focused an issue of FORuM magazine on some major themes underlying the rapid development of modern Florida
- Awarded grants to six PBS television stations (in Pensacola, Jacksonville, Miami, Fort Myers, Cocoa and Tampa) to produce their own programs delving into significant local events of the past half-century
- And hosted workshops for Florida teachers about the social history of our state since World War II.

All of these interrelated programs helped further our mission of informing Floridians about our state’s history and heritage.

*The Florida Dream* attracted statewide media coverage, including prominent feature stories and columns in newspapers, interviews and discussions on public-radio shows, articles in statewide and regional magazines, and notices on websites.

More than a dozen PBS stations around the state aired the documentary. Many re-broadcast it multiple times over several weeks.
Local documentaries funded by FHC grants include *Khaki Coast* by Pensacola’s WSRE-TV, *Reflections on the River* by Miami’s WPBT-TV, and *City of Bridges* by Jacksonville’s WJCT-TV.

Media coverage of *The Florida Dream* included numerous feature stories in newspapers and statewide magazines and on websites.

In addition, the state’s Florida Knowledge Network has made the program available for use in Florida schools. The six locally produced programs were also aired multiple times and were made available to all Florida PBS stations.

Our entry into the world of television broadcasts has raised our public profile, enabling us to further spread the word about the many programs we offer to people across Florida.
Our stimulating professional-development seminars brought strong academic content, thought-provoking ideas, and lots of inspiration in 2007 to more than 700 teachers from 62 elementary, middle, and high schools in 51 Florida counties.

Led by distinguished Florida scholars, these active, weeklong and daylong seminars generated a treasure trove of information, materials, and lesson plans that teachers can use to enrich their classroom teaching and advance student learning.

In 2007, for the first time we offered a seminar on Florida’s Indians, taking teachers into historic Clewiston, onto tribal reservations, and through parts of the Everglades to learn from the Indians themselves as well as from top scholars about the history and culture of the Seminoles and Miccosukees.

Other seminars explored Florida’s diverse cultures through their folk traditions, delved into the historic growth and changes our state has undergone since World War II, looked at critical issues in black literature and culture, and focused on other aspects of Florida and American history.

For the fourth consecutive year, we also conducted weeklong summer seminars in St. Augustine. Funded by a special Landmarks in American History and Culture grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, this exploration of the Spanish Colonial period in our nation’s oldest permanent European settlement again attracted teachers from all across the United States. Supported with $1 million in NEH grants over the past four years, this program has informed nearly 700 U.S. teachers about the important, but often overlooked, role St. Augustine
Inspiring Teachers, Enriching Classrooms has played in American history. The seminar so inspired a Florida teacher that she wrote a children’s book entitled America’s REAL First Thanksgiving, published in 2007.

For 14 years, our Florida Center for Teachers program has provided intellectual stimulation and professional renewal to many thousands of Florida teachers. In addition to receiving federal, state, and private funding, this program has also been hired by some Florida school districts to conduct their professional-development seminars. But the true success of this program can be measured in the many letters we receive from Florida teachers who say our seminars have rekindled their love of teaching and inspired them to stay in the profession.

Miccuskee elder Buffalo Tiger (left) was one of many presenters at our weeklong summer seminar on Florida’s Indians. Scenes of recent seminars show a teacher writing in a journal (top) and teachers discussing the work of renowned sculptor and arts educator Augusta Savage (bottom left).
Funding Projects around the State

In 2007, we awarded more than $360,000 in federal funds to support humanities projects in nearly 100 towns and cities across Florida.

These grants leveraged an additional $500,000 in local matching funds provided by the 85 nonprofit groups that created and carried out the projects.

Our individual grant awards—ranging from $25,000 to less than $2,000—helped local nonprofit groups bring in speakers for public programs; collect and share oral histories; conduct historical walking tours; hold book fairs, film festivals, lecture series, in-depth conferences, panel discussions, and analytical programs on music, art, and photography; develop websites and historical displays; produce television and radio documentaries and cultural-tourism resources; and much more.

Through our grants program, we are helping Floridians explore, preserve, and celebrate local history and culture; examine compelling topics and issues; and create permanent resources that enrich their lives.

MAJOR GRANTS

Aequalis, Inc., Lake Worth, $24,636
A musical theater piece based on oral histories collected in Glades County is created and performed at venues in the area.

City of Gainesville, $24,800
Programs that explore the natural, cultural, and visual history of the St. Johns River accompany a traveling exhibit.

Pensacola Junior College, Pensacola, $14,190
An interactive website documents the history of Santa Rosa County as a resource for residents and visitors.

Marco Island Historical Society, Marco Island, $14,067
Humanities scholars are engaged to conduct public programs and collaborate with artists commissioned to interpret four historic sites.

Jacksonville Main Public Library, Jacksonville, $8,540
To mark the 40th anniversary of Jacksonville & Duval County’s consolidation, public programs explore related issues.

Florida Defenders of the Environment, Inc. Gainesville, $25,000
A series of 18 events introduces the Natural Florida CD to potential user groups.

Reflections of Manatee, Inc., Bradenton, $14,347
A full-day program brings together historians and archaeologists with the general public to explore the history of the Manatee Mineral Springs area.

The Studios of Key West, Key West, $23,300
A series of lecture programs explores how artists and writers have been connected to the Key West community.

Flagler College, St. Augustine, $8,675
At a weekend program, writers examine the significant role St. Augustine has in attracting and inspiring nationally-known literary figures.

Florida Cultural Resources, Gainesville, $25,000
A traveling exhibition is created and accompanies a panel discussion about continuity and change in Florida cattle ranching.

Flagler College, St. Augustine, $7,000
Leading scholars in history and archaeology attend a two-day conference to discuss the unique Spanish, British, and American history of the area.

MEDIA GRANTS

WJCT-TV, Jacksonville, $25,000
A TV documentary uses Jacksonville’s bridges to tell the story of the city and its environs.

WEDU-TV, Tampa, $9,900
A scholar-led panel discusses modern-Florida history in a televised production following a documentary on that subject.
MINI GRANTS

Sarasota Reading Festival, Sarasota, $2,000
The annual festival features a FHC-funded panel discussion on freedom of the press.

USF-St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, $900
A popular nature writer leads a discussion, a nature walk at Weedon Island, and a writing workshop.

Friends of the Myakka River, Inc., Sarasota, $2,000
Three humanities programs are offered over a three-month period near the park's historic buildings.

Center for Inquiry Community of Tallahassee, Tallahassee, $2,000
A full-day program of scholar lectures and a panel discussion examine Darwin's impact on our social institutions.

Art Center Manatee, Bradenton, $1,000
A scholar presentation and panel discussion explore the impact of Florida's environment on the work of artists.

Tale Tellers of St. Augustine, St. Augustine, $2,000
A series of stories about the Civil War era in St. Augustine is researched and presented.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Fort Walton, $2,000
Aviators who live in the area share stories and personal mementos at a public program and in a commemorative brochure.

Friends of the Myakka River, Inc., Sarasota, $2,000
Three humanities programs are offered over a three-month period near the park's historic buildings.

Kissimmee Main Street Program, Inc., Kissimmee, $1,500
Two humanities presentations mark the anniversary of the founding of Kissimmee.

Friends of the Bruton Memorial Library, Plant City, $2,000
A film series is accompanied by scholar-led discussions.

Bartow Airbase Historical Museum, Bartow, $2,000
A walking-tour brochure is created and a public program features a panel of veterans.

Peace River Center for Writers, Punta Gorda, $2,000
A series of programs explores 20th-century poetry and features visits from poets.

Friends of the Museum of Florida History, Tallahassee, $2,000
Presentations by two scholars accompany an exhibit on Florida's Seminole Indians.

Florida Foresight, Inc., Panacea, $2,000
Five public lectures are presented on maritime history and culture in the Big Bend area.

Cinderic Documentaries, Inc., DeLand, $2,000
The story of Seville Public Schools is told through oral histories and a photo exhibit.

Largo Public Library, Largo, $2,000
A series of programs on Florida history and culture is presented.

Holocaust Memorial Resource & Education Center, Maitland, $2,000
In conjunction with a traveling exhibit from the National Holocaust Museum, a scholar-led program explores contemporary prejudices.

Creative Clay Art Studio, St. Petersburg, $2,000
Three folk-art programs are offered as part of the St. Petersburg Folk Art Fest.

St. Augustine Historical Society, St. Augustine, $2,000
In response to the 400th anniversary of Jamestown, leading scholars hold a symposium on the earlier North American settlements of La Florida.

Friends of Wild Iris, Gainesville, $700
Capitalizing on the recent popularity of the best seller The Secret, a panel discusses the religious and philosophical traditions of the text.

University of Central Florida–Library, Orlando, $1,500
A community-wide commemoration of the publication of Jack Kerouac’s On the Road includes an exhibit and public programs.
Funding Projects Around the State

Matheson Museum, Gainesville, $700
An author/scholar presents a public program on the Black Seminoles and their connection to the Alachua County area.

Bonita Springs Historical Society, Bonita Springs, $2,000
A series of four public programs focuses on the Florida landscape.

St. Pete Beach Library, St Pete Beach, $2,000
Capitalizing on the DVD release of the film version of John D. MacDonald’s A Flash of Green, a program offers discussions of the book and a screening of the film.

Paragon Ladies of the Dove, Inc., Florida City, $2,000
Several programs feature the James Weldon Johnson Chautauqua presentation.

Amelia Book Island Festival, Inc, Amelia Island, $2,000
The annual book festival features a panel of Florida authors discussing the state’s changing landscape.

Friends of the North Indian River County Library, Sebastian, $3,000
Seven programs offer a wide variety of presenters on Florida topics.

Lake Wales Library Association, Inc., Lake Wales, $3,000
Using a Chautauqua presentation of Mark Twain, this community begins a year of oral-history collection.

Ortona Community Library, Ortona, $3,000
A walk through the community cemetery with a historian, an archaeologist, and a naturalist begins a series of discussion programs.

Brevard Library Foundation, Cocoa, $3,000
Multiple programs focus on the literature and cultures of the growing Hispanic community in Brevard County.

Beaches Area Historical Society, Port Charlotte, $3,000
Four public programs explore African-American cultural contributions to Florida.

African American Heritage Society, Pensacola, $3,000
A Chautauqua program of Florida novelist/folklorist Zora Neale Hurston is presented, and a curator discusses an exhibit from the Tuskegee Institute.

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Lake Worth, $3,000
Comparative religion provides focus for four programs exploring questions related to recent archaeological findings and early Christianity.

National Park Service, Jacksonville, $3,000
A series of programs focuses on the history and heritage of the Kingsley Plantation.

Ormond Beach Historical Trust, Inc., Ormond Beach, $3,000
Local and state history is covered by this series of eight programs.

Okeechobee County Public Library, Okeechobee, $3,000
Scholars, artists, musicians, and storytellers are featured in five programs about Florida’s history and culture.

Clewiston Museum, Clewiston, $3,000
Four programs feature the people and history of Florida.

Venice Area Historical Society, Venice, $3,000
The historical society and local history students collaborate with an oral historian to collect video oral histories of retired circus performers in Venice.

Friends of the Mid-County Regional Library, Port Charlotte, $3,000
Four lecture programs take place at both the Okaloosa-Walton College campus and at the Heritage Museum.

Friends of the Caribbean, Tallahassee, $3,000
The Africana Film Festival uses films and discussions to reach new underserved audiences.

Winter Park Historical Association, Winter Park, $3,000
In collaboration with the library, the Historical Association presents a series of monthly programs.

Delray Beach Historical Society, Inc., Delray Beach, $3,000
A series of four lectures delve into Florida music, historic gardens, city planning, and Florida environment.

Friends of the Caribbean, Tallahassee, $3,000
The African Film Festival uses films and discussions to reach new underserved audiences.
The Studio@620, St. Petersburg, $3,000
In conjunction with an exhibit, four public programs explore folk art.

Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal, Lecanto, $3,000
Four programs on Florida history engage a variety of humanities scholars.

**TEACHER GRANTS**

West Shore Junior/Senior High School, Melbourne, $1,000
A presenter from FHC’s teachers’ program in St. Augustine combines history and theater arts to teach about Florida’s past and about monologue writing.

Miami Killian Senior High School, Miami, $1,000
Two lectures by art historians provide analysis and interpretation of Hispanic art that reflects historical and contemporary social issues.

Bayside High School Clearwater, $1,000
Four trunks assembled with material objects appropriate for teaching St. Augustine history reflect a cross-disciplinary approach.

Riverview High School, Sarasota, $1,000
A folklife project conducts ethnographic research, trains teachers using a kit developed for the project, and designs classroom activities.

Booker Middle School, Sarasota, $775
A scholar and a Highwayman artist train students to collect folk history of two traditional African-American communities.

J. M. Tate Senior High School, Cantonment, $1,000
Using the model acquired during FHC’s teachers’ seminar in St. Augustine, this project introduces 10th-grade history students to Pensacola’s colonial period.

Eagles Landing Middle School, Boca Raton, $1,000
Using materials and resources developed in a weeklong FHC seminar, this mini seminar informs local teachers about issues of media literacy.

ALC Central Middle School, Fort Myers, $1,000
Geographic presentations, art, music, and holiday celebrations are assembled to teach lifestyles and traditions of Latin American peoples.

Blanche Ely High School, Pompano Beach, $774
“The Dew Breaker” is used to inform students about the Haitian culture.

Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High School, Miami, $1,000
This project immerses participants in Eastern culture and philosophy.

**CIVIC REFLECTION GRANTS**

Memorial Regional Hospital, Hollywood, $1,500
A five-part, literature-based discussion program for hospital employees addresses critical issues in the medical field today.

Memorial Hospital West, Pembroke Pines, $1,500
A five-part, literature-based discussion program for hospital employees addresses critical issues in the medical field today.

Joe DiMaggio Childrens Hospital, Hollywood, $1,500
A five-part, literature-based discussion program for hospital employees addresses critical issues in the medical field today.

Chautauqua actor/scholar Chaz Mena is shown in costume and character as Cuban statesman José Martí.
Extracted Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year Ended October 31, 2007

### BALANCE SHEET

**ASSETS**

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**LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE**

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### STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

**REVENUE & RELEASED ASSETS**

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**EXPENDITURES**

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Contributing Statewide

From Apalachicola to Arcadia, from Miami to Madison, from Sanibel to St. Augustine, our programs touched every corner of Florida in 2007.

This map shows the communities that received our grant awards and hosted Road Scholar presentations, teacher seminars, Gathering heritage tours, and family reading programs. In addition, our reach extended statewide with our weekly public-radio programs, FORUM magazine, and our public-television documentary, The Florida Dream.
Bringing Ideas to Communities

Our Road Scholars crisscrossed the state in 2007, bringing thought-provoking, entertaining public programs to thousands of Floridians at community centers, libraries, theaters, school buildings, and other public venues in 105 towns and cities.

Our roster of authors, experts, actors, and photographers shared stories and information about Florida’s history, culture, literature, and environment; sang songs of our state; discussed ideas relevant to our lives; showed artful images of natural Florida; and brought history to life through dramatic portrayals.

Their topics ranged from politics and civil rights to movies and mermaids. They delved into such issues as immigration, suburban sprawl, and the environment. They portrayed such historical figures as civil rights leader Harry T. Moore, Everglades champion Marjory Stoneman Douglas, and Cuban statesman José Martí. And they enlightened and entertained with talks about such areas as Florida art, photography, food, roadside attractions, and music.

Some of the current FHC Road Scholars (left to right starting at top): author/photographer Gary Monroe, author Sudye Cauthen, historian David Colburn, historians Susan Fernandez and Robert Ingalls, food expert Andrew Huse, Chautauqua performer Bob Devin Jones as Harry T. Moore, singer/songwriter Chris Kahl, Florida nature photographer John Moran, historian Gary Mormino, urban planner Bruce Stephenson, author Lu Vickers, and historian Carolyn Williams.
Exploring Local Heritage

Our 2007 cultural-heritage tours explored three distinctive areas of the state: Madison County, in the heart of the original cotton belt in North Florida; St. Augustine, the nation’s oldest permanent European settlement, located on the East Coast; and Everglades City, entryway to the “river of grass” at the southern tip.

These weekend outings helped introduce 150 Floridians to what makes Florida special. Guided by pre-eminent scholars, local cultural and civic leaders, and longtime community residents, these journeys into Florida build connections and understanding among people from different areas of the state.

This revenue-generating program also helps the host communities. It generates patronage of their hotels, restaurants, stores, and events; but more importantly it encourages them to celebrate their unique heritage. Like Madison this year, many host communities go on to use our grant awards to develop their own cultural-tourism materials, programs, and infrastructure.

Since 1996, we have introduced hundreds of Floridians to communities around our state. From Okeechobee to Homosassa, from Mount Dora to Fernandina, and from Cedar Key to Fort Pierce—our Gathering program is getting to the heart of Florida.

Gathering participants are shown (at top) embarking on a tour of the Fakahatchee Strand; (center, from left) eating local fare in Madison, listening to scholar Dana Ste. Claire discuss Florida Crackers, enjoying a historic walking tour; and (bottom, from left) examining artifacts in St. Augustine, and playing folk music in Madison.
Informing Folks about Florida

FORUM, our award-winning statewide magazine, provided in-depth looks in 2007 at the growth of Florida since World War II, at the 20th-century journey of Florida’s Seminole and Miccosukee tribes, and at the winners of the new Florida Book Awards competition. The Florida Magazine Association recognized FORUM with four awards for in-depth reporting, exceptional writing, and general excellence in 2007.

Each beautifully illustrated issue of FORUM delves into one topic, providing cultural insight and historical perspective on Florida people, places, events, and ideas. In addition to entertaining and informing longtime Floridians, our magazine fills an important informational niche in a state with so many newcomers and so much growth and transience.

FORUM’s readers are a cross-section of the state’s leaders, its teachers and scholars, and its longtime, as well as new, residents. Published three or four times annually, FORUM is sent to some 15,000 people around the state; each issue has an estimated pass-along readership of 60,000.
Radio Programs

Our lively broadcasts, aired by public-radio stations across the state, are heard by more than 100,000 listeners each week. These five-minute features explore the people, places, and events—both past and present—that have shaped Florida’s history and heritage.

2007 Broadcasts

Marjory’s Cottage: Efforts to Preserve Marjory Stoneman Douglas’s home
Letter from the Great Depression
José Martí: Cuban Revolutionary
Emancipation Betrayed
Mary MacLeod Bethune: Demanding Democracy
New Urbanism: Florida’s New Towns
The Quilters of Eatonville
Collecting Weird Florida
New Urbanists Go to Mississippi
Florida’s Seminoles in the 21st Century
The Oral Historians: Listening to Stories of the People
The New Florida Book Awards
Historical Archaeology in Florida
Scott and Zelda in Florida
Fort Jefferson: America’s Fortress
Preserving Florida’s “Special Places”
Michael Gannon’s Florida History in 40 Minutes
Graveyard on Atsena Otsie Key
Mirage: Florida’s Vanishing Waters
Carrie Sue Ayvar: Telling Tales in Two Languages
Jackie Cochran: Florida Aviation Pioneer
A Question of Honor
Florida in the Movies
Harold Newton: An Original Highwayman

Archaeology at Little Salt Springs
Florida’s First Major Leaguers
Saving South Beach
LeRoy Collins: A New Look
World War II: Wings Over Florida
World War II: New Jobs for Florida Women
World War II: Training in Paradise
World War II: The Invasion of Florida
The Mermaids of Weeki Wachee
Florida Politics: From Blue to Red in 60 Years
Florida’s Space Program: From Sputnik to Apollo
Florida’s Award-Winning Poets
The Man Who Made Miami Modern
Florida’s Space Program: The Shuttle Story
Florida’s Unexpected Wildlife
Mark Twain in Florida
Doyle Rigdon: Florida Cowboy Poet
Florida’s Fusion Foods
Coming of Age in Florida
Floridians Living on the Hyphen
The Freedom Riders: An Update
Carl Hiaasen in the Ten Thousand Islands
Cracker Moonshine
Lighthouse at Cape Florida

A young girl pauses near a mural depicting Little Havana’s Domino Park, a common scene for Cuban-Americans “living on the hyphen” between two cultures, discussed in a radio program.

The mermaids of Weeki Wachee are a famous Florida attraction and a topic for one of our many radio broadcasts.

A 1920s plan for Venice reflects principles echoed in today’s New Urbanism, the subject of one of our radio programs.
Celebrating our Growing Support

The Florida Humanities Council would like to acknowledge the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities; the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs; and the many individuals, corporations, and foundations that made contributions during our 2007 Fiscal Year (11/1/06 – 10/31/07). Thank you!

MEMBERSHIPS & INDIVIDUAL DONORS

$1,000+
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