Florida Humanities programming annually touches Floridians in every region of the state. From our award-winning FORUM magazine and walking tour app, to our exhibition partnership with the Smithsonian Institution and family literacy programs in public libraries, we are dedicated to convening Floridians in community-based experiences that bring us together and deepen our understanding of Florida.

Grant Funding for Local Humanities Projects
Since 1971, Florida Humanities 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. The app includes 35 tours of unique Florida communities from Pensacola to Key West.

Our Impact Statewide 2018–2019*
$1,005,000 total federal and state dollars invested in local projects statewide
$2,140,000 total local funds leveraged to match Florida Humanities’ support

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. Exhibition host sites report an average attendance increase of more than 60% over the previous year.

*11/01/17 - 10/31/19

Funding for Florida Humanities 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.

floridahumanities.org
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 15,000 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. More than 9,000 students statewide participate in local competitions each year.

“100 Faces of War”
Florida Humanities 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).

Family Literacy Programs in Public Libraries
Florida Humanities supports a variety of reading and discussion programs for families held in public libraries. These include PrimeTime Family Reading Time and English for Families, a new series of ESOL classes that provide parents and their children with opportunities to improve their speaking and writing skills together. All programming utilizes award-winning children’s books to inspire thought and conversation, improve basic literacy skills, promote critical thinking, and provide valuable information for families about library resources.

Speaker Programs
Florida Humanities’ Speakers Directory includes more than fifty expert historians, storytellers, researchers and authors who deliver thought-provoking programs on 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, public libraries and other non-profit groups statewide. More than 10,000 people attend speaker programs statewide each year.

Seminars for Educators and High School Students
In summer 2018 and 2019, K-12 educators and high school students from across the state participated 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.
Grant Funding for Local Humanities Projects—$97,865

- **$20,000**—Museum of Arts and Sciences (Volusia)—“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 featured 100 personal essays and life-sized oil portraits of veterans who 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.

- **$7,500**—Polk Museum of Art (Polk)—“The Legacy of the Freedom Riders,” a program series about the significant contributions of the Freedom Riders and their influence on the work of contemporary artist Charles Williams; “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.

- **$5,000**—Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens (Orange)—“Lay of the Land: The Art of Florida’s Cattle Culture,” a collaborative exhibit and public programs with the Florida Cattlemen’s Association that focus on the art of the cowmen and women known as Florida “crackers”.

- **$5,000**—Brevard County Libraries (Brevard)—“trueFLORIDA,” a book discussion series focusing on Florida’s history, culture and environment.

- **$5,000**—Crealde School of Art (Orange)—“Sage Project II,” oral histories and a photographic exhibition capturing the stories of Winter Park’s historic African American community.

- **$5,000**—Goldsboro West Side Community Historical Association (Seminole)—“Mrs. Allie Berry’s Quilt Code,” an exhibition created in collaboration with the Museum of Seminole County that explores the use of quilts to document women’s history from slavery and the suffrage movement to modern day feminism.

- **$5,000**—Manatee Observation and Education Center (St. Lucie)—“A Cultured Planet,” exhibition improvements and a new lecture series that integrate human history and culture with environmental education.

- **$5,000**—onePULSE Foundation (Orange)—“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 (Polk)—“2019 Race and Culture Lecture Series,” a six-part speakers series focused on raising racial awareness and promoting cultural diversity in Polk County.

- **$5,000**—University of Central Florida (Orange)—“Literature the Consoler,” a workshop series offered in partnership with the Mental Health Assoc. of Central Florida that utilizes literature, creative writing, and artistic expression to provide support to those struggling with mental health issues.

- **$5,000**—Urban Think Foundation (Orange)—“Functionally Literate,” a quarterly reading series that pairs national award-winning writers with noted writers from Central Florida.

- **$4,360**—University of Central Florida (Orange)—“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.

- **$4,300**—Ormond Beach Historical Society (Volusia)—“Speaker Series,” a free lecture series featuring authors and historians discussing Florida’s rich history and culture.

- **$4,140**—New Birth Corporation (Volusia)—“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 (St. Lucie)—“Great American Read,” library programming to complement the national broadcast of PBS’s “Great American Read” series in fall 2018.

• $2,150—Orange County Library System (Orange)—“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 (Osceola)—“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 (Orange)—“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 13,000 people toured the exhibit, attended complementary public programs, or participated in school field trips in the following communities:

• Leesburg Public Library (Lake)
• Polk County History Center (Polk)

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 (Seminole)
• Eau Gallie Arts District Mainstreet (Brevard)
• Lake Wales Museum and Cultural Center (Polk)
• Lincoln Park Main Street (St. Lucie)
• Main Street Fort Pierce (St. Lucie)
• Ormond Beach Historical Society (Volusia)
• Polk County Historical Association (Polk)
• Southeast Volusia Historical Society (Volusia)
• West Volusia Historical Society (Volusia)

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 9,000 students statewide participate in local competitions each year.

Student participation:
• Over 4,000 students from Lake, Orange, Seminole 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 (Orange).

Speaker Programs
Florida Humanities annually partners with community organizations statewide to present informative and lively lectures and community conversations about Florida’s rich history and culture.

More than 11,000 people attended programs hosted by:

• A.E. Backus Museum (St. Lucie)
• Highlands Hammock State Park (Highlands)
• Lady Lake Historical Society (Lake)
• Lake Wales Museum and Cultural Center (Polk)
• Ormond Beach Historical Society (Volusia)
• Oxbow Eco-Center (St. Lucie)
• Stetson University (Volusia)
• The Emerson Center (Indian River)
• Volusia County Public Library System (Volusia)

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 Florida Humanities with a 2017 NEH Chairman’s special initiative grant, the Orange County Library System enhanced their existing ESOL program to include Puerto Rican families displaced by Hurricane Maria. The pilot phase launched in September 2018 with programming scheduled to expand statewide through 2021.