

OUR MISSION

The Arizona Humanities Council builds a just and civil society by creating opportunities to explore our shared human experiences through discussion, learning and reflection.

The Arizona Humanities Council (AHC) offers and funds diverse humanities programs in communities throughout the entire state of Arizona. AHC works with museums, libraries, and other cultural and educational organizations to bring humanities programs to the public. Since the inception of AHC, over \$10 million has been directed to hundreds of Arizona cultural and educational institutions. Each year, AHC programs and funding reach thousands of people throughout Arizona.

AHC's programs are an investment in Arizona's communities – because lifelong learning enriches our shared cultural experience and helps us all become better and more thoughtful citizens of our state, our nation, and the world. Through the humanities, AHC is committed to enhancing the lives of Arizonans by:

- Providing **grants** for high-quality public humanities programs and resources
- Offering entertaining and informative **Road Scholar Speakers Bureau** presentations
- Initiating respectful dialogue and discourse on important public issues through **Project Civil Discourse**
- Presenting prominent speakers and recognizing humanities advocates at the **Lorraine W. Frank Lecture & Humanities Awards**
- Stimulating discussion around great books through **Community Book Discussions** and **Literature and Medicine**
- Bringing **Smithsonian Museum** exhibitions to rural communities
- Encouraging family reading through **PRIME TIME Family Reading Program**

Founded in 1973 as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, AHC is the Arizona affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. A volunteer board of directors governs AHC; the Governor appoints one-fourth of the board members, and the remainder is elected by the current board of directors through a statewide, open nominations process. AHC receives its primary funding through federal appropriations to the NEH and additional support from foundations, corporations, and individuals.

WHAT ARE THE HUMANITIES?

The humanities include history, literature, languages, linguistics, philosophy, law, philosophy, archaeology, comparative religion, anthropology, ethics, and art history, to name a few. They help us explore the human experience and how we relate to one another. Through the humanities we examine our past and most importantly develop better ways to create a just and civil society for the future.