

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 16, 2025

The Honorable Mike Simpson
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related
Agencies
2007 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chellie Pingree
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related
Agencies
2007 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Pingree,

We are writing to thank the Subcommittee for its past support of funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and respectfully request your support for a funding level of at least \$209 million for the NEH in the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Interior, Environment & Related Agencies Appropriations bill and \$68.395 million allocated to the Federal/State Partnership (F/SP) which directly funds the state humanities councils by formula.

Humanities councils play a critical role in our nation as strong cultural institutions create healthy communities and thriving regional economies. As the only federal agency dedicated to funding the humanities, the NEH delivers competitive grants to institutions that enhance the public's knowledge of fields such as literature, language, history, philosophy, governments, and social sciences. This work promotes cultural understanding, awareness, and connection in 56 jurisdictions across the nation through its F/SP Office, touching every congressional district. Funds distributed to the councils by NEH are locally controlled and used to create locally-tailored programs; in turn, they support American institutions like historical societies, museums, schools, and veteran services.

Humanities councils are exemplary of a strong public/private partnership. They reach every corner of their states. Federal funding allows them to offer equal access and services to individuals and organizations in small towns and rural areas. More than 80% of councils collaborate with rural communities to create exhibits and programs and preserve their unique histories. Thanks to your leadership, Congress secured a level of funding for NEH in FY23 and FY24 that has allowed the NEH to reach new underserved and rural communities and facilitate over 3500 grants awarded by the state humanities councils annually.

Nationally, scholars sponsored by state humanities councils provide teachers with a deeper understanding of history and culture while helping them develop new teaching methods at over 1200 schools. These programs enrich the classroom experience for millions of students and create a new generation of civically-engaged youth. They encourage projects that elevate the role of civics in schools and public programs, promote media literacy, and use thoughtful research to examine threats to our democracy, including the ramifications of artificial intelligence in our daily lives. The NEH is also supporting "A More Perfect Union," a special initiative to assemble the NEH's comprehensive catalog of American history for the upcoming 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

As billions of dollars are rightfully invested in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, we must equally prioritize robust federal investment in the humanities. We appreciate your consideration of the humanities during negotiations, and we look forward to working with you to preserve our treasured cultural institutions.

Sincerely,



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



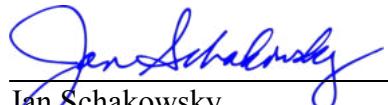
Mike Carey
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



Jared Golden
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



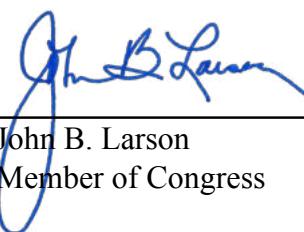
Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



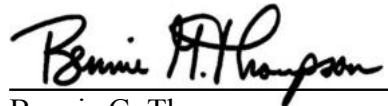
Morgan McGarvey
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



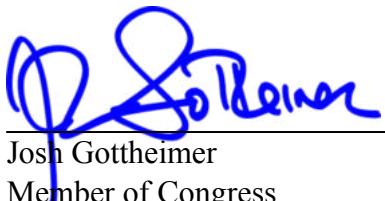
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



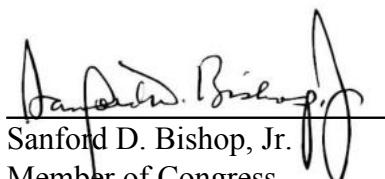
Eric Sorenson
Member of Congress



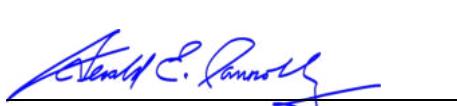
Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



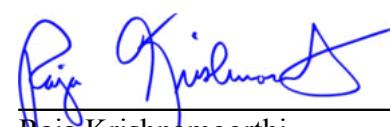
Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Teresa Leger Fernandez
Member of Congress



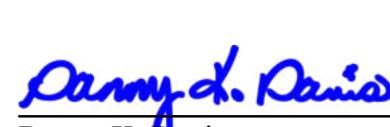
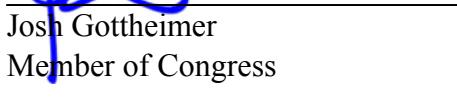
Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress



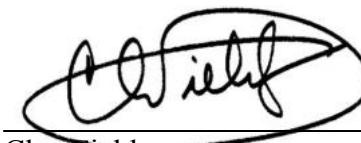
Danny K. Davis
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Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



Cleo Fields
Member of Congress



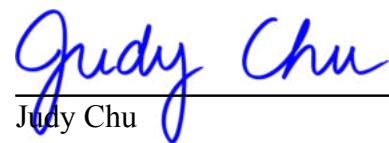
Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



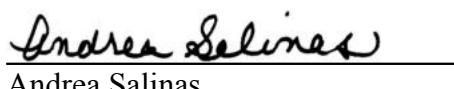
Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



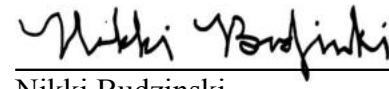
Donald G. Davis
Member of Congress



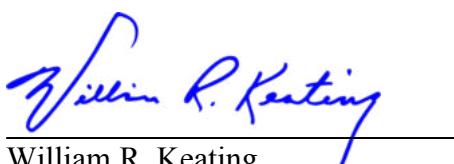
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



Nikki Budzinski
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William R. Keating
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Joyce Beatty
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Emanuel Cleaver, II
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Ayanna Pressley
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Jamie Raskin
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Suzan K. DelBene
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Angie Craig
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Melanie A. Stansbury

Melanie Stansbury
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Julia Brownley
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Robin L. Kelly

Robin L. Kelly
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Chris Deluzio

Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress

Seth Moulton

Seth Moulton
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Nanette Diaz Barragán

Nanette Diaz Barragán
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Mark DeSaulnier

Mark DeSaulnier
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Brittany Pettersen

Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress

Maggie Goodlander

Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress



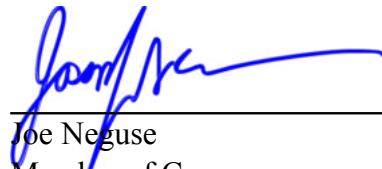
Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



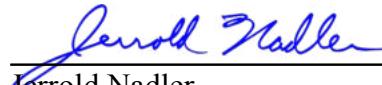
Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress



Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



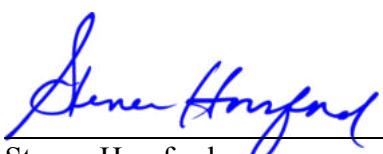
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



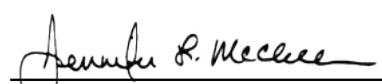
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress
Nevada's Fourth Congressional
District



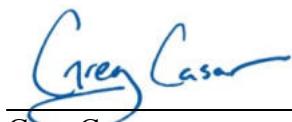
Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Greg Casar
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



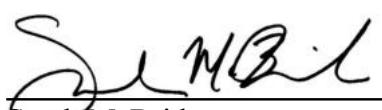
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



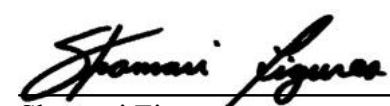
Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



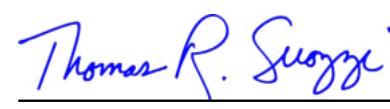
Emily Randall
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Shomari Figures
Member of Congress



Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress

Greg Stanton

Greg Stanton
Member of Congress

Lizzie Fletcher

Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress

Jahana Hayes

Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress

Mike Thompson

Mike Thompson
Member of Congress

Sharice L. Davids

Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress
Kansas Third District

Kimberlyn King-Hinds

Kimberlyn King-Hinds
Member of Congress

Donald Norcross

Donald Norcross
Member of Congress

Sarah Elfreth

Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress

Michael R. Turner

Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress

Scott H. Peters

Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal

Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

Marilyn Strickland

Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress

Stacey E. Plaskett

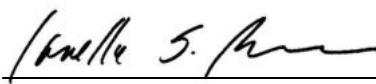
Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress

Eleanor H. Norton

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Brian K. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Janelle S. Bynum
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



David Scott
Member of Congress



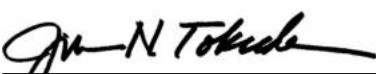
Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



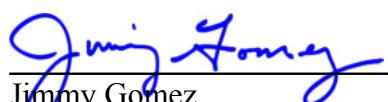
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



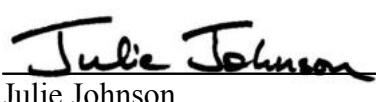
Emilia Strong Sykes
Member of Congress



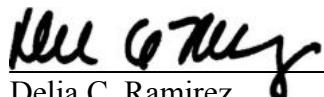
Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress



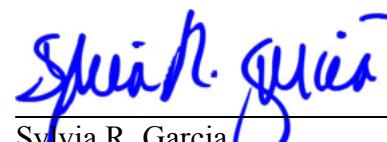
Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



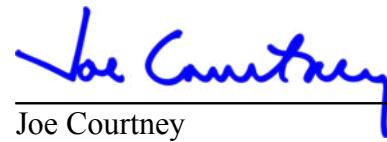
Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



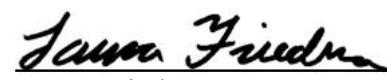
Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



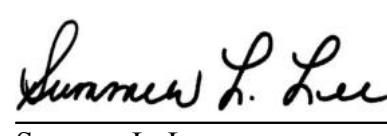
Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



Josh Riley
Member of Congress



Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress



Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



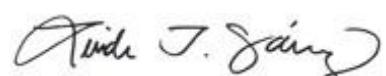
Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



Sam T. Liccardo
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



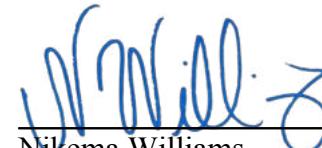
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress



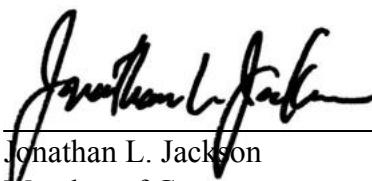
Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



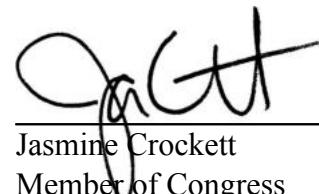
André Carson
Member of Congress



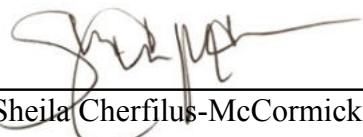
Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Patrick Ryan
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



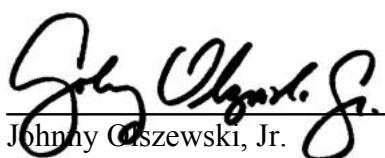
Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



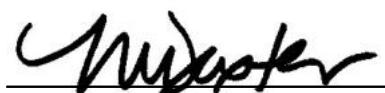
Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress



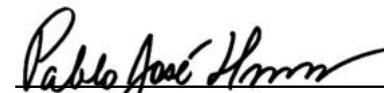
Johnny Olszewski, Jr.
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



Pablo José Hernández
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress



Rob Bresnahan, Jr.
Member of Congress