

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



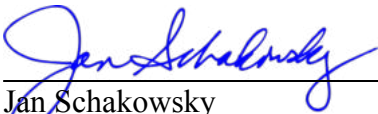
Mike Carey
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



Jared Golden
Member of Congress



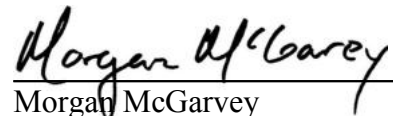
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



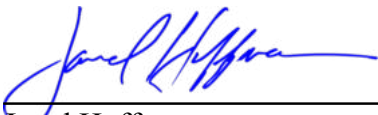
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



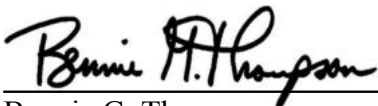
Morgan McGarvey
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



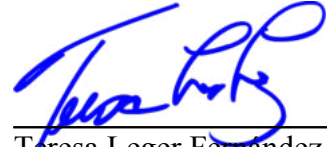
Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



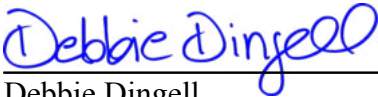
Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



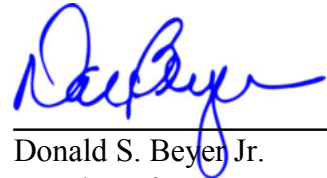
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Teresa Leger Fernandez
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Eric Sorensen
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



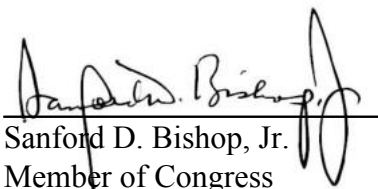
Jason Crow
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



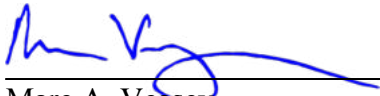
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



Cleo Fields
Member of Congress



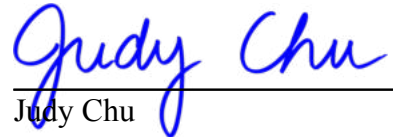
Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



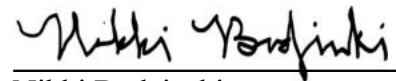
Donald G. Davis
Member of Congress



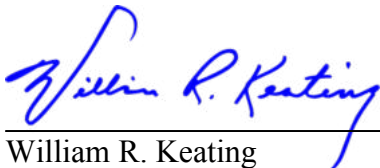
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



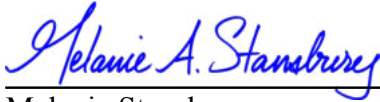
Angie Craig
Member of Congress



Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



Robert J. Menendez
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury
Member of Congress



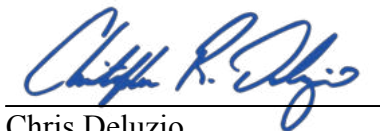
Valerie P. Foushee
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



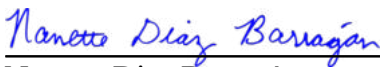
Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress




Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



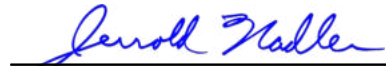
Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress



Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



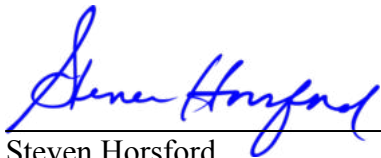
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



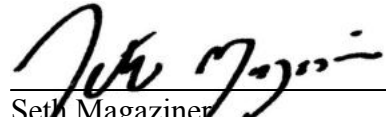
Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



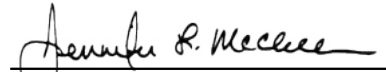
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress
Nevada's Fourth Congressional
District



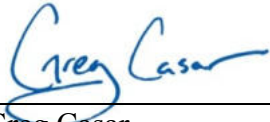
Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



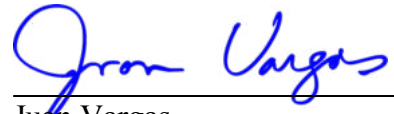
Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



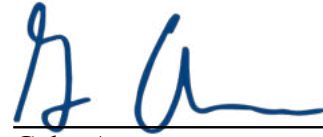
Greg Casar
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



Emily Randall
Member of Congress



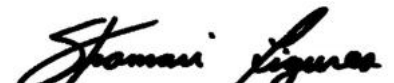
Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



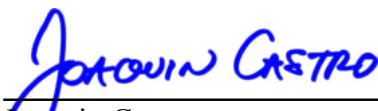
Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



Shomari Figures
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



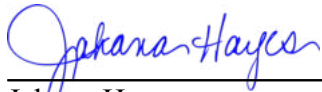
Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



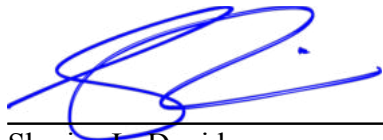
Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



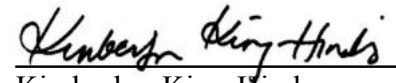
Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



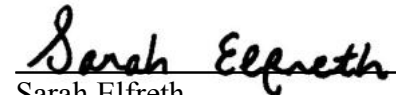
Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress
Kansas Third District



Kimberlyn King-Hinds
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



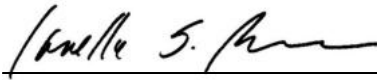
Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress



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



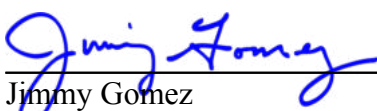
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress




Emilia Strong Sykes
Member of Congress




Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress



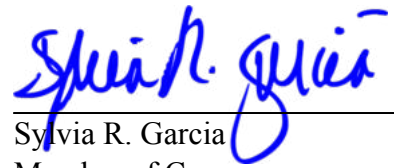
Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



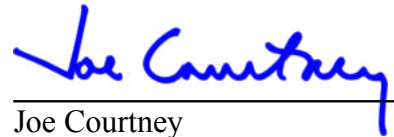
Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



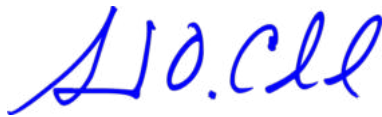
Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



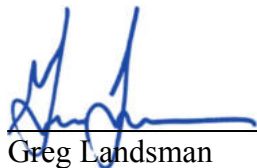
Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



Josh Riley
Member of Congress



Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress



Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



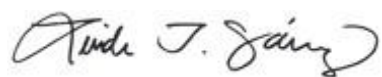
Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.
Member of Congress



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



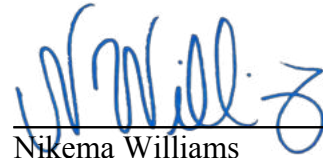
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



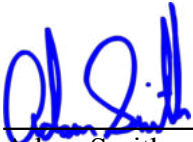
Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



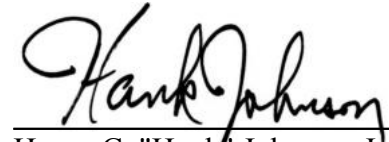
MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



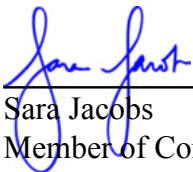
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



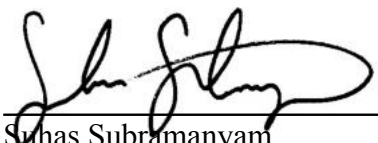
Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress



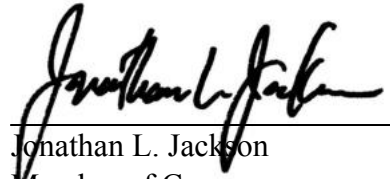
Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



Andre Carson
Member of Congress



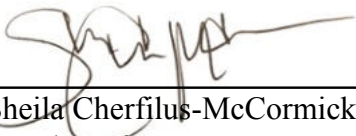
Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



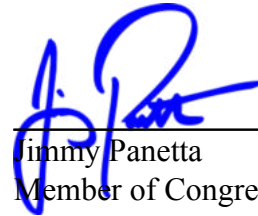
Patrick Ryan
Member of Congress



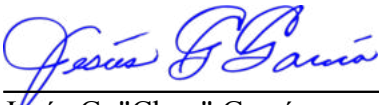
Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



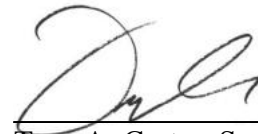
Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



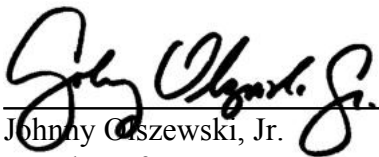
Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress



Johnny Ciszewski, Jr.
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



Pablo José Hernández
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W3 Bell', written over a horizontal line.

Wesley Bell
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bradley Scott Schneider', written over a horizontal line.

Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Bresnahan, Jr.', written over a horizontal line.

Rob Bresnahan, Jr.
Member of Congress