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## **New Georgia Encyclopedia recognized as highlight among 50 years of NEH-funded projects**

### **Governor Nathan Deal calls the NGE “invaluable resource”**

This fall, to kick off a celebration of 50 years of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the federal agency recognized 50 projects of special significance that have enriched and shaped American lives, including the **New Georgia Encyclopedia** (NGE), a program of Georgia Humanities in partnership with the University of Georgia Press, the University System of Georgia/GALILEO, and the Office of the Governor.

The first state encyclopedia conceived exclusively for publication on the Web, NGE has served as a model for other state encyclopedia projects seeking NEH funding.

“The New Georgia Encyclopedia is an invaluable resource for the preservation and observation of state history. As Georgia continues to grow and thrive, collecting our history and making it available to future generations becomes increasingly important,” said Governor Nathan Deal. “The encyclopedia was designed to be authoritative and accessible, and this recognition from the National Endowment for the Humanities cements the New Georgia Encyclopedia as a leader for the preservation of state history.”

The NGE ([www.georgiaencyclopedia.org](http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org))—authoritative, richly illustrated, and free to everyone—has been able to succeed in large part because of its partners’ expertise in education, government, and technology, and because of its network of public and private funding, of federal and state support.

GALILEO is the NGE’s technology partner, ensuring 24/7 accessibility to citizens all around the state, and promoting the NGE website in K-12 school districts, libraries, and institutions of higher education. “I am delighted that GALILEO continues to play a leadership role in making this award-winning resource available to all Georgians—and to web users around the world,” said Steve Wrigley, Executive Vice Chancellor of the University System of Georgia, which oversees GALILEO, and former Georgia Humanities board member.

Georgia Humanities president Jamil Zainaldin added, “The NGE is quite an achievement, thanks to the tremendous usage of the site by educators, tourists, journalists, and others who care about our state’s history and culture.”

A special website that features the top 50 NEH-funded projects can be found at: <http://50.neh.gov/>

### **About Georgia Humanities**

Georgia Humanities is a statewide nonprofit organization working to ensure that humanities and culture remain an integral part of the lives of all Georgians. Serving the citizens of Georgia through cultural and educational programs, grants, and projects, Georgia Humanities encourages engagement with the history, stories, and ideas that inform our lives, so that we can make better decisions for the future.

Founded in 1971, Georgia Humanities is the statewide affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and one of the first of 56 humanities councils founded in the nation. For more information, please visit [www.georgiahumanities.org](http://www.georgiahumanities.org).

**About National Endowment for the Humanities**

Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy, and other areas of the humanities by funding selected, peer-reviewed proposals from around the nation. Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities and its grant programs is available at: [www.neh.gov](http://www.neh.gov).

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