



Georgia Humanities Program Grants Call for Proposals

About Georgia Humanities

Founded in 1971, Georgia Humanities is the only nonprofit organization in Georgia providing statewide support of the humanities, and does so through connecting people and communities to encourage understanding and inspire hope. Georgia Humanities shares and supports programming that engages all ages and backgrounds to explore what shapes us as individuals and binds us together as Georgians. Georgia Humanities is an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Georgia Humanities awards **up to \$2,500 in Program Grants** to support public humanities programs that bring together and strengthen communities through dialogue and shared experience. ***Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, proposed projects can be completely virtual.*** (For information on the Digital Tour Initiative, please refer to the additional guidelines for the Digital Tour Initiative, available at GeorgiaHumanities.org/grants.)

Grant award:	Up to \$2,500
Application deadline:	September 30, 2020 at 11:30p.m. EDT (A second application deadline will be offered in March 2021.)
Notification:	Within 6 weeks of the application deadline
Date projects may begin:	Within 8 weeks after the application deadline
Date project activities must be completed:	Within 1 year of award notification
Important information:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This grant requires a 1:1 match through cash or in-kind sources. • We anticipate awarding 25 program grants for FY2021. • These grants are funded by Georgia Humanities, in partnership with the Georgia Department of Economic Development, through appropriations made by the Georgia General Assembly.

The humanities

The humanities are the academic disciplines involved in the study of human culture. Simply put, they explore how people understand and express the human experience, and include the study and interpretation of such disciplines as literature, history, art, music, language, ethics, philosophy, and more.

Who we fund

Georgia Humanities awards program grants to Georgia-based nonprofit organizations—**we do not award grants to individuals**. Georgia Humanities has previously awarded grants to such cultural, civic,

and educational entities as museums, public libraries, colleges/universities, historical societies, historic homes and sites, historic preservation and archaeological organizations, and government entities in support of a range of projects. Organizations are not required to be incorporated as a 501(c)(3) to apply.

Eligibility requirements:

Georgia Humanities will not award an organization more than one program grant per grant year.

College/university applicants should interpret all eligibility requirements at the department level, i.e. Georgia Humanities considers college/university departments as entities independent of one another for the purposes of program grant award determinations. However, it should be noted that all applicants from the same college/university per grant cycle are considered in the same pool of applications.

Organizations that have received two years of consecutive grant funding must wait one full grant year before reapplying. For example, organizations which received a Georgia Humanities program grant in both FY2019 and FY2020 are not eligible to receive a program grant in FY2021, but may reapply starting FY2022. This policy applies to awarded grants of \$2,000 or less in FY2019 and FY2020 only—receipt of a CARES Act Emergency Operating Grant from Georgia Humanities will have no impact on Georgia Humanities Program Grant award decisions.

Organizations that have an open program grant with Georgia Humanities are ineligible to apply for additional support until the outstanding project has submitted a final report.

What we fund

Georgia Humanities awards program grants to support public humanities efforts across the state that are creative in their approach to organizing and delivering the knowledge and understanding of the humanities to the general public. Proposed projects should apply the vitality and substance of the humanities to the concerns of Georgia’s citizens and provide for a meaningful experience for the local community.

Grant-supported program models have included, but are not limited to:

- Lecture series, public seminars, or panel discussions
- Exhibitions (traveling or permanent) with related programming
- Historic walking and driving tours
- Living history programs
- Author talks
- Literary festivals
- Workshops
- Reading and discussion programs

All proposed projects should be open to the public at no or minimal cost, and should be designed for diverse audiences and points of view.

A note to college/university applicants: Georgia Humanities provides grant support for public humanities programs to broaden the scope of humanities programming available to all Georgians. **College/university applicants must demonstrate a proposed project’s commitment to reach audiences beyond the immediate campus community.** Such projects should

demonstrate the broad appeal of the project through demonstrating community collaboration efforts, strong outreach and publicity plans, or the intended audience impact(s).

What we don't fund

- Individuals
- Fundraising efforts
- Construction or restoration projects (including historic properties)
- Research (unless directly related to the proposed project)
- Study towards an academic degree
- The performing or visual arts (unless as part of a broader humanities-focused program)
- Operating expenses or capital improvements
- Social services
- Scholarships, fellowships, or prizes
- Travel for academic conferences or professional meetings
- Food, entertainment, or alcoholic beverages
- Book publications
- Programs that are not open to the entire community
- Programs of social, religious, or political advocacy

Project Requirements

All proposed projects must meet the requirements listed below to be considered for a program grant from Georgia Humanities. A review committee, comprised of members of the Georgia Humanities Board of Directors, uses these requirements to evaluate grant applications and make award decisions.

All proposed projects must:

- **Be grounded in the humanities.** According to the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the humanities include, but are not limited to, the study and interpretation of the following:
“language, both modern and classical; linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archaeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, criticism, and theory of the arts; those aspects of the social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life.”

—National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act, 1965, as amended

If you have questions or concerns regarding your proposed project’s ability to meet this requirement, please contact Georgia Humanities prior to completing and submitting a program grant application.

- **Involve at least one humanities scholar in the planning and implementation phases of the project.** All projects require the participation of at least one humanities scholar, although the participation of multiple scholars is welcome. Georgia Humanities defines humanities scholars as individuals with advanced degrees in a humanities discipline and experience in research, writing, or teaching in a humanities field. We will also consider individuals without advanced degrees who have a demonstrated record of working, teaching, or publishing in the humanities, and are recognized by their peers as experts in their field so long as the applicant organization successfully demonstrates the suitability of that individual to inform the project. This

requirement often raises concerns for applicants—please contact us as needed for questions regarding the involvement of humanities scholars in your project.

- **Include at least one gathering in which the public comes together for discussion.** Georgia Humanities supports projects that encourage conversation, education, and understanding, and believes a public gathering is a crucial means to facilitating discussion. *We recognize the challenge of facilitating public gatherings in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, and encourage applicants to explore how they may fulfill the public gathering requirement through virtual means.*
- **Be designed or curated for a public audience.** One of the core beliefs supporting our grants programs is that the humanities are for everyone, and we seek grant projects with a demonstrated commitment to be inclusive of diverse audiences.
- **Be of no or minimal cost to the public to participate.** Georgia Humanities recognizes the costs associated with developing and producing public humanities programs. With this in mind, grant projects may charge a fee for members of the public to participate in the project's events, but any fees should be reasonable for the size and scope of the project's activities. Any proposed fees must be detailed in the grant application, including any admission fees to museums or other cultural institutions who may be hosting components of the public programming. The grant review committee may choose not to fund an application if the costs for the public to participate in the project's activities would create a significant barrier to entry for the project's desired audience(s). We encourage all applicants to keep any participation fees to a minimum. *In general, Georgia Humanities prioritizes funding projects that are free and open to the public at no cost.*
- **Request less than or equal to \$2,500.** All grant projects may request a maximum of \$2,500, although it should be noted that applicants may request less funding, if desired. It is Georgia Humanities' practice to award grants at their full level of requested funding if chosen for award.
- **Demonstrate a 1:1 match of grant funds through in-kind or cash sources.** Georgia Humanities requires that all grant applicants demonstrate the capacity to match grant awards 1:1 through either cash or in-kind sources. The match may come from all cash or all in-kind sources, or a mix of both.
 - **In-kind:** Goods or services provided at no cost to the applicant organization, but that have monetary value, in support of the proposed grant project.
 - Examples: donated venue space, volunteer time dedicated to program delivery, donated printing of program materials, etc.
 - **Cash:** Money that the grant recipient will itself spend to support the project, or monetary support received to support the proposed project.
 - Examples: salary of paid staff delivering the project, paid vendors providing A/V event assistance, paid ads in local print or on social media, donations from private sponsors, etc.
- **Begin no earlier than 8 weeks after the application deadline.** Georgia Humanities recognizes the amount of time involved in planning public humanities programs. Applicants may continue planning programs after applying for a grant from Georgia Humanities and while awaiting an award decision, but the project's public events should not occur until 8 weeks after the application deadline. We strive to make all award decisions within 6 weeks of the application deadline—this timeline allows all grantees the opportunity to prepare for and publicly acknowledge Georgia Humanities' support of the program, which is required of all grantees.
- **Complete all grant-supported project activities within 1 year of award notification.** If awarded a program grant from Georgia Humanities, all grant-supported project activities must be

complete within 1 year of award notification. For example, if a grant is awarded on November 11, 2020, all grant-supported project activities must be complete by November 11, 2021. The final report for all project activities is due within 90 days of the conclusion of the project.

Application process

- All grant applications must be submitted online at **GeorgiaHumanities.org/grants** by 11:30p.m. EDT on September 30, 2020.
- An application preview (which includes all questions required on the application) will be made available at **GeorgiaHumanities.org/grants**.
- All program grants are awarded on a competitive basis. We strongly encourage all applicants to review this request for proposals and the application preview prior to completing and submitting an application.
- Award decisions will be made via e-mail to the application's listed project director within 6 weeks of the application deadline.
- Failure to meet any of the requirements specified above will disqualify an application from consideration.
- For more information, visit **GeorgiaHumanities.org/grants**.

Draft applications

Georgia Humanities offers all potential applicants the opportunity to submit a draft application for review and feedback from Georgia Humanities staff. All draft applications must be submitted by September 16, 2020, at 5:30p.m. EDT at **GeorgiaHumanities.org/grants**. Please select "draft" when submitting your draft application on the online form.

Questions?

Contact Nicole Fote, Program Coordinator, at nfote@georgiahumanities.org. Please note that GH staff are continuing to work remotely, and e-mail remains the most efficient means of communication.