

Call for Proposals Programs in the Public Humanities (2017-2018)

The Center for the Humanities & the Public Sphere, with the support of the Robert and Margaret Rothman Endowment for the Humanities, is making available to the public grants up to the amount of \$3,000 to support public programs rooted in one or more of the disciplines of the humanities. We expect to fund several grants in the 2017-2018 academic year. Although the Center is on the University of Florida's campus and sponsors a range of UF programs and events, this grant is designed to encourage on- and off-campus individuals, groups, or institutions to collaborate in the creation and implementation of humanities programs beyond the University of Florida campus. Proposals to this program should be submitted by teams of UF and community partners who collaboratively will realize a particular event or activity. Proposed activities should take place between May 1, 2017 and May 1, 2018.

For the purposes of this grant, a public humanities program would attempt to understand, evaluate, and communicate human experiences, values, and aspirations in order to improve the human condition. While the humanities have traditionally flourished in the disciplines of history, philosophy, literatures, and languages, they help to inform every human inquisitive endeavor in one way or another. These public programs in the humanities, therefore, need not be grounded explicitly in one of these disciplines, but should draw inspiration from them.

Potential programs which will be evaluated on both their applicability to these parameters as well as their community and scholarly impacts, might include things such as:

- an off-campus speaker series and/or workshop open to the public
- a physical or online exhibit or presentation that addresses a humanities topic
- moderated panels that address a public performance, exhibit, or literary work
- the creation of documentary films or other products that are relevant to the humanities
- an off-campus component of a service-learning course

This grant may not be used for projects that are not open to the general public or which charge fees that make public participation difficult; or for the purchase of real estate or the support of existing cultural resources or recurring activities. The grant may not be charged overhead fees by UF units. Any significant infrastructure purchases made with grant funds – e.g., computing technology – will be retained as property of the University of Florida. Projects that build dialogues on significant issues are particularly encouraged.

All applicants must first be pre-approved through the statement of intent process. Applicants may only apply once per grant-cycle (even if partnered with different institutions) and are asked to complete a short statement of intent that describes in no more than 300 words: the aim of the project, the nature of the collaboration between UF and off-campus partners, budgetary needs, and a brief description of each grant partner's professional position and proposed role in the project. This statement of intent should be submitted via an online form located at: <http://www.humanities.ufl.edu/PublicHumanitiesIntent.php>

After receiving approval through the statement of intent process, applicants are asked to submit to the Center a detailed description of the project of no more than 1,000 words, along with a detailed budget, timeline and a brief evaluation plan. The project description should include a short biography of each grant partner and an explanation of what each of the UF and off-campus collaborators will contribute to the project. Applicants must explain how they see the work of the humanities in their proposed project. Letters of commitment from third party contributors are welcome (letters of commitment from the two PIs are not required).

Funds in the grant may be used for material costs incurred in the purchase and processing of supplies and materials, related travel expenses and modest stipends for speakers, space rental or reservation fees, and refreshments. The Center is limited in who may directly receive funds; please keep in mind that these grants must pay for these types of services only. Although these grants are for public programs, projects must be housed financially within a UF unit to facilitate the transfer of funds from the Center.

Competitive proposals should:

- Engage the public in thoughtful and informed activities that explore humanities topics, and/or use approaches in the humanities to open dialogues and explore questions and debates in other areas,
- Outline the potential constituencies that will benefit from the proposal, and
- Discuss the motivations of the proposed activities, how they intersect with the humanities, and the expected outcomes of the project.

An example of a past successful Programs in the Public Humanities Grant proposal is available [here](#).

Proposal Due Date

Friday, 10 February 2017 at 5:00 PM (for the statement of intent:
<http://www.humanities.ufl.edu/PublicHumanitiesIntent.php>)

Friday, 10 March 2017 at 5:00 PM (for applications pre-approved through the statement of intent process)

Please submit proposals as a single document through the online submission process at: <http://forms.humanities.ufl.edu/>. We invite applicants to write to the Rothman Chair and Director, Dr. Bonnie Effros, at humanities-center@ufl.edu in advance with queries about the program, requests to review draft proposals, or requests to locate potential UF or community collaborators. Applicants will be notified in mid-April 2017 regarding the status of their proposals.