Call for Proposals
Programs in the Public Humanities (2015-2016)

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 2015-2016 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 outside of the campus of the University of Florida. Proposed activities should take place between May 1, 2015 and May 1, 2016.

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 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. 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 the aim of the project and budgetary needs in no more than 300 words along with a short biographical description of 100 words or less that includes each applicant’s professional position, their relationship to the co-applying partner institution, and their proposed role in the project. This statement of intent and short biographical description 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. Funds in the grant may be used for material costs incurred in the purchase and processing of 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 and the expected outcomes of the project.

Proposal Due Date
Friday, 13 February 2015 at 5:00pm (for the statement of intent: http://www.humanities.ufl.edu/PublicHumanitiesIntent.php)

Friday, 13 March 2015 at 5:00 PM (for applications pre-approved through the statement of intent process)

Please submit full proposals as a single pdf-file by electronic attachment to the Rothman Chair and Director, Bonnie Effros, at humanities-center@ufl.edu. Applicants will be notified in mid-April 2015 regarding the status of their proposals.