



NEW MEXICO HUMANITIES

Newsletter of the New Mexico Humanities Council

...seeking to understand who we were, who we are and who we hope to be...

Fall/Winter 2010

National History Day Competition 2010 New Mexico Students Take Top Honors

NMHC receives funding from the Federal/State Partnership of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the NM Department of Cultural Affairs



Marisol Ferrandez y Mora, Academy for Technology and the Classics, Santa Fe (teacher: Scott Binkley), in the Senior Paper category, for *The Navajo Code: A Whispered Innovation*.

Elizabeth Montañó and Ashley Page, Moriarty High School (teacher: Amy Page), in the Senior Group Documentary category, for *911: What Is Your Emergency? Answering the Nation's Call*.

Jessica Arreola, West Mesa High School (teacher: Luisa Castillo), in the Senior Individual Exhibit category, for *Bacteria's Nemesis: Penicillin*.

Sabrina Tornow, Heights Middle School, Farmington (teacher: Nathan Pierantoni), in the Junior Individual Exhibit category, for *Diamonds: The Cutting Edge*.

New Mexico students made a proud showing in competition with their peers from 50 states and several other countries (including a delegation from Shanghai) at the National History Day (NHD) competition at the University of Maryland this past June.

A team of two students from Moriarty Middle School won a first place and a student from Albuquerque Christian School won a second at the national competition. In all, a total of six New Mexico projects made it to the finals, making New Mexico one of 20 states represented at that level.

Alicia Page and Allison New, Moriarty Middle School (teacher, Amy Page), won first place in the Junior Group Documentary category, for *The Smoky Bear Campaign: Igniting National Awareness*.

Ema Duran, Albuquerque Christian School (teacher: Dawn Mckenzie), won a second place in the Junior Individual Performance category, for *Satyagraha* (Gandhi's method of non-violent protest).

In addition to these prize-winners, the following students reached the finals at the national level:



National History Day 5



Museum on Main Street 6



Chautauqua Program 8



Humanities Corner 13



New Mexico's Centennial of Statehood Update

The Council has initiated and funded several projects commemorating New Mexico's 100th anniversary of statehood. Those efforts received a welcome boost following the special session of the legislature in March, when Governor Richardson signed legislation supporting Centennial planning and activities. This appropriation was to provide funds for the second round of state-funded Centennial activities; the first was in 2008.

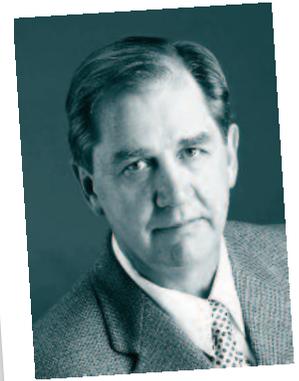
In July of this year the NM Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) allocated \$50,000 of the funds for grants for Centennial projects in local communities, to be granted by the Centennial of Statehood Steering Committee. This allocation has been withdrawn and is being held until sometime after the first of the year as the State continues to deal with the economic downturn and recession.

The August 15 deadline resulted in 37 grant applications being submitted and the Centennial Grant Committee awarded funds for 10 projects, but these funds were withdrawn before successful applicants could be notified

as described above. The applications submitted were required to produce outcomes available for the general public, such as public programs, written materials, creative and performance art, planning and preservation. Projects will be sponsored by nonprofit organizations, or local or state government agencies (such as municipalities, libraries, museums, schools, etc.)

The Steering Committee is a statewide collaboration created by the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs. It has been working for the past five years to plan for statewide activities that will commemorate New Mexico's entry into the union as the 47th state on January 6, 1912. The State of New Mexico will begin commemorative activities in September 2011 and join the NMHC and other nonprofit organizations and communities which have been conducting research and public programs for the past six years.

The NMHC currently has several initiatives underway to produce public programs for the state's centennial. The *Centennial Online Atlas of Historic New Mexico Maps* was drawn from an upcoming University of New Mexico



Dr. Craig L. Newbill

Press book that is promised in the fall of 2010, *An Atlas of Historic New Mexico Maps* by Peter Eidenbach of NMSU-Alamogordo. The *Online Atlas* was launched on October 29, 2009 at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque.

Two other centennial initiatives were approved by the NMHC Board in the spring of 2009: *Celebrating New Mexico Art: From Ancient to Modern*, and *Watershed Consciousness in the Greater Southwest*. The first project, submitted by the New Mexico Museum of Art (formerly known as the Museum of Fine Art), provides \$98,000 for a major museum exhibition, an additional low-security (no climate control or security guards and cameras) traveling version of the exhibition for display in small museums in rural communities, a 96-page catalog and a NM Museum Press book.

The second Council initiative, funded at \$75,000, is an oral history and companion radio project entitled *Watershed Consciousness in the Greater Southwest*. This project will expand the scope of an ongoing project in Arizona and New Mexico and will produce a series of 14 half-hour radio programs exploring Watershed Consciousness from indigenous perspectives along the Rio Grande, Mancos, San Juan, La Plata, and Gila Rivers and will now also include the Pecos and Canadian Rivers. Lore of the Land, Inc., under the direction of aural historian Jack Loeffler, will disseminate this information in culturally relevant and locally accessible ways.

National Humanities Conference
NOVEMBER 4th-7th • 2010

The QUEST for TIERRA NUEVA
navigating our human ties

The New Mexico Humanities Council will host the Annual Federation of State Humanities Councils Conference on November 4-7 in Albuquerque. Delegations of staff and board members from the 56 councils will meet in Albuquerque and convene under the theme, *The Quest for Tierra Nueva: Navigating Our Human Ties*.

Transcripts for the interviews will be created and archived and the *Lore of the Land* web site will host a complementary offering of over 50 radio programs already produced by *Lore of the Land* for free download. The site also will incorporate virtual mapping with links to the watersheds. Jack Loeffler is currently a Chautauqua presenter for the NMHC.

An additional NMHC initiative was approved during the 2009 fall board meeting: *Estudio del Folclor Nuevo Mejicano*. This project is a publication subvention for \$20,000 to the University of New Mexico Press to publish a two-volume anthology of over 400 New Mexican Hispanic folk songs and traditions that Dr. Cipriano Vigil has recorded and played during the past 40 years in New Mexico. All songs and folk traditions are printed in both English and Spanish with appropriate interpretation about the folk traditions from Vigil, who holds a Ph.D. in ethnomusicology. Dr. Vigil has been a Chautauqua presenter with the NMHC for almost twenty years and is currently the Vice President of Northern New Mexico Community College in Española.

The Council was delighted to have contracted with the State of New Mexico to distribute project funds for the second round of Centennial project applications. We are very disappointed, along with the entire Centennial Steering Committee, that funds are not available for the grant program until January of 2011, if at all. While there is a strong demand for additional funds to support activities pertaining to the Centennial of New Mexico's Statehood, there are no guarantees that additional funds will become available in the current economic climate.

But in the meantime, the NMHC constituents have continued to benefit from an assortment of ongoing centennial activities funded beginning in 2004; in addition to those described above, these include:

Centennial Planning in Six Communities in 2006 - \$26,000 - Dr. Jon Hunner,

NMSU; Elmo Baca, independent scholar; and Dr. Craig Newbill met twice in six communities around the state to solicit local input for community events. The participating communities were Las Cruces, Silver City, Carlsbad, Roswell, Las Vegas, and Gallup.

Survival Along the Continental Divide: An Anthology of Interviews - \$9,144 - The anthology, by Jack Loeffler, was published by UNM Press in 2007. A six-part radio series of interviews was broadcast in over 20 radio stations statewide.

Songs of the Cowboys Tour - \$20,000 - nine communities across the state received free concerts to celebrate the first book of cowboy songs to be published by Jack Thorpe. The book was published in New Mexico in 1908. Scholars and presenters Mark Gardner and Rex Rideout also visited domestic abuse shelters, schools, and senior centers in addition to performing in the evening concerts.

Grants for the RFP, "What Does it Mean to be a New Mexican?" - \$235,777 has been awarded to date with an additional \$50,000 in funds dedicated to this centennial grant line for each of the next two years. Over three dozen centennial grants have been awarded by the NMHC in the past three years and an additional 13 grants for \$47,000 was awarded by the State of NM for the Centennial. The State of New Mexico Centennial Grants are also managed by the NMHC.

NMHC Initiatives - \$335,000 has been awarded to seven centennial initiatives, including three of the most recent which are described above.

Dr. Craig L. Newbill
Executive Director

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Mission

The New Mexico Humanities Council supports and conducts innovative and imaginative programs through the State that lead to a greater understanding of, and motivate interest in, the richness of our human experience and heritage.

El Consejo de las Humanidades de Nuevo México dirige y apoya programas novedosos y creativos a través de la provincia que conlleven a la mayor comprensión y motivación de nuestro rico legado cultural humano.



Accomplished Author Gives Talks at Libraries



Even during the driest days of summer, minds all over New Mexico were being watered, as public libraries all over the state took part in the *Water Your Mind—Read* summer reading program. The program, sponsored by the NM State Library with funding from NMHC, featured discussion groups on *The Secret Knowledge of Water* by Craig Childs (Back Bay Books, 2001).

Each year, the State Library coordinates a summer reading program in which the state's 92 public and tribal libraries offer their communities reading discussion groups and related activities.

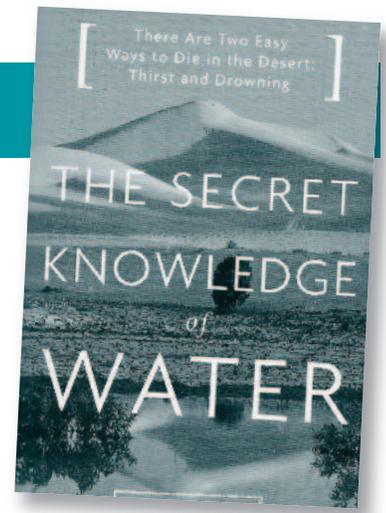
Complementing the reading program, seven of the libraries hosted the travelling exhibit *Moving Waters: The Colorado River and the West*, a project of

seven state humanities councils in the southwest.

Childs' nonfiction work explores the essence of water in the southwest desert, including New Mexico. The author, a naturalist and contributor to National Public Radio's *Morning Edition*, creates a narrative in which the author takes the reader into unknown canyons and across remote expanses, searching for water and its fundamental nature.

The program kicked off with a presentation by Childs at the Los Griegos branch of the Albuquerque/ Bernalillo Public Library on June 19, 2010. He also participated in programs in Edgewood, Eldorado (where he led a hike), Los Alamos, Pueblo of Pojoaque and Dixon. Other libraries featured appearances by Jack Loeffler, who is conducting an NMHC-supported project titled *Watershed Consciousness in the Greater Southwest*, a series of 18 radio programs drawn from more than 100 oral histories.

The Council awarded each of 15 public libraries across the state a \$1,000 grant to purchase 10 to 20 copies of the book to use for the program and to offer events based on the book. Each participating library was required to



offer at least one book discussion event and one event in which participants listened to one or more of the *Watershed* audio programs and discussed them in conjunction with the book. The State Library provided participating libraries with discussion guides.

Libraries receiving local grants were: Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System, Aztec Public Library, Columbus Village Library, Edgewood Public Library, Embudo Valley Library and Community Center, Laguna Public Library, Los Alamos County Library System, Magdalena Public Library, Octavia Fellin Public Library (Gallup), P'oe Tsawa Community Library (Ohkay Owingeh), Portales Public Library, Pueblo of Pojoaque Public Library, Ruidoso Public Library, Thomas Branigan Memorial Library (Las Cruces) and Vista Grande Public Library (Eldorado). The State Library also received funding support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Would you like to give a meaningful gift to your local school?

For just \$50, you can send a Chautauqua speaker or living history presenter to the classroom of your choice.

Teachers all over the state value Chautauqua programs for their rich content and engaging presentations—but with

school funding facing cuts, it will be more difficult for schools to afford even the nominal fee.

To book a program—talk with the school principal and select a program. The school itself should be the applicant.

The Chautauqua consists of 75 presenters who offer more than 100 programs. To see the list, visit www.nmhum.org (on the front page, click on 'programs' then on 'speakers and Chautauqua'; on the page that will show, click on 'search the catalog.'). Or, to receive a print catalog, or ask questions, call 505/277-3705 or email your address to nmhc@nmhum.org.

Where Are They Now?

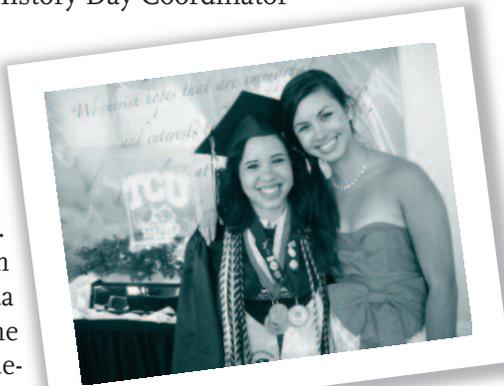
By Trevor Carter, NM National History Day Coordinator

Christina and Amberle Durano participated in history day several times from 2003 until their college days at Texas Christian University. When I did an NHD presentation at a home school workshop, Glenda Durano, their mother and home school teacher, attended. She decided NHD was a great activity for her home schooled girls.

The girls and their mother/teacher believe that history day enhanced their education in several ways. Learning how to use primary resources, learning to look at a topic from many angles, and asking questions outside the box were a few of the benefits they mentioned. Glenda said that after she guided them the first year, the girls just “took it and ran with it”. They really liked the idea that they could present their work in a creative manner, not just one format as required by Science Fair. They could choose topics, that fit their personalities, that they enjoyed and went along with their interests. The family would discuss the theme, and then a topic would be chosen. Glenda believes that it is critical for students to choose a topic that goes beyond just an academic exercise and fits into a personal passion — then it is not work.

Christina graduated from TCU in 2010 with top honors, summa cum laude with a major in broadcast journalism. She is working on a Fulbright Scholarship in the Philippines. Her project is on media as a conduit for change.

Amberle is on a full scholarship to TCU and every award she achieved in NHD was listed on her resume. She feels that history day helped her with



the skills to research thoroughly on the college level and helped her with the skills needed for her technology work in college. She was the youngest person in the nation to become an LPN (she passed the exam at 17 as a senior in HS) She is majoring in nursing with a minor in religion and will study in Italy this fall.

The Durano girls’ participation in history day has been as follows:

- 2003: The theme was *Rights and Responsibilities in History*. They did a performance on prayer in the schools and went to the national contest.
- 2004: The theme was *Exploration, Encounter, Exchange in History*. They worked on separate documentaries. Christina did her documentary on “Darwin” and took 3rd at the state history day. Amberle did her documentary on “Operation Baby Lift” and won our first NM award at the national contest (2nd place in the Individual documentary category).
- 2006: The theme was *Taking a Stand in History*. They again worked together on a performance on “Corrie Ten Boom” and went to the national contest. Christina then went to college.
- 2009: Amberle did a documentary on “Typhoid Mary”, earning 3rd at state. She enrolled at TCU in the fall of 2009.

New Mexico National History Day

Exploring the theme for 2011

The theme for National History Day 2011 is “Debate & Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences.” This theme calls for students to explain the historical consequences of the outcome of a debate or diplomatic event. Whose success is it? Whose failure?

A debate is defined as an argument, a dispute or a deliberation. Some debates have become famous throughout history: think of Lincoln/Douglas, Aristotle/Plato, Kennedy/Nixon. Debates can be concerned with civil liberties, reform movements, women’s issues, constitutional amendments, censorship, and numerous other topics.

Diplomacy is defined in the most simplistic terms as international affairs. An international conference, a treaty, or a summit, are some examples of diplomatic topics related to the theme.

As students delve into their research, they need to decide which is the best way to present this research. Which category will best show their knowledge? For example, a topic without many visuals will not make a good exhibit, website or documentary and might be best presented as a performance or paper.

Students will participate in a regional contest. If they place 1st, 2nd or 3rd in their category, they are eligible to compete at the state contest. First and second place winners at the state contest may move on to nationals.

Special prizes are offered at the state contest by groups and individuals. If you or your organization would like to sponsor a prize or would like more information on prizes, please contact Trevor Carter: (505) 277-3474 or historyday@nmhum.org



Outstanding NHD New Mexico Teachers 2010

This year the NHD national office recognized two teachers from New Mexico for the new *Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award to Recognize Outstanding NHD Teachers*. Two state winners, one each at the junior and senior levels, were selected from each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense Schools, International Schools-Asia and the U.S. territories.

Selection Criteria:

- A minimum of five years' classroom experience with National History Day with preference given to a teacher working with an "at risk" population, defined as a student population that has a low graduation rate
- A documented commitment to student-led historical research
- Evidence of creativity in the classroom that exceeds expected participation in NHD

The awards for NM were given to West Mesa High School (Albuquerque) teacher Luisa Castillo and Red Mountain Middle School (Deming) teacher Merrill Punke.

Luisa began NHD at West Mesa High School in the fall of 2003 with only 3 students — who for their efforts received 3rd place at the state competition. The following year, she implemented the program as a class wide assignment and the West Mesa NHD program was born. Since then the West Mesa NHD program has been awarded state level prizes of 9 first place teams, 2 second place teams (who also competed at Nationals) and 12 third place finishes. Throughout the years, she has taken 34 teams to state competition.

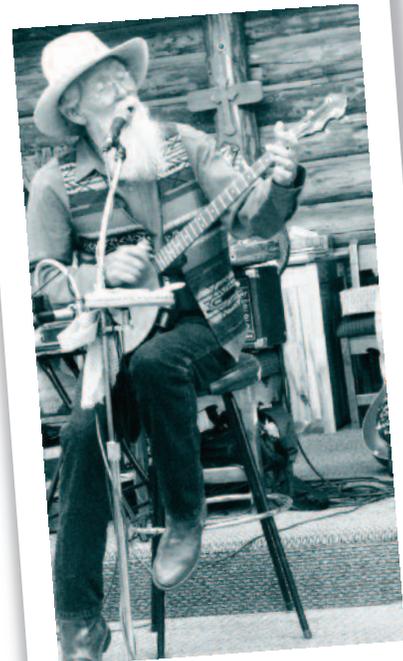
The socio-economic level of the students at West Mesa High School is predominantly lower-middle class. "My students come from homes in which English is not

their primary language. They are predominately Mexican nationals or first generation Americans. My class/program is unique by virtue that research skills are taught in two languages, English and Spanish."

Merrill teaches at Red Mountain Middle School in Deming, about 50 miles north of the border with Mexico. The vast majority of his students are from homes that are economically stressed and often come from homes where Spanish is the only language spoken. Often, education and academic endeavors become marginalized in this community.

Said Merrill: "National History Day has allowed me to expose students not just to the potential and relevance of historical knowledge, but also to the value of academic rigor. These students, who often would not be exposed to universities, libraries, or archives, are allowed to actually hold primary sources they often would never see. This exposure has opened these students to the potential of higher education and to the knowledge that they can succeed. NHD has greatly improved my teaching and has allowed my students to open themselves to possibilities they would have never seen without this program."

The New Mexico Humanities Council's "Best NHD Teacher" for 2010 awards were given to Susan Boyles from Hermosa Middle School in Farmington and to Claudie Thompson from Silver High School in Silver City. Both Susan and Claudie have been helping students with their NHD projects for at least 5 years and are well regarded by their students. Claudie will be teaching an actual NHD class at Silver HS this year. Students will be able to spend time every day on their NHD work.



"Dulcimer Dan" at the Red River Community House

New Harmonies

New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music

New Mexico Tour Dates

Geronimo Springs Museum,
Truth or Consequences
March 13–April 24, 2010
575-894-6600

**Hubbard Museum of the
American West,**
Ruidoso Downs
May 1–June 12, 2010
575-378-4142

Red River Community House,
Red River
June 19–July 31, 2010
505-250-0929

Folsom Museum, Folsom
August 7–September 18, 2010
575-278-2122

Los Amigos Center, Santa Rosa
September 25–November 6, 2010
575-472-3763

**Los Lunas Museum of
Heritage & Arts,** Los Lunas
November 13–December 25, 2010
505-352-7720

MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET



Traveling Smithsonian exhibition “New Harmonies” will make its final stop in Los Lunas

From the diddley bow to Bo Diddley, *New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music* addresses the history and influences of roots music in America. American music is as rich as it is diverse. Communities hosting *New Harmonies*, including Truth or Consequences, Ruidoso Downs, Red River, Folsom, Santa Rosa, and Los Lunas have been exploring their musical heritage: from the mandolin, fiddle, and violin music, to sacred songs, local corridos and Flamenco music sung in Tiwa. These six communities have been delving into their local music heritage by hosting public programs that expand on the themes of the traveling Smithsonian exhibition *New Harmonies*—whether it be cowboy songs, traditional Jewish music or Mariachi music. American music remains an indelible part of our culture. With the support from the NMHC, communities hosting this

Smithsonian exhibition have been able to offer a wide variety of educational public programs for their entire communities.

If you are interested in learning more about New Mexico roots music, be sure to stop at one of the last two hosts on the tour, either in Santa Rosa or Los Lunas, to see and hear *New Harmonies* and some of its local public programs. For more information please visit our web site at www.nmhum.org or www.museumonmainstreet.org. *New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music* is part of the Museum on Main Street program, a unique partnership between the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Services, state humanities councils across the nation, and local host institutions.



Traveling Smithsonian Exhibition Explores History of Movement Through Personal Stories and Innovative Changes in Mobility

The next and upcoming Smithsonian traveling exhibition is *Journey Stories*. This exhibition explores the intersection between modes of travel and Americans’ desire to feel free to move. The story is diverse and focused on immigration, migration, innovation, and freedom. *Journey Stories* will begin its tour June 25, 2011 and will tour six communities in New Mexico, staying in each community for six weeks each. To find out which communities will be hosting *Journey Stories* in 2011-2012, visit our web site at www.nmhum.org. To learn more about *Journey Stories* visit www.museumonmainstreet.org.



Edith Wharton (1862-1937)

In her voice:

I remember once saying that I was a failure in Boston because they thought I was too fashionable to be intelligent, and a failure in New York because they were afraid I was too intelligent to be fashionable.

I grew up in New York and I married a man from Boston, Teddy Wharton. I spent many years in these two cities and my life in both was difficult.

Someone also once observed that my friend Theodore Roosevelt and I, despite a common background from well-off, well-established New York families, were both 'self-made men.' It is true. We were born, only three years and three blocks apart, into the same tight, privileged world of 'Old New York.' We both rebelled against the complacency of a point of view that found politics too dirty for gentlemen and letters too unsuitable for ladies. The weakness of the social structure of my parents' day was a horror of innovation.

My parents and their group held literature and art in great esteem, but they stood in nervous dread of those who produced it. In our family, authorship was regarded as something between a black art and a form of manual labor. Washington Irving was acceptable, in spite of the disturbing fact that he wrote, because he was a gentleman and a friend of the family. It was easy to dismiss other writers: Herman Melville, although by birth a gentleman, was excluded because of his "deplorable bohemianism." Longfellow, also a gentleman, was too popular. Poe, of course, was thought drunken and demoralized.

I cannot hope to render the tone in which my mother pronounced the names of such unfortunates, or, on the other hand, that of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe who was so "common" yet so

successful. Whatever they professed their reasons to be, I am sure the chief reason for their reluctance to encounter the literary was an awe-struck dread of the intellectual effort that might be required of them.

How could I ever have supposed I could be an author? I had never even seen one in the flesh! I grew up in almost an absence of literary culture. I remember once, at age 11, showing my mother the beginning of my first attempt at story-telling, a novel, which began: "Oh, how do you do, Mrs. Brown?" said Mrs. Thompkins. "If only I had known you were going to call I should have tidied up the drawing-room."

I shyly submitted this to my mother and never shall I forget the sudden drop of my creative frenzy when she returned it with the icy comment: "Drawing-rooms are always tidy."

Lucretia Rhineland Jones. You've heard of her even if you don't know that you have. Because she wasn't just any Jones: she was one of *the* Joneses in Old New York society, part of the Four Hundred. (If Mrs. William Astor's ballroom had held more than four hundred people, who knows what might have happened to the social hierarchy of New York?) The expression, "keeping up with the Joneses", was said to be in reference to our branch of the family, especially to my audacious great-aunt, Mrs. Mason Jones. But I suspect that Lucretia was very fond of the saying. She wanted to determine a standard, *the* standard: when she whirled by, heads would swivel (sometimes turn so far as to cause real pain), waists would curve forward in a bow, heels would click together.

Lucretia wanted to dazzle the world with her beauty, her material perfection.



That was never to be my way. Looks spoil, fashions alter, one can never fully possess one's own body—it changes before your very eyes. But stories not only can change the world, they can live forever. They don't diminish like flesh—they become more alive and beautiful each time they are repeated. Stories weave the true textures of our lives.

From the point of view of scholar Lynn C. Miller:

Born during the American Civil War, the novelist Edith Wharton chronicles the movement of America from the opulent era of the Gilded Age, through the radical cultural changes following the first World War, up to the fascist threat on the eve of WWII. Born into the wealth and privilege of an old New York family, Wharton defied the mores of her aristocratic class to become a writer. Her journey from the strict, circumscribed world of her childhood to a rich and wide-ranging life as an intellectual, artist, and world traveler took great courage and invention.

Edith Wharton, a writer whose critique of her country instilled in her readers a rediscovery of the social and cultural trappings of America, had first to recover her own life from what was, particularly for women, a narrow world obsessed with leisure and fashion—as a friend pointed out, "The Four Hundred [the social elite of New York] would have fled in a body from a poet, a painter, a musician or a clever Frenchman."

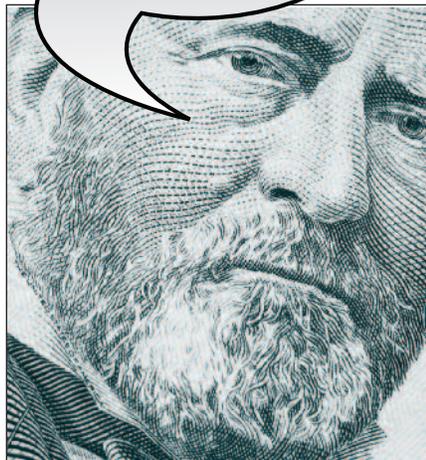
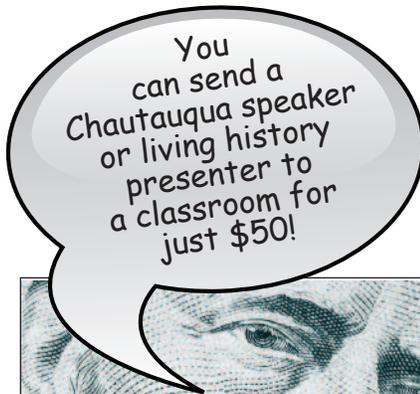
Author of 52 books of fiction, criticism, autobiography, travel, and other works, Wharton is not only one of America's most important and finest novelists, but also a major interpreter of late 19th century and early 20th century American society. She was the first woman to win a Pulitzer Prize, in 1921 for *The Age of Innocence*. In novels like *The Custom of the Country*, *The House of Mirth*, and *The Age of Innocence*, Wharton critiques the influence of class and the effects of capitalism on American society, and particularly on women. She writes in her autobiography, *A Backward Glance*, that a society gains significance from what it destroys, which is powerfully evident in *The House of Mirth* where we witness the destruction of the beautiful, talented, and fragile Lily Bart. In Wharton's fiction, both men and women struggle to find creative and individual expression in a social structure where money, position, family, and patriarchal values dictate—and often restrict—human aspiration and behavior.

In spite of the often tragic fate of her protagonists, Wharton herself was a triumphant character in her own life's drama. Like her heroine Ellen Olenska in *The Age of Innocence*, Wharton escaped to Europe, leaving behind stifling social convention and fashioning a fulfilling life for herself in France. Solidly based in her houses of fiction, this expansive, incredibly rich life really resided in a house of the spirit nurtured by art, friendship, and the courage of her vision.

2011 will mark the 100th anniversary of one of her most celebrated novels, *Ethan Frome*, still taught in high schools today. The novel's depiction of society's have-nots in a culture where a very few control the nation's wealth resonates with us today.

Many of Wharton's novels have been adapted to film, including *The Age of Innocence*, *Ethan Frome*, and *The House of Mirth*. An articulate spokesperson for the position of women, and a perceptive commentator for the fate of the underprivileged in the hands of the privileged, Edith Wharton indeed is one of our foremost "inventors" of the American scene, and one of our chief interpreters of the often spiritually bankrupt quest for the American dream.

*Edith Wharton, as portrayed by Lynn C. Miller, is available as a Chautauqua program. For more information about this program please visit our web site or call Jessica Billings, Program Coordinator, at (505) 277-1750. Lynn C. Miller is author of the novels *The Fool's Journey* (2002) and *Death of a Department Chair* (2006) and co-editor of *Voices Made Flesh: Performing Women's Autobiography* (2003).*



Chautauqua adds new programs

Several new programs have been added to the NMHC Chautauqua, following auditions held in September. Following is a brief list. For more information, check the NMHC Website, www.nmhum.org. (Other programs, awaiting decisions as this went to press, are not yet listed.) The programs are now available for booking.

Escape in Vietnam (Pilot With a Magic Hat), by Bill Martin

William Becknell, Founder of the Santa Fe Trail, by Allan J. Wheeler

Experimental Cinema and the Politics of Cultural Representation, by Bryan Konefsky

Rachel Carson and Margaret Sanger, two programs from Ann Beyce
Greats of the Guitar, by Daniel Weston
A Brief History of Christmas Music, by Andrew Mason

An Amazing and Rewarding Life, by Susan Hershberger

Lady Blue's Dreams and El Primer Encuentro (The First Encounter in the Southwest): Cabeza de Vaca & Estevanico, two puppet plays by Ronald Dans and Laia Obregon-Dans

Chester Nez, World War II Navajo Code Talker, by Judith Avila

Diamond Bessie, Soiled Dove, by Susi Wolf

Alice Corbin Henderson: Poet and Adopted Daughter of New Mexico, by Patricia Jonietz

Milton S. Yarberrry – Sheriff, by Blake Starr

Traditional Musical Instruments, by "Dulcimer" Dan Arterburn

Dale Evans (Rogers), by Kay Sebring-Roberts Kuhlmann

New Mexico Humanities Council Awards Over \$90,000 in Grants

Four times a year, NMHC accepts grant applications for local projects. In addition to funding local projects through grants, the NMHC provides speakers and living history presenters to not-for-profit organizations, museums, libraries and schools throughout the state; sponsors National History Day in New Mexico; and sponsors traveling exhibitions from the Smithsonian Institution. In addition, NMHC has funded several projects commemorating the New Mexico Centennial of Statehood. NMHC receives funding from the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, the National Endowment for the Humanities and donations. The NMHC Board of Directors has provided partial funding for the following projects.

To learn more about these grant funded projects, please contact Program Officer, Michelle Quisenberry, at 505/277-4151.

February 01, 2010 Awardees:

\$6,800 to the National Institute of Flamenco for the 2nd Annual Flamenco Research Symposium: New Perspectives in Flamenco.

Eva Encinias-Sandoval, Executive Director of NIF, 505/242-7600.

\$10,500 to KUNM Radio for KUNM and StoryCorps' Historias Project.

Richard Towne, KUNM General Manager, 505/277-8009.

\$4,763 to the Roswell Museum and Art Center for Reinterpretation of the Hurd-Wyeth Collection

Laurie Rufe, Museum Director, 575/624-6744.

\$2,879.78 to New Mexico Highlands University for Indian Rodeo on the Navajo Nation

Meagan Jacobs, Assistant Professor of Media Arts, 505/454-3461.

\$14,500 to the National New Deal Preservation Association—NM Chapter for Find New Mexico's New Deal Treasures

Lynda Grasty, President NM Chapter, 505/980-0708.

\$3,750 to the Los Alamos Historical Society & Museum for Programming for the Oppenheimer House

Heather McClenahan, Assistant Director, 505/662-6272.

\$8,300 to West End Press for Crisis, Community, and Culture: The Albuquerque Cultural Conference, 2010

Leslie Fishburn Clark, West End Press, lfishbur@unm.edu.

\$2,000 to the Hubbard Museum of the American West for Hubbard Museum Music Project: The Clovis Sound, New Mexico's Contribution to Rock & Roll

David Mandel, Curator of Exhibits, 575/378-4142.

\$4,750 to the Geronimo Springs Museum for New Harmonies Music Series

Larena Miller, Museum Director, 575/894-6600.

\$11,500 to the Red River Community House for Smithsonian Exhibition, New Harmonies

Eddie Dry, 575-754-3364.



\$8,500 to the Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts for Nuestrros Raices: Our Roots

James Fernandez, Museum Director, 505/352-7720.

\$6,500 to the Folsom Museum for New Harmonies Interpretive Programs

Marijo Balmer, 575/278-2520.

June 01, 2010 Awardees:

\$2,000 to Center for International Studies for Challenging Countries, Difficult Leaders

Marina Oborotova, President, 505/856-7277.

\$2,000 to the Department of History at New Mexico State University for Centennial Saturday

Jon Hunner, Department of History, 575/646-4601.

\$2,000 to the Albuquerque Fiber Arts Council for New Mexico's Historic Centennial Textiles: Exhibition and Lecture Series

Colleen Konetzni, 505/892-5673.

\$2,000 to Guanábana Productions for the 2010 Albuquerque Latin Dance Festival

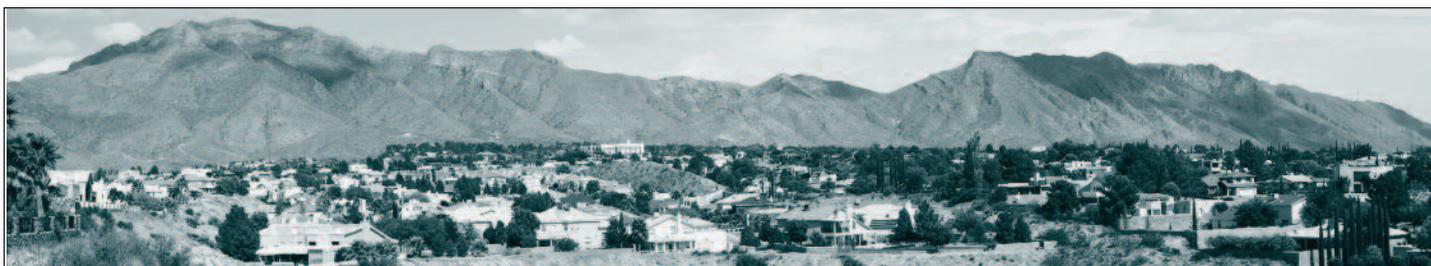
James Foley, Executive Director, 505/577-6457.

\$2,000 to the City of Santa Rosa for Trails, Roads and Highways that Bring our Song

Richard Delgado, 575/472-3763.



2010: A View from the Paso del Norte:



By Kent Paterson

It's been said that the US-Mexico border is a land of contrasts. And in the 21st century, the dichotomies keep growing. Embracing Ciudad Juarez, El Paso and New Mexico's Doña Ana County, the Paso del Norte is now a burgeoning metropolitan area. In Ciudad Juarez, foreign-owned maquiladora export plants churn out consumer goods for the US market. The pace of industry is visible by the truck traffic that crawls over the international bridges and roars onto an expanding Interstate 10 snaking to the east and west.

Ciudad Juarez-El Paso-Las Cruces is a sprawling, binational city of more than two million people. Since 2008, violent competition between organized crime groups over control of Ciudad Juarez has claimed more than 6,000 lives, a death toll higher than the number of US troops killed in Afghanistan and Iraq. An estimated 10,000 orphans are left behind.

Battered by murder and extortion, thousands of businesses have shuttered their doors while tens of thousands of people have fled to El Paso and other havens. New businesses operated by *Juarenses* sprinkle El Paso's landscape. A similar exodus during the 1910 Mexican Revolution helped shape the city's character.

Contrary to some reports, very little of the violence has directly spilled over

to El Paso and Doña Ana County. As of early August 2010, one murder had been registered in El Paso for the entire year. Rated the second safest city in the United States by *Congressional Quarterly*, El Paso suffers far less violent crime than Albuquerque up the *Camino Real*.

Nonetheless, historic commercial, cultural and personal relationships in the tri-state region have been disrupted. Students and staff from UTEP, NMSU and UNM are officially warned against visiting a sister city. NMSU students have witnessed loved ones "brutally impacted" by the Ciudad Juarez violence, says Cynthia Bejarano, NMSU professor of criminal justice. Last spring, Bejarano and colleagues organized a campus forum as a first step in supporting Ciudad Juarez's besieged residents.

Multiple social, economic and environmental challenges define the region.

Now boasting more than 200,000 residents, Doña Ana County grapples with development, affordable housing and employment issues. Outgoing Doña Ana County Commissioner Oscar Vasquez-Butler says about half the county's population resides in federally-designated *colonias*, or settlements that lack basic infrastructure including wastewater systems, gas hook-ups and paved roads. Progress is being made in developing

the *colonias*, but much more needs to be done.

Agriculture remains a pillar of the local economy. While Hatch's famed chile gets the glitter, onions, dairy and pecans fetch the gold. In 2010, the first-ever Mesilla Valley Onion Festival was held. "(Organizers) want it to get eventually as big as the Hatch Chile Festival," says New Mexico Department of Agriculture spokeswoman Noreen Jaramillo.

Contemporary Doña Ana County is home to relocated retirees, new immigrants from Mexico and young families struggling to make a living. Foreign students from India and other nations study at NMSU for the high-tech careers of the future.

A student at Gadsden High School, Brenda Martinez came to the US six years ago and enrolled in English-as-a-Second Language before mainstreaming into regular classes. The friendly teenager plans to study business administration at Doña Ana Community College after she graduates from high school. "I'm really good at math," Martinez says.

Martinez is part of the new generation of borderlanders, people whose identities are shaped by the cross-pollination of worlds along a political dividing line. Gabi Ruiz is also a borderlander. The Ciudad Juarez resident takes high

(Paso del Norte, continued on page 12)



ATTENTION GRANT APPLICANTS

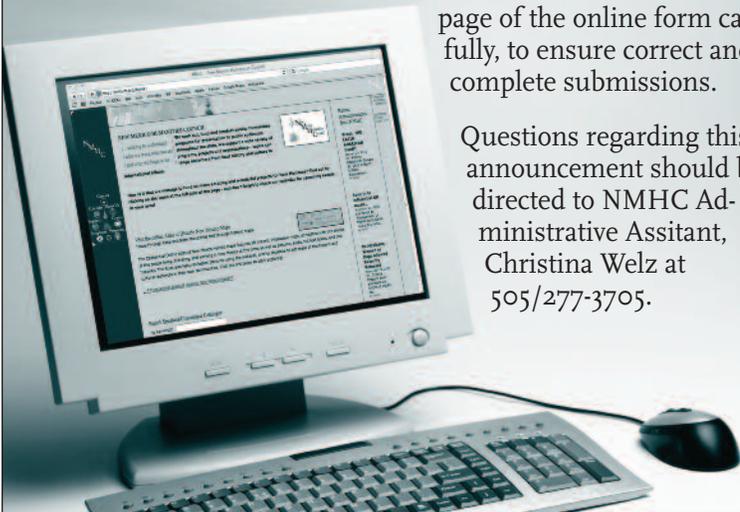
Revised Grant Application Procedures:

Online submission is now required for all NMHC grant applications. Starting with the October 1, 2010, grant cycle, all grant applications and supporting documentation should be submitted electronically using the form available at <http://nmhum.org/grants/application/>.

To submit applications electronically, **applicants must first complete and submit the registration form** at <http://nmhum.org/register>, and follow the emailed instructions to complete the registration & log in. Registration requires an active email address.

Upon logging in, applicants can click a link to continue to the online grant application. Applicants can always find the online grant application under the “grants” menu on the NMHC website. When applying using this new form, please read the instructions for each page of the online form carefully, to ensure correct and complete submissions.

Questions regarding this announcement should be directed to NMHC Administrative Assitant, Christina Welz at 505/277-3705.



(Paso del Norte, continued from page 11)

school classes in the morning and plays cello in an afternoon orchestra. Perfectly bilingual, Ruiz credits her accent-free English to *Sesame Street* and other US-produced programs beamed into Mexico.

Ruiz’s boyfriend lives in El Paso, and the couple’s reunions are marked by the ritual passage over the Santa Fe Bridge connecting El Paso and Ciudad Juarez. There, above the politically-inspired messages painted on the concrete embankments of the tamed Rio Grande and the metallic tangle of old rail yards, street vendors hawk peanuts and gaudy celebrity portraits, while contraband smugglers play out their luck alongside frustrated motorists burning up gas in the entry line descending to watchful US border inspectors and their drug-sniffing pooches.

Ruiz joins thousands of other border-crossers processed through US customs, just like previous generations of borderlanders. “We can’t do anything about it,” Ruiz says of the rules made in Washington. “We wait and then go.”

Journalist and author Kent Paterson is project director of the Centennial-themed “Enduring Legacies” print and radio series supported by the New Mexico Humanities Council and the McCune Charitable Foundation. Two project-produced radio programs on southern New Mexico agricultural history will air on KUNM-FM Albuquerque this fall. Stay tuned.

Paterson is editor of Frontera NorteSur, the online border news service of the Center for Latin American and Border Studies at NMSU. For a free e-mail subscription: fnnews@nmsu.edu



NMHC Grant Deadlines

For grant guidelines and eligibility go to www.nmhum.org.

Regular Grants (more than \$2000)

Consultation Deadlines
January 10
September 10

Application Deadlines
February 1
October 1

Mini Grants (up to \$2000)

Consultation Deadlines
May 10
October 10

Application Deadlines
June 1
November 1



This issue's question:

What does it mean to you to be an American?

In each issue we feature responses to a specific humanities-based question that is timely and valuable to our readers. If you are interested in being featured or would like to see a question of your own answered, send an email to nmhc@nmhum.org with "Humanities Corner" in the subject line. If answering the question posed, please write a response of three to five sentences and include your full name, occupation, etc. We look forward to hearing from you!

“To me being an American means the constant navigation between the gratitude I feel to have been born in a country of immense power and privilege and the opportunities that power and privilege have granted me, and the sorrow I feel when we fail to leverage that privilege to protect and provide for all the people who live here”.

—Michelle Otero is the Creative Director of Connecting Community Voices and author Malinche's Daughter.



“For me, ‘What it means to be an American’ is a very complex, challenging question.

Growing up in the immediate aftermath of World War II in an extremely complex cultural and historical context, albeit, heavily European, but increasingly non-European meant there was never any one dominant group, but many groups.

Daily existence demanded each individual be understood, not only in terms of their more obvious group characteristics, but also as a unique product of national history, ethnicity, religion, class, region, family and personal experiences.

Understanding the deeper complexity beneath the strong Amer-

ican desire to bury differences is the bane of my life, but is also the source of great delight because amid the hates, enmities, and cruelties, there are great loves, the shared wrangling, and the absurd wonder of coming to terms with one of the few nations in the world where messy coexistence is a going concern.

—Elizabeth Akiya Chestnut is a third generation of a five generation Japanese American family that these days more closely resembles an American pastiche. She was formally trained in History (American/European & Asian), Anthropology, and Intercultural Communication.



“For me, being an American is recognizing that as wonderful as our political and social systems seem in comparison to others. It is imperfect and sometimes unfair, but it can be the best in the world if we are willing to take ownership, responsibility and accountability for it – each and every one of us”.

—Carlos Vásquez, Director of History and Literary Arts National Hispanic Cultural Center



Next issue's question...

The New Mexico Humanities Council is working hard on several projects to highlight New Mexico's 100 years of statehood and to connect communities to New Mexico's 2012 Centennial. As we approach our 100th year of statehood we ask you, our readers:

What has been New Mexico's best birthday present to America over the past century?



Happy Trails... Nancy Brouillard Rides Off Into The Sunset

Although the Humanities Council is a very small organization, keeping it fiscally sound and legal is complex and demanding. Nancy Brouillard has done that since 1988. Nancy will retire in November, after 21 years with NMHC—the longest tenure to date of any Council employee.

Before assuming the duties of financial officer, Nancy was administrative assistant, first to former executive director John Lucas, then to the current ED, Craig Newbill.

NMHC finances are complex because money comes in from a variety of sources—state government (through the Department of Cultural Affairs), federal government (National Endowment for the Humanities), as well as donations, special grants and allotments, and fees (such as for Chautauqua presenters). Each source must be entered into a separate account, each with its own deadline for reporting. Expenditures must be accounted for to the penny.

That Nancy did this well is attested by the excellent reports each year from an independent auditor. The Council's budget falls below the threshold that requires an outside audit, but Nancy insisted on them, to provide an outside evaluation of her work.

Staff members, grant recipients, and Chautauqua presenters count on her to keep the funds flowing, and she has not failed them.

In her private life, Nancy is an accomplished weaver, as well as a beadwork artist, and is active in organizations dedicated to those arts. These include



Sheep to Shawl, which operates a booth at the State Fair each year and the Las Arañas Weavers' Guild. Each year, staff members look forward to Christmas gifts of beautiful handmade beadwork.

With a degree in anthropology, Nancy is a former Peace Corps Volunteer on Woleai Atoll, Yap District, Western Caroline Islands having served from 1968 to 1970. She is also an enthusiastic outdoors-woman. She serves as a site steward for the Santa Fe National For-

est, visiting and examining two archaeological sites periodically and reporting on their condition. She hikes, and in the past has led hikes for the Mountain Club.

In retirement, she plans to work toward a "Certificate of Excellence in Handweaving" from the Handweavers' Guild of America, a continuation of her 30 plus years of weaving—and of course, to spend time with her beloved dogs, Penny and Tashi.

NMHC Seeks Board Members

The New Mexico Humanities Council (NMHC) is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the humanities to public audiences throughout New Mexico. NMHC has a continuing need for interested and qualified board members. NMHC invites your nominations of both humanities scholars and members of the public for its Board of Directors. NMHC is currently searching for members from a variety of areas throughout New Mexico.

The full board meets three times a year to conduct business. Board members also serve on committees, assist with fundraising and contribute expertise and energy to the activities of NMHC. A member's term is for three years.

Each nomination must include the following: a letter of recommendation from the nominating party, a resume or biographical statement providing useful information for evaluating the potential contributions of the nominee, and a letter from the nominee indicating willingness to serve and make a commitment to public humanities programming. Board members must live in the state of New Mexico. Please send nominations and supporting documents to:

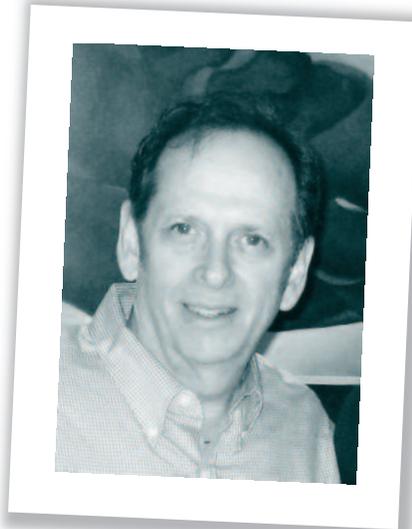
New Mexico Humanities Council
MSCo6 3570 • 1 University of New Mexico • Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001

NMHC Welcomes a New Staff Member

Jim Weiss, of Albuquerque since 1975, has been hired as the new NMHC Finance Officer. He will succeed Nancy Brouillard, who is retiring as of November 1. Jim is married and has two children. Larissa, Jim's daughter, is a Technology Project Manager for Wells Fargo. She lives in San Diego where she will be getting married this October. His son, Everett, is a Pediatrician and resides in a suburb of Chicago with his wife. They are expecting their first child in the fall. When Jim was notified that he was selected for the position of Finance Officer, he could not have been happier to begin working with such a great team that shares his enthusiasm of working together for a mutual goal.

"Mr. Weiss' experience and skills are an excellent fit for the Council's needs," said NMHC Executive Director Craig Newbill. "As a not-for-profit that receives state and federal funding, the Council has complex and specific requirements for receiving, spending, and accounting for funds, and we believe he is well-prepared for these tasks."

Weiss has been a Senior Tax Advisor with H&R Block Tax & Financial Consultants since 2004. He has received



the prestigious honor of being the Tax Pro of the Year for 2006, 2007, and 2008. Also, he has worked with other non-profit organizations including Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity and Junior Achievement of New Mexico.

He graduated from State University of New York at Albany and is working towards an MBA in accounting and management at the Robert O. Anderson School of Business and Management at UNM and the University of Phoenix.

Financial Overview FY/09

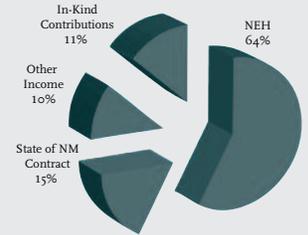
November 1, 2008–October 31, 2009

The following figures and charts are based on the audit completed for NMHC by Mackie, Reid & Company. Copies of the audit are available by calling NMHC (277-3705).

Support and Revenue:

NEH\$	705,165
State of NM Contract\$	166,069
Other Income\$	105,713
In-Kind Contributions\$	122,391

NMHC Support & Revenue FY 2009 per audit



NEH is NMHC's grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities for FY 2008-2009. These grants include the general operating grant and the special "We the People" grants from NEH.

State Contract includes the contract that NMHC has with the Department of Cultural Affairs, State of NM.

Other Income reflects fees received for Chautauqua programs, History Day entry fees, sales of items, interest earned from investments and net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments.

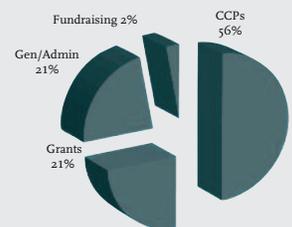
In-Kind Contributions include time and other contributions (non-monetary) that are used to help projects succeed. Such things as the time board members give to board/committee meetings and reading grants; space of NMHC offices (rent free); time that the Chautauqua and Speakers devote to preparing for their programs; time given by the Chautauquan project directors to make sure that the Scholar is booked, the room is available, the chairs are set up, etc; and the time given by History Day judges. Project Directors for grants must certify donated time/resources/etc equal to the dollar amount of the grant received from NMHC.

Expenses:

In-Kind contributions are included in the related Categories.

CCPs\$	590,311
Grants\$	225,988
Gen/Admin\$	216,542
Fundraising\$	25,074

NMHC Functional Expenses FY 2009 per audit



CCPs are the Council Conducted Projects including the Chautauqua Program, History Day, Museum on Main Street, Council Chautauquas, and other special projects.

Grants are the "regrants" that NMHC funds throughout the state to support Humanities projects.

General/Admin are the administrative costs that are associated with the general functioning of NMHC.

Fundraising are costs related to raising funds for NMHC projects.





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Your donation is tax deductible.

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