



UTAHHUMANITIES

IDEAS IN ACTION

Utah Humanities Annual Report



Finding Comfort and Purpose in Water

OUR MISSION

Empowering Utahns to Improve Their Communities Through Active Engagement in the Humanities



Quenon Flow

Water is Eternally



Pollution and Runoff

Have you ever dumped something into a drain without thinking twice where it might end up? How do we make sure there is enough healthy water, not just for ourselves, but also for everything on the planet?

Think about how our water cycle works. What we discard will eventually be in someone else's water. The water we use for drinking and washing comes through our taps from the world around us. And we also send chemicals like medications, soaps and detergents, dirt, and even skin cells down the drain and after treatment, it ultimately returns to the environment. That waste makes its way into rivers and ground water. What we eat, what we drink, what we put on our hair and skin, what we wash out in the sink — it's on us or in us, it ends up back in the watershed.

water use vs

IDEAS IN ACTION

2020. The year we witnessed and experienced a profound shift in the essential elements of our social, health, economic, educational, political, and technological systems from different and varied perspectives. It was also the year that everything came into clearer focus for many. At Utah Humanities, we were reminded of, and reaffirmed our commitment to, the vital role of the humanities.

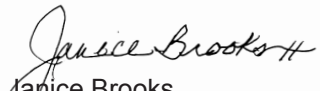
Understanding the necessity and significant value of the humanities ensures our awareness and connections with one another. The humanities provide us with the “thinking” tools to understand, to repair and rebuild, and to progress. As custodians of history, we cannot speak of the present time without understanding what preceded it. Knowing more about the world through our exposure to history, science, literature, philosophy, technology, and the arts inspires us.

Surely, 2020 gave us both a cracked lens and an illuminated long view to ask ourselves the honest and fierce questions: What have we learned? And how are we made better?

It has been my pleasure to work with the incredibly talented Utah Humanities staff and committed board members. I can affirm that UH took wide-angle and aerial views to elevate some of our beloved public programs and projects. Using the lenses of hindsight and foresight, we reevaluated, recalibrated, and remarkably delivered our programs in innovative virtual ways. It is my honor to spotlight those achievements.

With a fixed gaze on the importance of the humanities and fresh insight, Utah Humanities moves forward.

With gratitude,










Janice Brooks
Board Chair, Utah Humanities



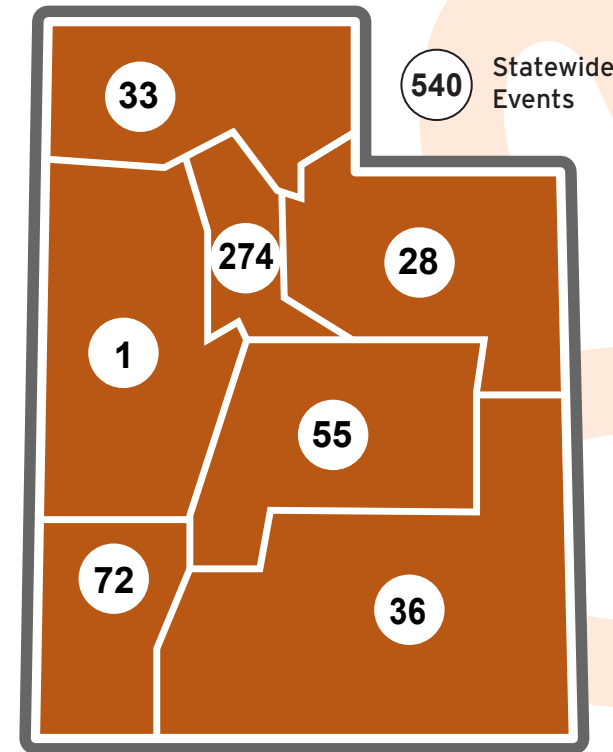
OUR WORK

2020 was an eventful year with earthquakes, protests, fires, elections, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Through it all, we examined our lives, connected with each other in new ways, and emerged convinced that the humanities are more important than ever!

2020 provided us with an opportunity to rethink how we work. Each of our Program Centers collaborated closely with our partners to reinvent and re-envision programming for this year of social isolation.

-  We presented the first-ever all-virtual Book Festival with nearly 100 events that connected local and international audiences to poets, authors, and each other.
-  We created two new online Community Conversations series to explore the importance of racial justice and civic participation.
-  We launched *Think Water Utah*, bringing the Smithsonian Institution's *Water|Ways* and *H2O Today* exhibits to the Beehive State in both live and online formats.
-  We continued our Clemente Course in the Humanities virtually at East and West High Schools.
-  We created *The Virtual Campfire* to help connect communities during a time of physical distancing.
-  We partnered with Utah's cultural leaders to provide critical information, resources, and inspiration during the pandemic.
-  We distributed federal CARES Act funds to cultural organizations negatively impacted by COVID-19, providing critical support and preserving jobs.

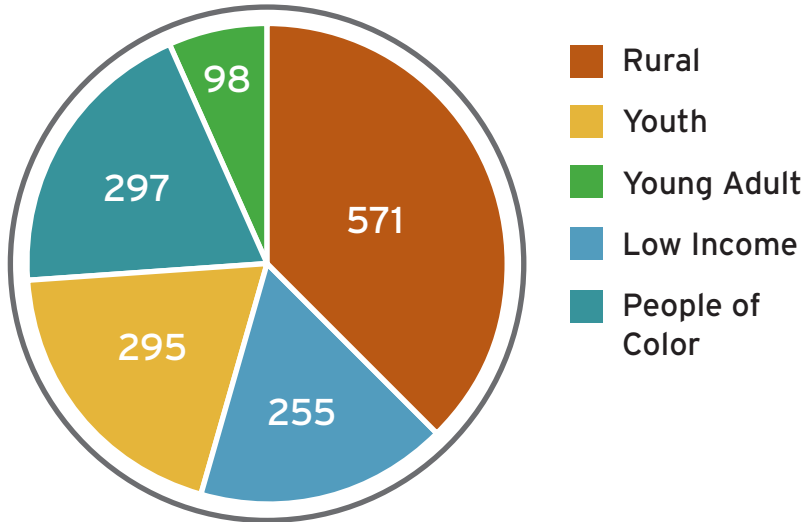
As we learned to navigate the unpredictable waters of 2020, science worked to mend our bodies while the humanities provided powerful medicine to heal our hearts and minds. This work would not have been possible without the generous support of our partners, donors, and friends.



Public Events

Together with our partners, we offered 1006 events where 3,444,074 people participated in-person (socially distanced) and virtually.

OUR WORK (continued)



Number of Events Serving Target Audiences

UH works closely with our partners around the state to reach underserved audiences and to grow in strategically identified communities.

1:2.75

For every \$1 of UH funding, \$2.75 was leveraged from partner matching funds and in-kind donations.

UH Spending: \$746,572 | Partner Spending: \$1,675,000

Total Number of Events
1,006
Total Audience Reached
3,444,074

Total Number of Partners
282
UH collaborates with nonprofits, state agencies, schools, universities, cultural, and community organizations.

Economic Impact
By supporting museums, libraries, schools, and community programming, UH improves quality of life, making Utah more attractive to businesses and a skilled, educated workforce.

Number of CARES Grants Awarded
39
UH provided \$449,554 in critical financial assistance to cultural organizations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

CENTER FOR THE BOOK

The Center for the Book fosters a love of reading and of books as well as the exploration of contemporary issues through literature.

Utah Humanities is the home of the Utah Center for the Book. As the state affiliate of the National Center for the Book at the Library of Congress, UH's Center for the Book promotes public interest in books, reading, authorship, and libraries throughout the state.

PROGRAMS:

ANNUAL BOOK FESTIVAL

LITERARY EVENTS

163 Book Festival events
with **7,045** attendees
81 literary events,
30,580 total attendees



Dr. Xiumei Pu and Jaimi Butler virtually guide participants through the science and humanities behind the Swaner Nature Preserve for Humanities in the Wild. Photo: Katie Ercanbrack



Taylor Cunningham of the Environmental Humanities Program at the University of Utah narrates instructions on how to virtually fill out toe tags for the UndocuMigration Project exhibit.









Barbara Jane Reyes reads from her latest collection Letters to a Young Brown Girl for the Utah Chapter of the Filipinx American National Historical Society. Virtual event photo: Utah Humanities

BOOK FESTIVAL

Our 23rd annual Utah Humanities Book Festival successfully transitioned to our first-ever entirely virtual format. As one of Utah Humanities' highly visible and signature events, our 2020 book festival responded to COVID-19 limitations with creativity and influence during September and October. We served thousands of eager participants, worked with community partners to meet local needs, and even expanded our reach internationally.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

-  We worked with 46 partners in 17 cities to bring 220 authors to the Book Festival in 2020.
-  The virtual format made our 163 events accessible to communities throughout the state and around the world. International audiences tuned in from México, Argentina, and Australia.
-  Authors were carefully selected to reach a wide range of audiences including youth, LGBTQ+, ethnic communities, people of color, and rural audiences.
-  We embraced the virtual format and published 138 recordings to our YouTube Channel, amassing over 269 views and giving life to the programs beyond the original events.
-  We welcomed 12 new partners to the Book Festival, adding new and exciting perspectives: World Fantasy Convention, The Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs at Salt Lake Community College, Stokes Nature Center, University of Utah Black Cultural Center, Filipino American National Historical Society-Utah, Woke Words, The Book Bungalow, Weber State University Center for Community Engaged Learning, The Physicians Literature and Medicine Group at the University of Utah School of Medicine, the Neuroscience Club at Westminster College, Divine Intervention Collective, and the Steamboat Mountain Reading Series.
-  Noteworthy authors included Yamile Saied Méndez, Maaza Mengiste, Sahar Mustafah, Ruha Benjamin, Pam Houston, Mark Eisner, and Roberto Lovato.



"It was a delightful and intriguing conversation with a talented author. The facilitators did a great job framing the author's work and negotiating the cross cultural conversations."

– Participant from Welcoming Zapotec Narratives into the Classroom for Educators with Pergentino José, author of Red Ant

Poet John Murillo gives a virtual reading from his latest collection, Kontemporary Amerikan Poetry, for Cedar City students. Virtual event photo: Utah Humanities

LITERARY EVENTS

The Library of Congress-designated Center for the Book offers year-round literary opportunities for partner organizations and their audiences around the state. In 2020, we were able to respond to our partners' needs and experiment with various online formats that extended our reach. In addition, we collaborated with other Utah Humanities Programs to provide rich and multi-dimensional literary experiences.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



We worked with 38 partners in 22 cities to bring book events to audiences in Utah and beyond.



125 authors participated in 81 events, either in-person or virtually, including writers from abroad.



We collaborated with 11 new partners in 2020 to engage youth and historically marginalized audiences including LGBTQ+, ethnic communities, people of color, and rural audiences: Stokes Nature Center, Egyptian YouTheatre, Ecker Hill Middle School in Park City, Oasis Community Gardens, Better Days 2020, Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter, Riverview Junior High School, Mestizo's Arts and Activism, Get it Write Records, About Love and Language, and the Red Fred Project.



UH's Center for the Book and Center for Community Heritage collaborated on Humanities in the Wild events as part of *Think Water Utah*. This programming engaged participants with the history, literature, and science behind Utah's waterways.



Our partners amplified our mission, developing programming and selecting authors to meet the needs of their communities. Key partners included: The Bee: Storytelling in SLC, Utah High School Poetry Slam Initiative, Logan Recovery Book Group, Mestizo's Arts and Activism, Coyote Tales, Victoria Topham, Egyptian YouTheatre, Get it Write Records, Stokes Nature Center, Artes de México en Utah, and Rock Canyon Poets.



"Given the current restrictions on in-person gatherings, this was ideal. The author was engaging, the moderator was knowledgeable and diligent about presenting audience questions, and the audience seemed to be engaged with the discussion."

– Participant from Unforgetting: A Memoir of Family, Migration, Gangs, and Revolution in the Americas with Roberto Lovato

Scientist Dr. Riley Nelson and English Professor Dr. John Bennion bike the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge for Humanities in the Wild. Photo by Katie Ercanbrack.

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY HERITAGE

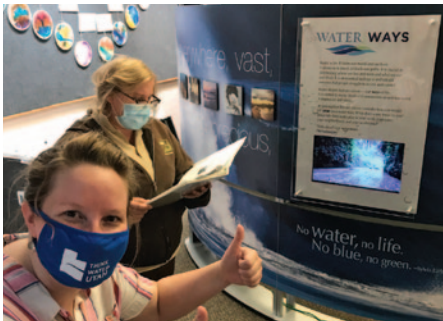
The Center for Community Heritage encourages Utahns to explore, preserve, and share their unique local history, culture, and traditions.

PROGRAMS:

[HERITAGE WORKSHOPS](#)

[MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET](#)

143 events
18,335 attendees
\$17,020 project funding
was matched by
partners 7:1
68,150 visits to
Beehive Archive online
catalogue



Installation day for our Smithsonian Museum on Main Street exhibition *Water|Ways* at Fremont Indian State Park and Museum. Photo: Nate Housley



StEPs-UT cohort participants join our partners from the Utah State Historic Preservation Office to learn about the stewardship of historic structures and landscapes on a frosty day at Fort Douglas. Photo: Megan van Frank





Hosts for our traveling Smithsonian exhibitions learn how to teach with objects and design school tour curricula thanks to our training partnership with the Education Curators at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts. Photo: Megan van Frank

HERITAGE WORKSHOPS



Utah Humanities takes a leading role in helping to build essential capacity in Utah's museums, libraries, historical societies, and cultural organizations through hands-on training in organizational readiness, best practice history research, collection stewardship, and interpretation techniques.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations (StEPs-UT)

-  We wrapped up our two-year pilot in partnership with the Utah Divisions of Arts & Museums and State History, delivering training in Stewardship of Historic Structures & Landscapes and Interpretation to staff and volunteers from seven history museums.
-  Participants brought their museums into alignment with basic national StEPs standards, earning between them a total of 46 advancement certificates (38 bronze, 7 silver, and 1 gold).

Museum Interpretation Exhibition Development

-  We rolled out this five-part workshop series in Utah Valley in partnership with BYU Museum of Peoples and Cultures and UVU Special Collections for five cultural organizations brought together from rural Utah.
-  Five exhibit projects each received feedback on assignments, prototype evaluation, and funding as part of the mentoring process.

Regional Heritage Stewardship Program

-  In-person workshops were replaced with ten monthly webinars for staff and volunteers drawn from collecting institutions in the Intermountain West and around the nation. Six of these were presented by experts from Utah.
-  Webinars were posted for ongoing access at the national Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts website.



"Thank you and your team for professional leadership over the past two years. We have gained knowledge, skills and strategies for almost every aspect of running our museum. We truly appreciate your time, expertise and patience with all of us."

– StEPs-UT Pilot Participant

Participants build object mounts and offer critiques on exhibit mock-ups during our Designing Our Stories: Well Structured Exhibits workshop, delivered in partnership with the BYU Museum of Peoples and Cultures, Provo. Photo: Megan van Frank

MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET

As coordinator for the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street program in Utah, our role is to strategically convene partners across the state. Our *Think Water Utah* project includes the Smithsonian's *Water|Ways* and *H2O Today* exhibitions, as well as community companion exhibits and programming. Together, we are addressing water as an essential resource with immensely local relevance.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



In 2020, we gathered the hosts of *Water|Ways* for a 2-day planning session before moving our remaining training online due to the pandemic. The exhibition opened in August with a celebration of *PA* – the Paiute word for water – and will tour these communities through June 2021:

- Fremont Indian State Park in Sevier
- Kanab Museum in Kanab
- Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter in Park City
- John Wesley Powell River History Museum in Green River



We also began co-curating with the Smithsonian the *H2O Today* exhibition, designing it to travel Utah, and planning the 2021 tour with our three community host partners:

- West Valley Arts at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center
- Uintah County Heritage Museum in Vernal
- Bear River Heritage Area at the Hyrum City Museum



In addition, we created *Utah Water Ways*, a photographic essay written by consulting scholar Greg Smoak, which is available for free to exhibition visitors. All organizations involved in *Think Water Utah* responded to the pandemic by transitioning, as needed, to socially-distant or online activities that were successful in reaching new audiences.



"This exhibit did a good job of re-igniting the curiosity of our community. We had a large number of locals come out to events and to the park to explicitly visit the exhibit."

– Water|Ways Host Site

Community members, visitors, and families gather at Fremont Indian State Park and Museum in Sevier for the tour launch of Water|Ways. The socially-distanced opening event was hosted in partnership with the Paiute Tribe and featured Paiute performers, honoring the Indigenous peoples of Clear Creek Canyon and their connection to water. Photo: Deena Pyle

CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL ACCESS

The Center for Educational Access uses the humanities to expand educational opportunities for people underrepresented in higher education.

PROGRAMS:

[CLEMENTE COURSE IN THE HUMANITIES](#)

[VENTURE COURSE IN THE HUMANITIES](#)



Southern Utah University Venture students taking a break from exploring Philosophy with Professor Kirk Fitzpatrick. Photo: Lindsay Fullerton.



West High Art History Instructor, Vasiliki Karahalios, and Clemente students visiting the Utah Museum of Fine Arts. Photo: Josh Wennergren.



West High student reading from Salt Lake Community College community anthology which featured Clemente students' writing. Photo: West High School Clemente Course in the Humanities

**Clemente:
174 classes**

96% of students feel that Clemente strengthened their ability to make a positive change in their community.

**Venture:
56 classes**

100% of students feel that Venture provided tools and skills to succeed in their job.

CLEMENTE COURSE

Clemente awakens students to the excitement and challenges of college. Using personally meaningful and relevant humanities content, the course helps students from communities historically excluded from higher education exercise the power of their own minds and imagine a promising future. In the current upheaval caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is vital that students have the real-time interaction with their peers and the contextual foundation and vision that the humanities provide. The Clemente Course in the Humanities has, despite the challenges of 2020, provided a life-sustaining touchpoint for East and West High students.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Between West High School and East High School, 46 students were enrolled in Clemente.



College professors and accomplished undergraduates led students through four humanities-based units at each high school.



The Clemente faculty adopted a more interdisciplinary approach to the course curriculum in order to make class content more relevant to the students' lives.



Instructors guided Clemente students through completing applied humanities projects including an assignment where students researched, wrote, and recorded podcasts connecting current issues to the Constitution.



This year, we offered 4-5 class visits and events for Clemente students to connect with college students, mentors, and representatives from specialty cohorts including Legacy Scholars (Westminster College) and Humanities Scholars (University of Utah).



We continued our collaboration with two educational programs in Chicago and Portland on a Teagle Foundation planning grant awarded to the National Clemente Course. This collaborative process convened representatives from the other youth Clemente courses to share, articulate, discover, and define best practices.



"The Clemente Course was very different from all my other classes. There were more class discussions and the teachers really seemed to care about what we thought. I definitely spoke more in this class than any other class in my life. It was a safe space for me."







– West High Clemente student

Utah Humanities board member, Simón Cantarero, inspires and speaks to East High Clemente students. Photo: Josh Wennergren.

VENTURE COURSE

Initiated in 2005, Venture is a two-semester, college level-humanities course offered free to adults living on low incomes. 50-80% of Venture students are from ethnic minorities. As a personal and engaging course, a small group of 15-25 students meet twice per week with college faculty in classes that incorporate humanities disciplines, methodologies, and expertise. This year, Venture classes were held in Cedar City at Southern Utah University.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

-  Venture students met twice per week with college faculty to study art history, literature, U.S. history, philosophy, critical writing, and other interdisciplinary topics.
-  College faculty instructed courses that incorporated lively class discussions, vigorous debate, and explorations of civic engagement. Students shared their writing with peers and teachers.
-  Books, day-care, and transportation were provided to students (as needed) at no cost to students.
-  Historically marginalized individuals often have minimal education, experience, and practice thinking critically and expressing their opinions. This deprives their communities of important voices for change and causes their families to struggle economically. Venture offers an avenue for adults to engage with education and to re-define their community participation.
-  Venture students are from communities that are historically excluded from higher education. As a measure of hope and a recognition of hard work, our university partners encourage successful Venture alumni to matriculate at their campuses.
-  As a flagship Utah Humanities program, Venture has been a life-changing experience for over 15 years.



"I plan to use everything I have learned from the Venture program and use it as I continue my education. It was awesome being part of this group and growing as well as watching the other students do the same."

– Lisa Wright, Venture student

In April 2019, Lisa Wright, applied to become a student in the Venture Program at Southern Utah University. It had been almost 14 years since Lisa had last been in the college setting. Having completed Venture, Lisa's future is exciting. She plans to continue her coursework at SUU this fall. Photo: Lisa Wright.

CENTER FOR LOCAL INITIATIVES

The Center for Local Initiatives supports grassroots humanities projects throughout the state. Communities identify important issues and use the humanities to address them.

Our grants and fellowships are designed to support projects that directly involve the humanities in engaging a community for the purpose of improving it.

PROGRAMS:

[COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS](#)

[COMPETITIVE GRANTS](#)

[QUICK GRANTS](#)

[ORAL HISTORY GRANTS](#)

[RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS](#)



The Utah Film Center presents a discussion on "I AM HUMAN" as part of their Through the Lens series, supported in part by a Utah Humanities Competitive Grant. Photo: Utah Film Center.



Jennifer Mayer-Glenn, Director of University Neighborhood Partners, guest speaker for the Utah Humanities Community Conversation: Social Justice and Anti-Racism. Photo: Jennifer Mayer-Glenn.



Actors and participants in Shakespeare: Our Contemporary, a Competitive Grant project by Renaissance Now Theatre & Film. Photo: Renaissance Now Theatre & Film.

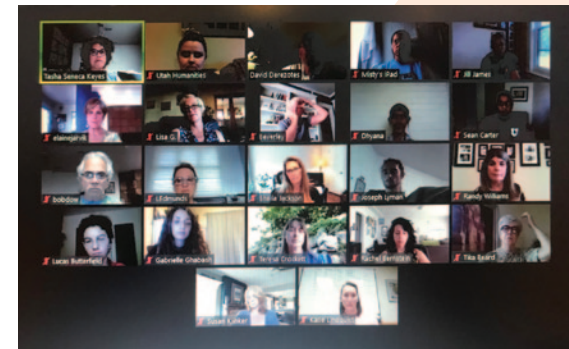
32
Community
Conversations
with **327** attendees,
95 grant events
with **705,815**
attendees

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Community Conversations gets to the heart of current issues facing local communities, providing opportunities for civil discussions. These conversations help communities use the humanities to approach issues in creative and productive ways – supporting our mission to improve lives and actively engage participants in the humanities. As we transitioned to virtual conversations in 2020, we reached new audiences and held deeply relevant conversations even in the absence of in-person options.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

-  We collaborated with our partners in Utah, Salt Lake, and Summit counties, to provide meaningful virtual conversations with effective facilitators.
-  We offered facilitator training to the Utah State University Extension offices and held virtual conversations about the opioid crisis in 8 counties.
-  We held a facilitator training in Davis County, allowing us to expand the variety, focus, and effectiveness of our conversations.
-  To address the protests during the summer of 2020, we created a Racial Justice Virtual Conversation Series that included topics such as Protests & Patriotism, Hidden Biases, and Systemic Racism, and began crafting a “How to Talk about Race” Conversation toolkit.
-  We received funding from the Mellon Foundation to hold a 6-conversation series on the national “Why It Matters” Initiative, focused on civic engagement and the 2020 Presidential election cycle. Conversations were held on topics such as Democracy and Immigration, Elections and Threats to our Democracy, and Climate Change from an Indigenous Perspective.



“I enjoyed listening to everyone’s perspectives, especially those that were new for me. The conversation felt very safe and inclusive.”

– “White Privilege” Community Conversation participant

Participants on a Zoom call for Systemic Racism, a Community Conversation with Dr. David Derezotes and Dr. Tasha Seneca-Keyes. Virtual event photo: Utah Humanities

GRANTS

Competitive Grants

Books and Bridges, *Treasures of World Literature Discussion Series*
 Kimball Art Center, *Exhibition Explorations Program Series*
 PBS Utah (KUED), *PBS Utah Book Club in a Box*
 Renaissance Now Theatre & Film, *Shakespeare: Our Contemporary*
 Southern Utah University, *CEDAR TALKS: Inspiring Community Conversation through Public Art*
 Spy Hop Productions, *Sending Messages: Stories from a Secure Facility*
 University of Utah Department of English, *Guest Writers Series Authors in Schools*
 Utah Film Center, *Through The Lens*
 Utah Shakespeare Festival, *Play Seminars: Adaptations*

Quick Grants

Bear River Association of Governments, *Randolph Sesquicentennial Celebration*
 Box Elder County Library, *Brigham City Carnegie Branch, World War II Reading/Discussion Series*
 Craft Lake City, *Celebration of the Hand: Marina "Marqueza:" Salty Exhibition and Virtual Walk*
 Listener's Community Radio of Utah, *RadioACTIVE Community Co-Hosts Program*
 Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, *This Is Her Place podcast*
 Southern Utah University, *Stardom and Star Power in Cinema: 2020 ICSUU International Film Festival*
 Story Crossroads, *The Big Why Panel: Historical Storytelling Meets Humanities*
 Thanksgiving Point, *Lives in Metamorphosis — Utah's Indigenous Youth*
 Torrey House Press, *Strengthening Community through Story in a Time of Pandemic*
 Utah State University, *Love in the Time of Coronavirus: Giving a Creative Voice to Utah Youth*

Oral History Grants (in partnership with the Utah Division of State History)

Disabled Rights Action Committee, *Oral History Interviews for Disability Digital Museum*
 John Hutchings Museum of Natural History, *John and Eunice Hutchings Oral History*
 Southern Utah University, *Voices of the Ancients Oral History Project*
 Wasatch Mountain Club, *WMC Oral Histories*



"The support to continue our humanities-based community events is truly a gift, especially during this isolating year. Now more than ever, coming together in any way we can is meaningful and sustaining."

— Grant Recipient

A celebration event for 100th anniversary of women's voting rights, held in Cache County as part of Utah State University's Competitive Grant project, "Voting Rights 1870, 1920, 1965, and 2020." Photo: Utah State University.

CARES GRANTS

COVID-19 lockdown measures had a profound and devastating impact on cultural nonprofits nationwide. Utah Humanities was honored to provide rapid-response funding to humanities organizations facing financial hardship as a result of the coronavirus. These grants could be used to cover general operating expenses or to fund specific projects, and no organizational match was required. Funding was provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Alf Engen Ski Museum
 American Fork Library
 American West Heritage Center
 Brigham City Museum of Art & History
 Brolly Arts
 Cache Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum
 Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum
 Emerald Hills Institute
 Emery County Library
 Epicenter
 Friends of Cedar Mesa
 John Hutchings Museum of Natural History
 John Wesley Powell River History Museum
 KCPW
 McQuarrie Memorial DUP Museum
 Murray City Cultural Arts
 Museum of Moab
 Natural History Museum of Utah
 Park City Museum
 PBS Utah (KUED)
 Silver Reef Museum

Spy Hop Productions
 St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at
 Johnson Farm
 Stokes Nature Center
 SUU College of Humanities and Social Science
 Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter
 Tanner Humanities Center
 The Treehouse Museum
 Torrey House Press
 U of U Department of Writing and
 Rhetoric Studies
 U of U Honors College
 Uintah County Heritage Museum
 Union Station Museums
 USU Museum of Anthropology
 Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy
 Utah Pioneer Heritage Arts
 Utah Public Radio
 Utah Shakespeare Festival
 UtahPresents



"The support to continue our humanities-based community events is truly a gift, especially during this isolating year. Now more than ever, coming together in any way we can is meaningful and sustaining."

– Grant Recipient

With additional support from Utah Humanities' CARES Grant funds, the Tanner Humanities Center launched their 2020-2021 series on "Technology and the Humanities" where Ruha Benjamin joined Tanner Humanities Center Director Erika George for a Tanner Talk on the intersections of race, justice, and technology. Photo: Tanner Humanities Center

CARES GRANTS (CONTINUED)

“The CARES grant funding allowed us to pay our bills. It allowed us to keep the staff on the payroll and literally helped to keep our doors open.

– Uintah County Heritage Museum

““ During a time of extreme uncertainty, the CARES grant enabled us to keep our full-time staff on board, giving us the time and bandwidth needed to adapt to our new and changed world. We were able to reopen the EcoCenter to public visitation with new protocols and new gear to keep visitors and staff safe, to develop new ways of offering programming, and to learn lessons and skills that we will use well beyond the pandemic, into the future.”

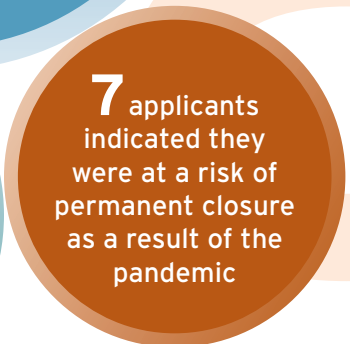
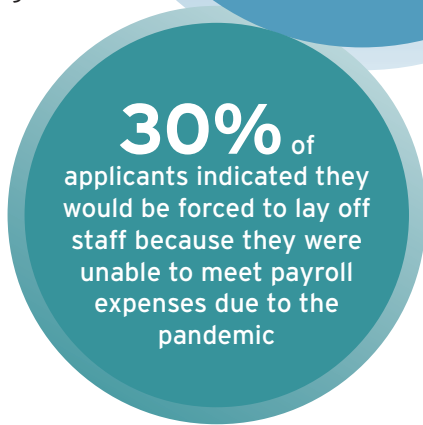
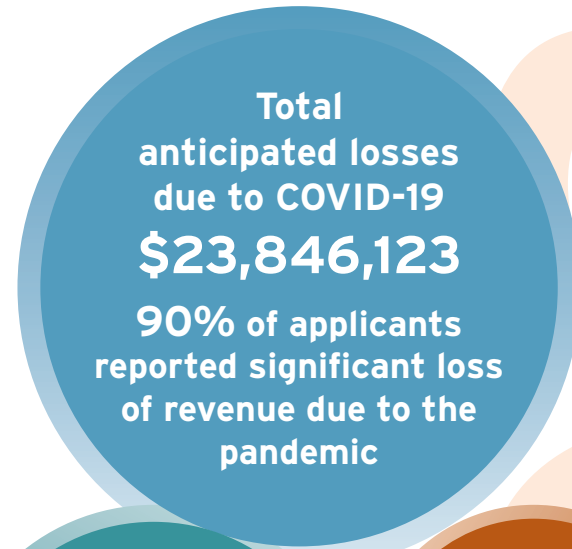
– Swaner Preserve and Nature Center

““ “Without this funding, we would have had to furlough at least 4 of our staff people which would have created a giant hole in our programming and outreach at the time when the community needs us most, but this funding meant we did not have to take that step. Furthermore, it helped make possible entirely new programming that can now become a part of our regular work.”

– Stokes Nature Center

The CARES funding allowed us to retain key staff members and has enabled us to continue serving visitors and fulfill our mission to the community.”

– John Wesley Powell River History Museum



SPECIAL PROJECTS

Our Special Projects give rise to unique collaborations and often integrate literature, history, community conversations, and more into multi-faceted humanities programs.

Artists Elevated: Discussing Equity and Creativity in the Mountain West

A program of UtahPresents, Artists Elevated was created as an opportunity to rethink, reevaluate, and redesign systems that do not sustain artists of marginalized communities in the Mountain West. Utah Humanities, the Utah Division of Arts & Museums, the Salt Lake City Arts Council, and the University of Utah College of Fine Arts joined forces to offer a series of virtual discussion panels on dance, theatre, music, visual and literary arts, and film to identify challenges and obstacles within these disciplines and highlight strategies for making presenting, funding, and criticism more transparent and inclusive.

Utah History Day

UH is a proud supporter of Utah History Day (UHD), a program of the Utah Division of State History. Even while practicing distance learning, Utah History Day engaged 5,261 Utah students from 66 schools in an all-virtual National History Day state contest. Drawing inspiration from the theme *Breaking Barriers in History*, students researched a wide variety of historical topics and events, making present-day connections to decisions from the past. Students participated in spite of the 2020 obstacles, and made history themselves by creating electronic versions of their research projects. UHD has operated continuously in the state since 1980 and is the official National History Day affiliate program for Utah. Students aged 9-18 competed in local, regional, state, and national competitions, where they gained an appreciation of history while developing necessary 21st century skills.



"This project and the virtual discussions truly met the goal of speaking and intending key thoughts into action. The Zoom conversations were thoughtful and gave artists a voice for their lived experience. The honest sharing of insights, emotions, and first-hand perspectives was a riveting step toward change."

– Artists Elevated virtual discussion participant

Artists Elevated dance panelists Jessica T. Pearson, Associate Professor of Dance at Rhode Island College. Photo: Kanji Takeno. Joseph "jo" Blake, Assistant Professor of Dance at Weber State University. Photo: Steve Korn

SPECIAL PROJECTS (CONTINUED)

TEDxSaltLakeCity

In an unconventional year, TEDxSaltLakeCity was perfectly matched with its theme, (Un)Conventional Wisdom. The timely topics, innovative speakers, and virtual audiences combined to create a successful event. The phrase “conventional wisdom” was born when John Kenneth Galbraith coined it in his 1958 book, *The Affluent Society*, where he concluded that society rewards those who repeat old verities, rather than skeptics or innovators. TEDxSaltLakeCity 2020 speakers and performers shared how being unconventional can drive innovation, encourage diversity, and disrupt outdated social norms through technology, entertainment, and design. As part of our continued role, we provided discussion questions for audience members to engage with each other between and after the presentations.

Utah Cultural Sector Community Updates

Utah Humanities joined forces with the Utah Department of Heritage and Arts, Utah Division of Arts & Museums, Utah Cultural Alliance, Utah Museums Association, Salt Lake City Arts Council, and other local arts agencies from across the state to provide critical updates during COVID-19. Weekly video calls covered a wide range of topics from navigating the PPP and CARES funding landscape to the COVID economic recovery plan and success stories “from the field”. These resources helped bring Utah’s cultural community together, providing information and inspiration to cultural organizations struggling to survive during a time of crisis.

Virtual Campfire Series

In an immediate response to COVID lockdowns, Utah Humanities created a social media, email, and video series called the Virtual Campfire. Our deliberate response to social distancing was not isolation, but rather, an ancient ritual with this modern interpretation: a virtual campfire. Approaching social distancing through a humanities lens, we approached it by offering connection. Our daily social media campaign included images and words of hope. Our email series offered relevant conversation starters and local, national, and international ways to experience the arts and humanities virtually. Our video series included interviews with our own staff and partners about the role of the humanities in times of crisis.

“They sit together, physically separate but utterly connected by the moment they've created”

— Stan Lee

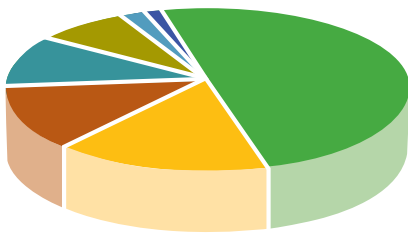
“Unprecedented situations often bring people together in unique ways. I believe that the human spirit is adaptable, creative, and even ingenious in challenging times. This series, and the immediate sense of continued connection, gave me some peace.”

— Zoom conversation participant

The ancient ritual of gathering around a campfire to share stories, fears, ideas, humor, and support has always been a transformative experience...for individuals as well as for the entire tribe. Image: Utah Humanities “Virtual Campfire Series.”

FINANCIALS

REVENUES

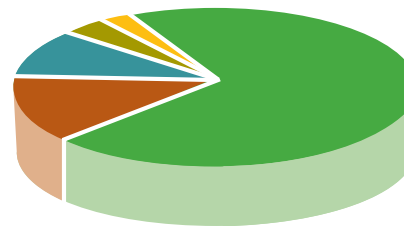


■	National Endowment for the Humanities \$877,873
■	CARES Act (via National Endowment for the Humanities) \$451,367
■	Private \$224,596
■	State of Utah \$211,000
■	Salt Lake County Zoo, Arts, & Parks \$113,073
■	National Endowment for the Arts \$10,000
■	Interest and Gain on Investments \$10,035

ASSETS

Cash	\$ 1,338,865
Investments	\$ 226,012
Receivables	\$ 312,653
Furniture and Equipment	\$ 2,680
Other Assets	\$ 1,582
Investments Restricted for Endowments	\$ 207,009
TOTAL:	\$ 2,088,801

EXPENSES



■	Program Services \$1,302,099
■	Management and General \$218,209
■	Fund Raising \$157,926
■	Public Relations \$75,954
■	Grants \$38,137

TOTAL EXPENSES \$1,792,325

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

Accrued Liabilities	\$ 122,602
Grants Payable	\$ 20,336
Board Designated	\$ 738,514
Undesignated	\$ 332,842
With Donor Restrictions	\$ 874,507
TOTAL:	\$ 2,088,801

These figures are taken from UH's FY 2020 audit report, prepared by Tanner, LLC

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Our heartfelt thanks to these generous donors and partners who make Utah Humanities' work possible! This list represents gifts received during Utah Humanities' 2020 fiscal year (November 1, 2019 to October 31, 2020). If you made a gift after October 31, 2020, you will be recognized in our 2021 Annual Report.

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Utah Humanities is dedicated to being transparent & accountable. We are proud to be a member of Guidestar's highest level of recognition.

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Better Days 2020
Bluff Arts Festival
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Book Club
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Carbon High School
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Center for the Arts at Kayenta
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Society — Utah
Foodscaping Utah
Fort Douglas Military Museum
Fountain Green Elementary School
Fremont Indian State Park Museum
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Get It Write Records
Grand County Library, Moab Branch
Green River Library
Hell's Backbone Grill
Helper City
Helper City Library
Herriman High School
Hyrum City Museum
John Wesley Powell River History Museum
Kanab Heritage Museum
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KCPW
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Moab Pride

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 Park City Museum
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 The Divine Intervention Collective
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 The King's English Bookshop
 The Pocketville Project
 The Printed Garden

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The background of the image shows several oval-shaped wooden frames hanging on a light-colored wall. Each frame contains a piece of artwork made from watercolor or similar soft paint, depicting abstract, colorful patterns in shades of blue, green, purple, orange, and red. The frames are arranged in a slightly overlapping manner, with the largest one in the foreground on the left. The overall aesthetic is artistic and cultural.

“Story is the umbilical cord
that connects us to the past, present,
and future. Family. Story is a relationship
between the teller and the listener, a
responsibility...Story is an affirmation of our
ties to one another.”

– Terry Tempest Williams,
Pieces of White Shell





UTAHHUMANITIES
Ideas in Action

202 West 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT 84103-1108
Phone 801.359.9670
www.utahhumanities.org