

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **More than \$500,000 in funding relief provided to Indiana humanities organizations through CARES Grants**

*Grants provided by Indiana Humanities with funds from CARES Act*

INDIANAPOLIS (May 27, 2020)—Nonprofit organizations that provide public humanities programming to Hoosiers across the state will receive more than \$500,000 in operating support to help with funding relief due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Indiana Humanities awarded CARES Grants to 74 organizations, from Mishawaka to Milan. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$15,000, depending on the size of the organization's budget. Organizations in the 1st Congressional District will receive \$35,000.

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) provided the funding to Indiana Humanities as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act economic stabilization plan appropriated by the U.S. Congress.

“The CARES Act includes provisions to help small businesses and Hoosiers in many industries, including those employed by public humanities such as cultural sites, libraries, and museums. The funds appropriated for Indiana Humanities CARES Grants will help support these programs through this difficult time,” said Senator Mike Braun.

CARES Grant recipients from Indiana's 1st Congressional District include:

Cedar Lake Historical Association – Cedar Lake (\$5,000)

Crown Point Community Library – Crown Point (\$10,000)

Hobart Historical Society – Hobart (\$5,000)

Porter County Public Library System – Valparaiso (\$15,000)

“We are beyond thrilled to receive an Indiana Humanities CARES grant! Due to our small size and needs, we are generally ineligible for most grant opportunities,” said Paula Isolampi, president of the Hobart Historical Society. “This grant will help us continue our mission of preserving the past to benefit the future, by helping us to keep our doors open to educate the residents of our history.”

Requests for the grants exceeded \$1.3 million, and the 186 applicants expressed \$11.7 million in total losses to date, as well as projected losses of \$44.9 million through Sept. 30.

“We are pleased to have awarded grants to groups large and small, carrying out a variety of programming, in each congressional district and in 48 of our 92 counties,” said Doran Moreland, Indiana Humanities board chair. “Because of the immense need we had to turn down many organizations that are doing good work, including some of our close partners. The grant committees put great care into the review, weighing a number of factors such as public humanities focus, need, audiences served, and geography.”

The grants do not require a match and will be distributed to the organizations in June. Organizations with budgets less than \$250,000 received up to \$5,000; organizations with budgets from \$250,000 to \$999,999 received \$7,500; organizations with budgets from \$1 million to \$2,499,999 received \$10,000 and organizations with budgets of \$2.5 million or more received \$15,000.

“These CARES grants will help meet immediate needs at cultural institutions around the state, allowing Indiana museums, archives, libraries and historical societies to maintain vital operations,” said NEH Chairman Jon Parrish Peede. “Thank you to Indiana Humanities for their swift and judicious distribution of CARES Act funding to the many humanities organizations suffering financial distress during the pandemic.”

To view an interactive map, an infographic, and more information about the grant recipients, visit [www.IndianaHumanities.org/INCares](http://www.IndianaHumanities.org/INCares).

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### **About Indiana Humanities**

Indiana Humanities connects people, opens minds and enriches lives by creating and facilitating programs that encourage Hoosiers to think, read and talk. Learn more at [www.indianahumanities.org](http://www.indianahumanities.org).

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