



HumanitiesDC

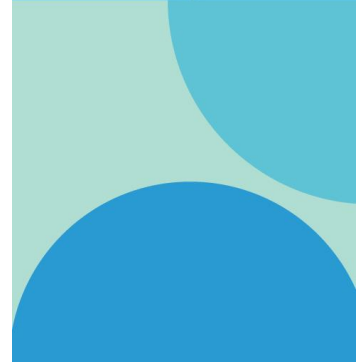
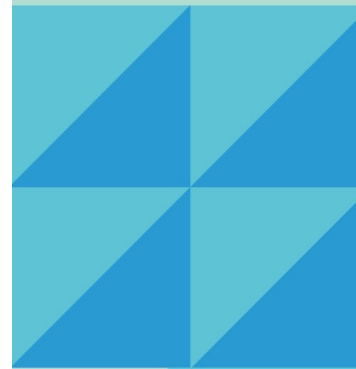
HISTORY
LITERATURE
LANGUAGES
ETHICS
PHILOSOPHY
ARTS APPRECIATION

Independent Practitioner Fellowship

2025 INFORMATIONAL SESSION



**HumanitiesDC
Fellowships**



Outline

- Introductions
- About HumanitiesDC
- The Fellowship
- The Application
- Your Project Ideas
- The Review and Award Process
- Resources

Q&A throughout



Introductions

Lois Nembhard

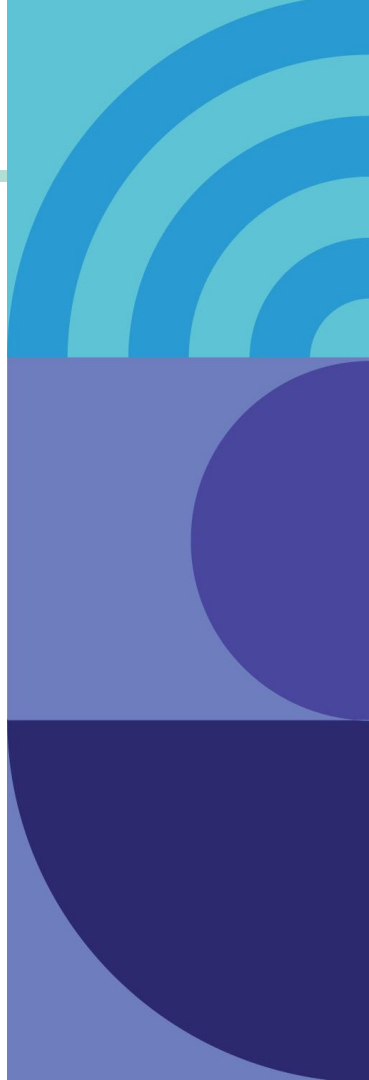
- Director of Grantmaking and Programs

Jimmy Watkins

- Public Programs Coordinator

Attendees

- Name
- 1 to 2-sentence introduction, including prior HumanitiesDC experience
(out loud or via chat)



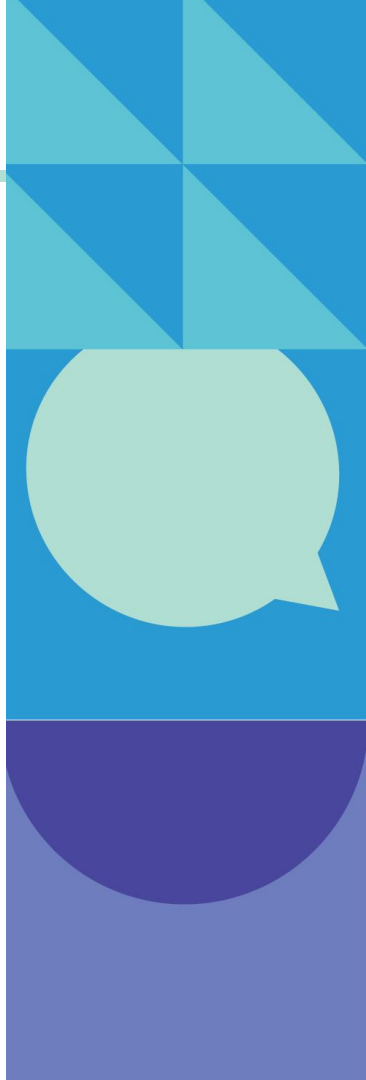
What We Do

One of 56 state councils supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities to ensure the humanities are available to all.

HumanitiesDC “helps all Washingtonians, and others connected to the District of Columbia, deepen their relationships with the city and each other through the sharing of unique and universal stories, the fostering of intellectual stimulation, and the promotion of cross-cultural understanding”

We connect curious people with bold questions to the powerful stories of our vibrant city through:

- Public Programs
- Community Grantmaking
- Strategic Partnerships



The “Humanities”

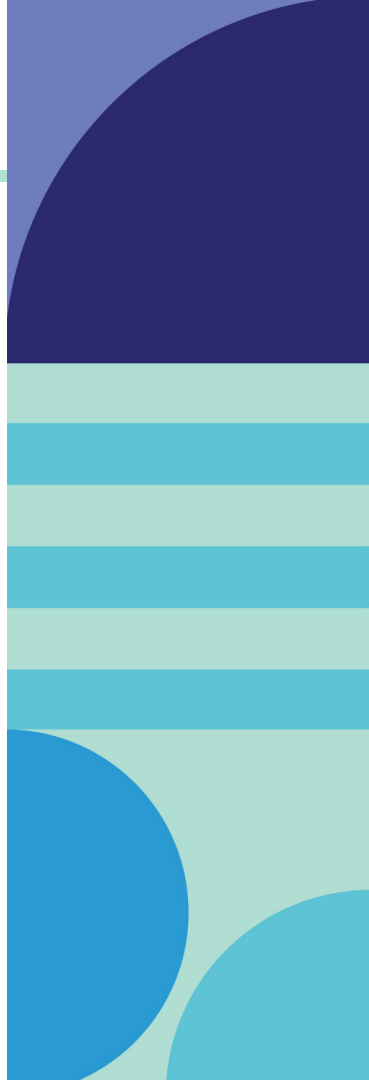
The term 'humanities' includes, but is not limited to, **the study and interpretation** of the following:

- language, both modern and classical; linguistics;
- literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy;
- archaeology; comparative religion; ethics;
- the history, criticism and theory of the arts;
- those aspects of the social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and
- the study and application of the humanities to the human environment **with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history** and to **the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life.**

--National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act, 1965, as amended

Why the Humanities

- The humanities help us learn from history and literature, empathize through language and comparative religion, and challenge our assumptions with philosophy and ethics. They are a compass for interpreting what humans make and exploring what makes us human. Human stories allow us to navigate the complexities of our past, present, and future.
- They help us understand
 - Our story's past: history, anthropology, archaeology;
 - Our story's expressions: literature, linguistics, languages, art history/theory/criticism;
 - Our story's values: ethics, philosophy, comparative religion, law.



Current Opportunities



2025 Community Grants

CYCLE I

OPENS: DECEMBER 10, 2024

DUE: FEBRUARY 18, 2025 at 5:59 pm

<u>COMMUNITY CULTURE & HERITAGE GRANT</u>	Supports the public preservation of local culture, collective memories of longtime Washingtonians, and capturing unfolding stories of newer residents	\$10,000 Open to Individuals, Community Groups, & Nonprofits
<u>ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEWING – DC ORAL HISTORY COLLABORATIVE GRANT</u>	Funding supports oral history projects with training from DCOHC	\$8,000 Open to Individuals, Community Groups, & Nonprofit Organizations
<u>BEYOND THE ARCHIVES – DC ORAL HISTORY COLLABORATIVE GRANT</u>	Funding for public humanities projects that utilize existing oral history collections	\$12,000 Open to Individuals, Community Groups, & Nonprofit Organizations
<u>VISIONS – PROJECTS + EVENTS</u>	Funding supports public interpretations of humanities scholarship such as feature documentaries, festivals, or archives	\$25,000 Open to Nonprofit Organizations (Fiscal Sponsors Permitted)

Grant Reviewers: Community members with experience in the humanities who review grant applications

2025 Public Programming

- **Community Journalism Program** – 14-week *Journalism 101* workshop series with instruction and coaching by working journalists. Applications due Jan 7
- **DC Oral History Collaborative** - A partnership with the DC Public Library that helps residents use oral history to document, preserve, and celebrate the history of all DC communities. 101+ workshop series Jan 13, 14, 16, 2025
- **Independent Practitioner Fellowship** – A 10-month Fellowship to support individuals at different stages of a humanities-based project. Monthly gatherings; peer support (\$10,000 stipend) Applications due Jan 17, 2025
- **District Fellowship: Oral History and Grantmaking** – A 6-month Fellowship based at HumanitiesDC; gain nonprofit and humanities experience; complete a Capstone project (paid). Submit applications by Feb 28, 2025
- **Other:** DC History Conference (4/3-6/25), oral history training throughout the year, DC/DOX (6/12-15/25), monthly Culture Series



Questions about HumanitiesDC?

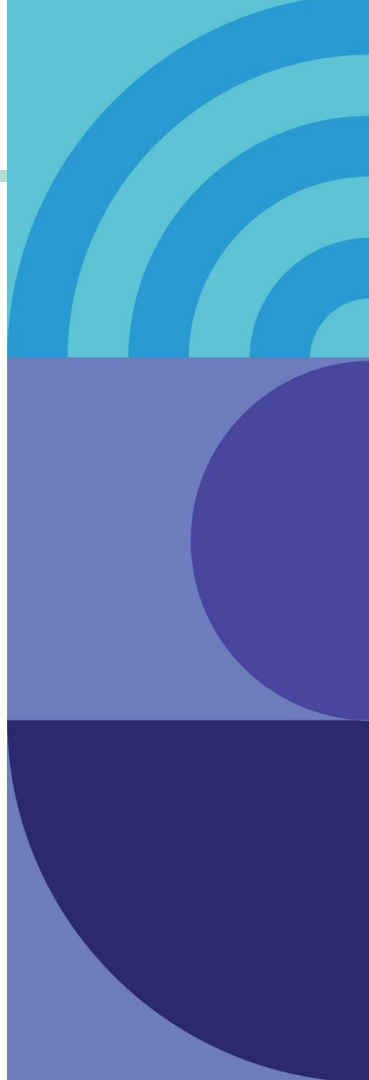


The Independent Practitioner Fellowship

A cohort-based experience

\$10,000 award to eight DC-based public humanities practitioners whose voices and perspectives strengthen the humanities landscape in Washington, DC.

- 28-36 applications over the last two years.
- By supporting public humanities practitioners, HumanitiesDC aims to
 - help strengthen Washington DC's humanities community;
 - contribute to DC being inviting and supportive of its humanities practitioners; and
 - provide resources to individuals who otherwise might not engage in the humanities as a career or passion.
- We support all phases of public humanities work, including project ideation and research.



Eligibility

- Be a District of Columbia resident with a permanent District of Columbia address, as listed on government-issued identification or tax returns.
 - Post office boxes and UPS addresses may not be used as permanent addresses.
- Be a public humanities practitioner, defined as someone engaged in bringing the ideas of the humanities to life for general audiences.
- Be at least 18 years old.
- Submit a Certificate of Clean Hands (CCH) from the District of Columbia Office of Tax and Revenue
 - Information on CCH can be found here:
<https://otr.cfo.dc.gov/page/certificate-clean-hands>



Eligibility (cont.)

- Be in good standing with HumanitiesDC.
 - Applicants with outstanding or delinquent reports or final products from previous HumanitiesDC grants must submit them completed and without deficiencies at least 30 days before the deadline for which they wish to apply.
- Not be an individual grantee of HumanitiesDC during the period of the Fellowship.
- Not have received Federal funds for the same or overlapping project period and purpose as this request.
- Not have an exclusion record on www.sam.gov
- If you have been a Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH) Arts and Humanities Fellow or a HumanitiesDC Independent Practitioner Fellow in the last two years you are eligible, but will have a lower priority than someone who has not.



The Fellowship

March 10, 2025 - Start of Fellowship

Orientation meeting

Monthly gatherings

Monthly payments

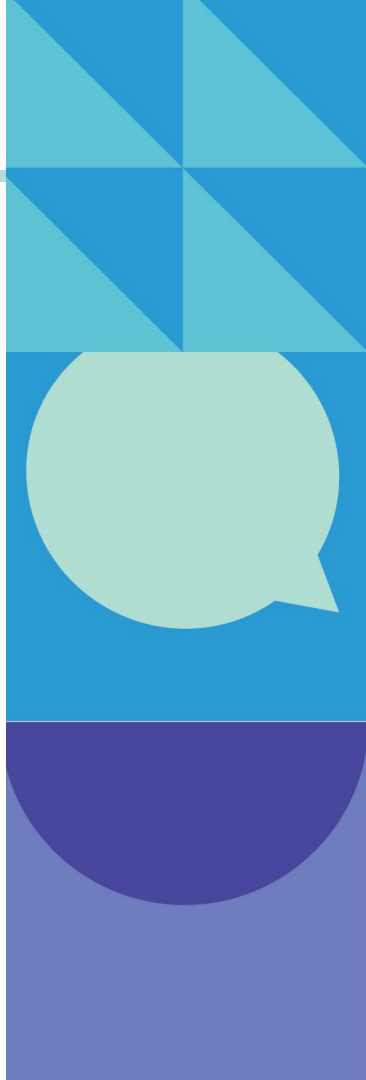
Interim progress report

January 2, 2026 - End of Fellowship

Public event to showcase work

Final progress report

Final payment



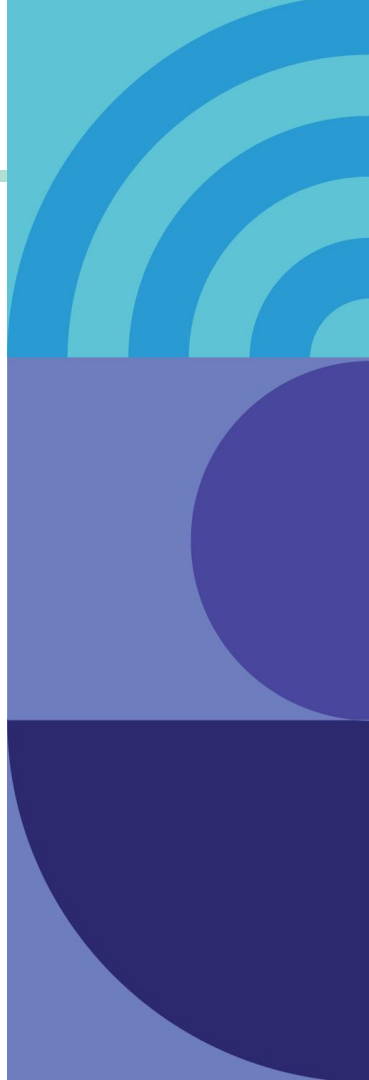
The Application

Project Proposal

- Describe your public humanities project or work
- Detail your project's goals, methods, significance or relevancy, and connection to DC.
- Include information about any preliminary work that you have completed and your vision and plan for how the project will ultimately reach and engage DC's residents.

Project Timeline

- A timeline that outlines your plans for the Fellowship period
- Include dates, locations, and milestones.



The Application (cont.)

Budget and Budget Narrative

Fellowship Experience

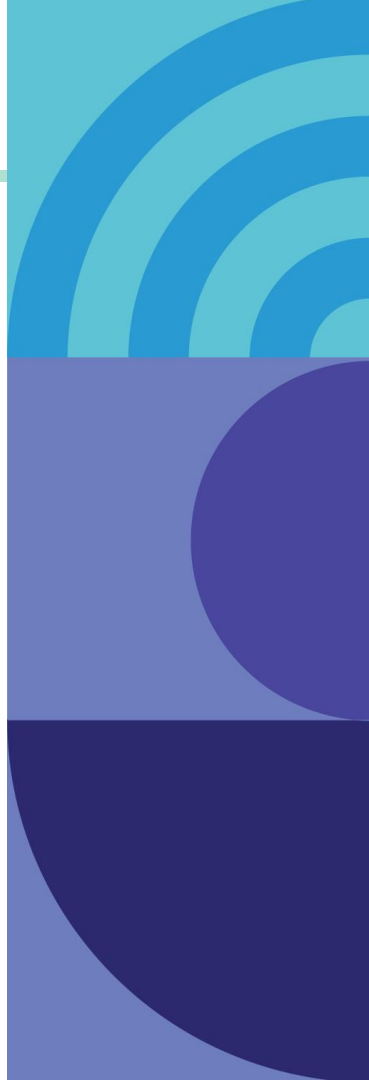
- Explain why you are interested in being a part of a cohort of Fellows
- Describe the experiences you would like to have

Resume or CV (3 pages maximum)

Two Letters of Support

- Should highlight your abilities, experiences, and connections that demonstrate your suitability and capability to carry out your project

Optional Work Sample (from the past five years)



Allowable Costs

These funds are intended to support the practitioner during the Fellowship, so salary for the practitioner is expected to be the primary or sole expense.

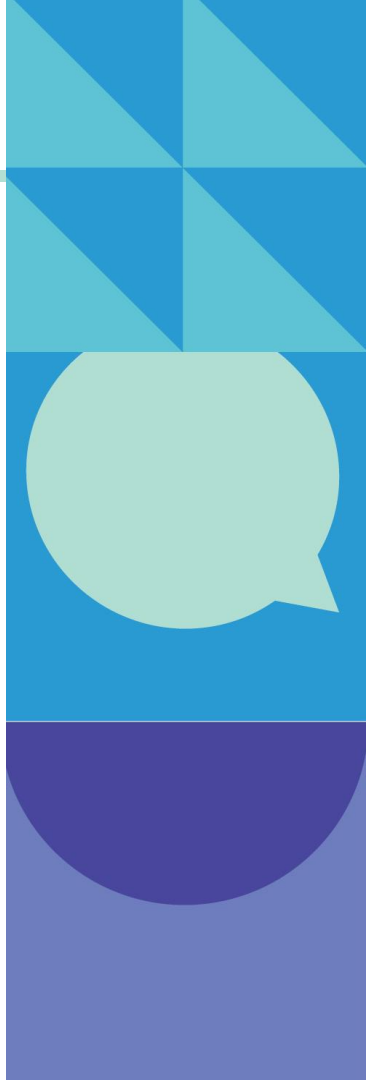
Other allowable expenses include those that would support the Fellow's stated goals, such as:

- Supplies
- Equipment
- Travel
- Facilities rental
- Honoraria

Funding Restrictions

Awards may not be used for:

- Promotion of a particular political, religious, or ideological point of view
- Advocacy of a particular program of social or political action
- Support of specific public policies or legislation
- Lobbying
- Projects that fall outside of the humanities and the humanistic social sciences, including:
 - the creation or performance of art;
 - creative writing, autobiographies, memoirs, and creative nonfiction;
 - quantitative social science research or policy studies



Previous Project Examples

- Compiling the histories and poems of DC's LGBTQ+ poets from the City's founding in the 1800s to the present day for an anthology.
- Creating "How We Be Free: A Black Fugitive Study Kit" to show how enslaved people resisted and cared for one another during slavery.
- Documenting roller skating history in Washington, DC through first-person accounts and the collection of memorabilia.
- Interviewing DC spoken word hosts from the last 40 years and writing a book for future hosts.
- Producing a documentary about how the Woodner apartment building tenants union builds community as it fights for dignified affordable housing.

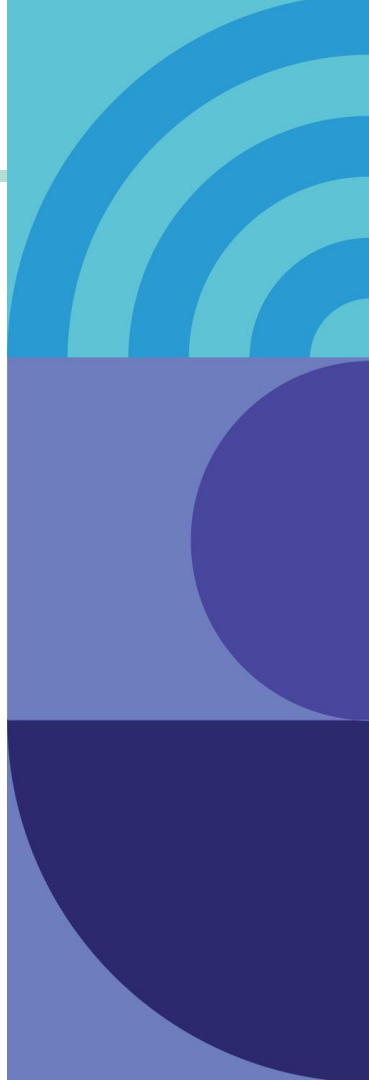


Questions About the Fellowship?



Your Project Ideas

- Area of interest/research/practice
- Goals



Review & Award Process

- **January 17, 2025 - Applications are due**
Applications accepted via our online grants management portal
- Initial eligibility review; ineligible applicants notified
- Application review
- **Mid-February Applicants notified**
- Pre-award screening
- Execute agreements
- **March 10, 2025 - Fellowship begins**

To Learn More

Applicant Resources

- www.HumanitiesDC.org > Programs > HumanitiesDC Fellowships
 - Office Hours
 - RFP
 - Application Questions
 - Frequently Asked Questions
 - Link to Foundant, grants management portal
 - Foundant Instructions
 - List of Previous Fellows' Projects



Final Questions





HumanitiesDC

programs@humanitiesdc.org