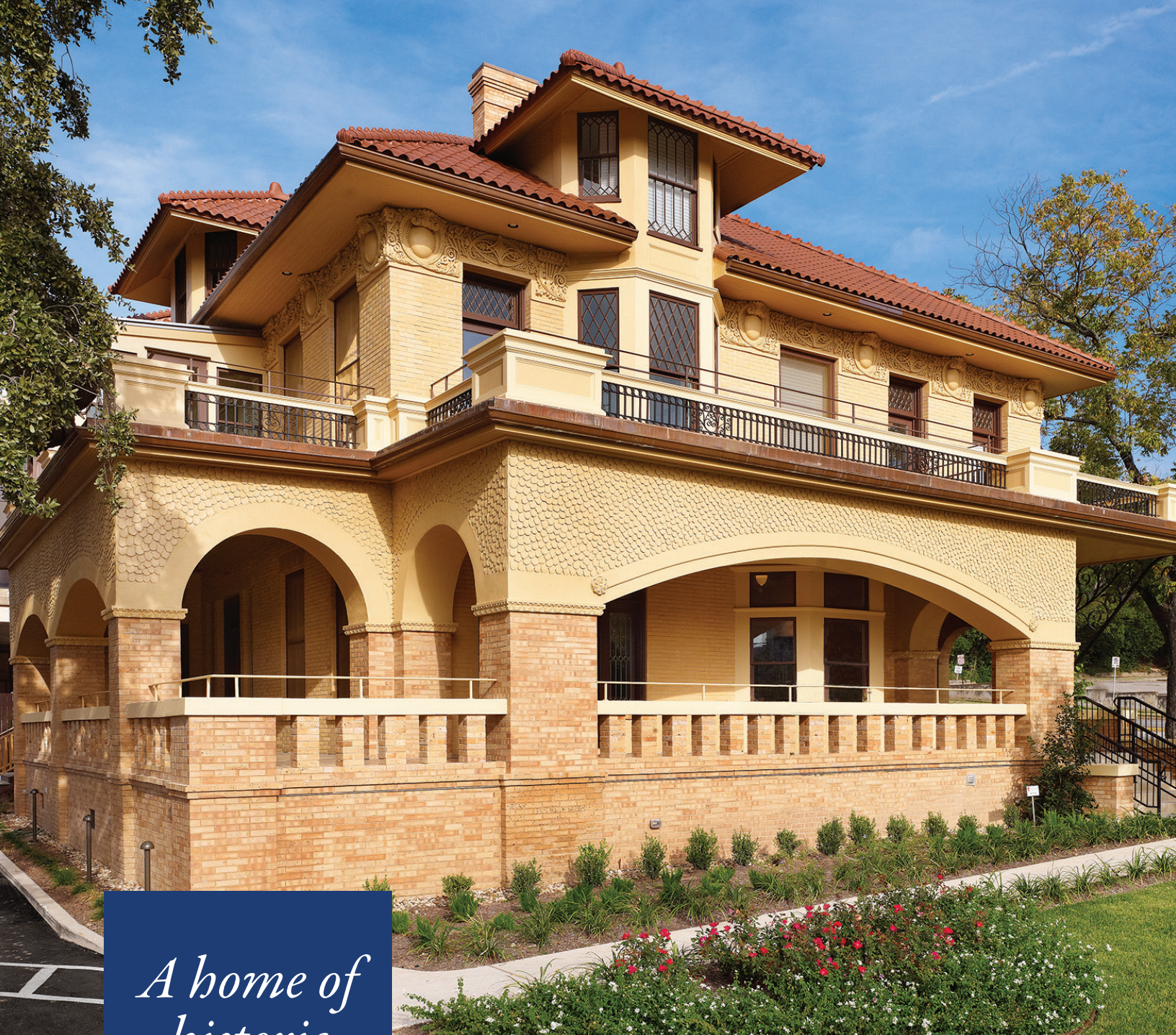




*Fifty
Years of
Service*

History · Culture · Education



*A home of
historic
significance*

Photograph by Casey Dunn.

The Byrne-Reed House—Humanities Texas’s headquarters—embodies our organization’s commitment to history, culture, and education. In 2010, we uncovered the century-old home, returning it to its original character and distinction. Located in Austin just a few blocks from the State Capitol, the Byrne-Reed House provides a central venue for our programs and events as well as those of other educational and cultural organizations.

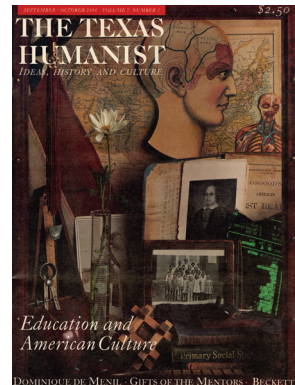


Fifty Years of Service

Since 1973, Humanities Texas has served Texans of all ages through programs that improve the quality of classroom teaching, support libraries and museums, and create opportunities for lifelong learning.

We strengthen Texas communities by conducting and supporting programs that cultivate the knowledge and judgment that representative democracy demands of its citizens. These programs also contribute to Texas’s thriving economy, culture, and civic life.

The state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Humanities Texas is a private nonprofit supported by federal and state appropriations, as well as by foundations, corporations, and individuals. Our volunteer board is a model of leadership, ensuring we fulfill our mission while providing careful stewardship of our funding resources.



Organizational History

1970s

- 1973** Texas Committee for the Humanities begins operations at UT Arlington with Sandra L. Myres as executive director.
- 1974** Awards first grants to Texas organizations planning public humanities programs.
- 1975** James F. Veninga becomes executive director.
- 1977** Launches *The Texas Humanist* magazine (1977–1986).
- 1979** Funds the “Texas Women’s History Project.”

1980s

- 1980** Moves headquarters from Arlington to Austin.
- 1982** Sponsors “Understanding Vietnam” symposium in Salado.
- 1983** Awards first of four major grants supporting expansion of *The Handbook of Texas*.
- 1984** Launches “The Texas Experience” project commemorating 150th anniversary of Texas Independence.
- 1985** Receives NEH Exemplary Project Award for programs exploring Mexican legacy in Texas.
- 1987** Awards grants to 140 Texas libraries to obtain the complete *Library of America*.

Launches multifaceted program “Preparing for Texas in the 21st Century.”

1990s

- 1990** Establishes Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Awards with grant from the T. L. L. Temple Foundation.
- 1991** Purchases office in South Austin with Meadows Foundation grant.
- 1992** Incorporates the Texas Humanities Resource Center, the precursor of our traveling exhibitions program.
- 1993** Receives NEH grant to explore uses of new technologies in humanities education.
- 1994** Hosts the National Humanities Conference in San Antonio.
- 1996** Debuts *Humanities Interactive* website and “Teaching with Technology” workshops.

Changes name to Texas Council for the Humanities.
- 1997** Richard Hull becomes executive director.

2000s

- 2000** Presents first annual Linden Heck Howell Outstanding Teaching of Texas History Award.
- 2001** Funds oral history program “Parallel and Crossover Lives: Texas Before and After Segregation.”
- 2003** Michael L. Gillette becomes executive director.
- 2004** Changes name to Humanities Texas.

Holds the “Institute on Congress and American History” for Texas teachers at the LBJ Library.
- 2005** Publishes *Conversations with Texas Writers* with UT Press.

Launches Relief Grants program for Texas museums, schools, and libraries that suffered losses during Hurricane Rita.
- 2006** Purchases Byrne-Reed House in central Austin.
- 2007** Receives \$1 million NEH Challenge Grant for purchase and restoration of Byrne-Reed House.
- 2008** Holds first Holiday Book Fair benefitting Texas libraries.
- 2009** Receives first-ever state funding to dramatically expand our professional development programs for Texas teachers.

2010s

- 2010** Completes award-winning restoration of the Byrne-Reed House.
- 2012** Launches *Texas Originals* radio series.
- 2013** Holds first *Veterans’ Voices* reading and discussion program.

Establishes the Award for Outstanding Early-Career Teaching.
- 2014** Launches campaign to establish \$5 million endowment supporting programming and operations.

Holds first community History Harvests in San Angelo and Brownsville.
- 2017** Distributes Relief Grants to Texas museums, schools, and libraries that suffered losses during Hurricane Harvey.

Establishes *Texas Storytime* family reading program.
- 2018** Receives President’s Award from Texas Association of Museums for supporting the state’s museums’ recovery from Hurricane Harvey.
- 2019** Eric Lupfer becomes executive director.

2020s

- 2020** Distributes more than \$1.1 million in grants to Texas cultural and educational institutions affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Receives Schwartz Prize from the Federation of State Humanities Councils for online teacher programs held during early stages of the pandemic.
- 2021** Awards Relief Grants to libraries and museums that suffered losses during Winter Storm Uri.

Distributes an additional \$2.3 million to Texas cultural and educational institutions affected by the pandemic.

Successfully completes \$5 million endowment campaign.
- 2022** Secures NEH funding to support establishment of Los Angelitos de Robb Archive at Uvalde’s El Progreso Memorial Library.
- 2023** Celebrates 50th anniversary by holding public receptions in communities across the state.



Programs for Texas Teachers

Texas teachers Stacy Hricko and Amy Thurman discuss the history of the American West at a summer institute in Fort Worth.

“Humanities Texas fosters excellence in education for the benefit of the children of Texas . . . with few competitors as the premier provider of staff development in our state.”

Michael Acuff, Past Member of the State Board of Educator Certification

“Receiving the Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Award is a highlight of my career. . . . It validated my work and gave me the assurance I needed to continue my journey as an educator.”

JP Fugler, Van High School, Van

A statewide catalyst for educational excellence

For decades, Humanities Texas has raised the quality of humanities instruction in Texas schools.

Professional Development Programs

We are the leading provider of professional development for the state’s humanities teachers. In our programs, participants study with leading scholars, exploring topics at the heart of the state’s social studies and language arts curricula.

We focus on serving early-career teachers and teachers in disadvantaged and underperforming schools. In recent years, over 80% of participants in our institutes and workshops taught in Title I schools, and 51% were in their first five years of teaching.

Awards

Our Outstanding Teaching Awards are the most prestigious statewide awards in K–12 humanities instruction. Since 1990, 385 teachers in 126 Texas communities have been recognized.

Curriculum Resources

We produce and disseminate in-depth, innovative materials that engage students in key topics in history, government, and language arts.

Texas Storytime

Our family reading program promotes school readiness and supports early childhood literacy.



Impact:

7,178

teachers served by professional development programs since 2004

2,367

schools served by professional development programs since 2004

375,000+

students served each year

Traveling Exhibitions

Students participate in a docent-led tour of the traveling exhibition Miguel Covarrubias: Caricaturista on display at the Irving Arts Center.

“Humanities Texas traveling exhibitions are always a big hit with our visitors. They help us tell new stories and add fresh interest at the museum.”

Amanda Seem, Falls on the Colorado Museum, Marble Falls

“The exhibition we hosted appealed to a wide variety of people, drew in many who had not previously visited the museum, and brought a new humanities experience to our county.”

Beverly Norris, Brown County Museum of History, Brownwood



Bringing humanities exhibitions to Texas communities

Humanities Texas provides high-quality, affordable resources to cultural and educational institutions throughout Texas and the nation.

We circulate traveling exhibitions on a variety of historical, literary, and cultural topics. These exhibitions are designed to appeal to institutions of all sizes and budgets, from small community centers with volunteer support to museums with professional curatorial staff.

Impact:

3,064

exhibition bookings since 1973

929

venues served since 1973

454

communities served since 1973



Members of Reedy Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church celebrate Juneteenth in Galveston.

Grants

“Without the support of Humanities Texas, our museum would not be seeing the growth it is experiencing today.”

Jewellee Kuenstler, Museum of the West Texas Frontier, Stamford

“The Humanities Texas grants program plays a crucial role in the success of our mission. . . . It empowers us to make a lasting impact on our community and preserve our rich Texas heritage.”

Olivia Moore, East Texas Oil Museum, Kilgore

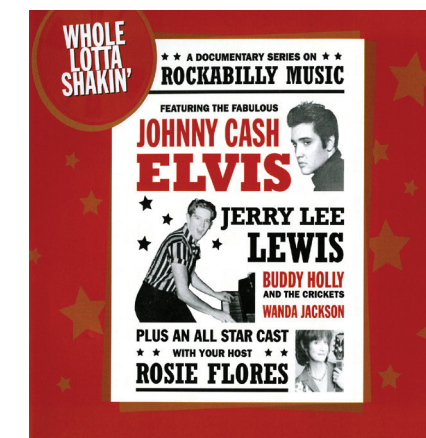


Supporting cultural and educational programming

Humanities Texas grants provide support to the state’s libraries, museums, and other public or nonprofit institutions.

Since 1974, we have awarded more than 4,700 grants totaling more than \$20 million for lectures, conferences, teacher workshops, exhibitions, reading programs, and documentary films.

We also launch special grant initiatives to support Texas cultural and educational organizations in times of critical need. Most recently, we awarded over \$3.4 million in emergency funding to 360 Texas cultural and educational nonprofits affected by the coronavirus pandemic. This funding enabled recipients to pay overhead costs, retain staff, shift in-person programming online, and make resources available to those who depend on them for education and connection.



Impact:

4,775 grants awarded since 1973

1,738 Texas organizations receiving grants since 1973

405 communities served since 1973



Public Programs

Humanities Texas staff digitize historic photos, letters, and other documents at the Lufkin History Harvest.

Humanities Texas provides opportunities for lifelong learning to all Texans.

Texas Originals

Texas Originals profiles individuals who shaped Texas history and culture. This radio series is broadcast on stations throughout the state and is available online for teachers to use as an educational tool in their classrooms.

Holiday Book Fair

Our annual Holiday Book Fair welcomes the public to visit with Texas authors and purchase signed copies of their latest books at the historic Byrne-Reed House. Proceeds benefit Texas libraries.



Conducting programs in communities statewide

Public Lectures and Film Screenings

Throughout the year, we hold film screenings and in-person and online lectures on a diverse range of topics, bringing acclaimed scholars to audiences around the state and nation.

Veterans' Voices

Our *Veterans' Voices* discussion program serves veterans and military families in communities across Texas. Participants engage in facilitated conversations that explore how selected readings relate to their own experiences and allow for shared reflection.





*Invest in
the future
of Texas*

Jennifer Wilks of The University of Texas at Austin discusses the Harlem Renaissance with Texas teachers at the Byrne-Reed House.

We invite you to invest in our mission. Help us continue to provide educational opportunities in Texas classrooms, libraries, museums, and beyond.

As a donor, you may direct your gift toward a specific program, the ongoing preservation of the Byrne-Reed House, or our general endowment. Be assured that your gift will have a lasting and meaningful impact on the lives of Texans.

To learn more, visit www.humanitiestexas.org or contact the Development Office at development@humanitiestexas.org or 512.440.1991.



“Democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens. It must therefore foster and support a form of education, and access to the arts and the humanities, designed to make people of all backgrounds and wherever located masters of their technology and not its unthinking servants.”

National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965

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Humanities Texas

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