

New York Council for the Humanities

E-Newsletter

February 2010

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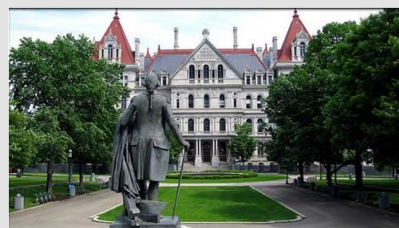
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Advocacy

Making the Case to Lawmakers

As the voice for the public humanities in New York State, the Council visits Albany and Washington, D.C. each year to advocate for state and federal funds in support of the humanities.



On February 22 and 23, Board and Staff members will converge on Albany to meet with Assembly Members and Senators representing districts all across the state. In these meetings, we will make the case for the State's support of the humanities, which bring cultural and intellectual enrichment to the lives of so many New Yorkers.

On March 2-4, the Council will join forces with humanities councils from the 55 other U.S. states and territories for "Humanities on the Hill," our annual advocacy trip to D.C. Keep a look out for our upcoming grassroots letter-writing campaign, in which we will ask all our supporters to write to their federal legislators to describe how the humanities enhance the quality of life for constituents in their Congressional district.

Featured Program

Speakers in the Schools

[Speakers in the Schools](#) is a new version of our 25-year-old *Speakers in the Humanities* lecture bureau, and is drawing interest far and wide among teachers and students alike. This program brings the state's top humanities scholars into the classroom to speak to high school students on topics like American History, Immigrant Studies, Music, Art, Nature, and Literature. Lectures meet NYS Learning Standards in new and exciting ways, enriching the learning experience by broadening and deepening curriculum beyond what is typically taught in the classroom and in textbooks.



Since it began in 2007, *Speakers in the Schools* has brought stimulating humanities lectures to more than 8,000 students and teachers all over the state. To browse our lecture offerings and find out how you can host a Speaker, please [visit our website](#).

Have you recently attended a Speakers lecture? We'd love to hear your thoughts and see your photos. Post them on [Facebook](#), [Flickr](#), or [Twitter](#), and tag what you've shared [#nyhum](#).

Grants

Congratulations to our 22 Newest Major Grantees!

This past month, the Council awarded more than \$300,000 in major grant funds to 22 organizations located in 14 counties in New York State. Awardees were selected from a pool of 60 applicants, a 35% increase from this time last year. For a complete list of awarded projects in 2010 [visit our website](#).



Mini Grants Update

The Council accepts Mini Grant applications for up to \$2,500 throughout the year. Applications must be submitted eight weeks before your first event date. Please [visit our website](#) for details, and contact [Jane McNamara](#), Director of Grants and Programs, or [Lauren Kushnick](#), Manager of Grants and Technology, if you'd like to discuss your project before applying.

Development and Events

2009 Annual Appeal

The Council would like to thank the 37 Speakers, Board Members, and Supporters like you who contributed to our first formal [Annual Appeal](#)! You helped raise over \$6,500 that will enable the Council to bring even more compelling, challenging, and inspiring humanities experiences to New Yorkers where they live and work.

Join the Conversation...through Social Media!

The Council is now on [Facebook](#), [Flickr](#), and [Twitter](#). Each of these sites allows us to share recent humanities news and media with our fans and followers and invite humanities supporters from all around the state to connect with us and each other online. With these new tools, we can give details about upcoming events, challenge our fans with trivia, share photos of events, and get your input on how we're doing. Use the links below to join our networks and see what we're all about.



facebook



flickr



twitter

Upcoming Deadlines

May 15: [*Together--Book Talk for Kids and Parents*](#) applications due

Rolling: [Mini Grants](#)
[*Speakers in the Humanities*](#)
[*Speakers in the Schools*](#)

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