THE NEH PROMOTES CIVIC EDUCATION

The National Endowment for the Humanities supports civic education for Americans of all ages and backgrounds, ensuring that the general public has the tools necessary for informed citizenship.

THE NEH ENCOURAGES CIVIC EDUCATION FOR K–12 STUDENTS.

The NEH supports National History Day, which annually engages more than 600,000 students and 20,000–30,000 teachers from each state and territory in history competitions. A 2011 evaluation of the program found that students involved in it outperform their peers on state standardized tests.

The Journey Through Hallowed Ground’s Of the Student, By the Student, For the Student program offered 3,300 middle school students the chance to immerse themselves in American history and heritage while developing original videos exploring historical sites. Participants in the program learned to assess and interpret primary sources, work in teams, and produce a short film at the same time that they gained expertise in the American Civil War.

THE NEH SUPPORTS STATE AND LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES IN THEIR MISSION TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC.

With funding for exhibition development, the Minnesota History Center has developed groundbreaking exhibitions. The 1968 Exhibit explores one influential year in American History, while World War I America explores the nation at war and at home from 1916–1918. Both exhibitions were designed to tour the country and have broken attendance records at host museums.

THE NEH SUPPORTS PROGRAMS THAT ENCOURAGE PUBLIC DIALOGUE ON OUR COMMON HISTORY AND SHARED PRESENT.

States of Incarceration, funded through two NEH grants, encourages communities across the United States to explore and engage in dialogues about how the incarceration system affects them.

THE NEH SUPPORTS THE EXPLORATION OF HISTORICAL EVENTS THROUGH DOCUMENTARY FILM.

To correspond with the release of Ken Burns’s NEH-funded documentary, The Vietnam War, the NEH supported engagement programs across the country. Led by historians, veterans, and even anti-war activists, participants discussed the legacy of the Vietnam War and their personal experiences with it.

THE NEH PROVIDES ALL AMERICANS WITH ACCESS TO THE HISTORY OF OUR NATION.

NEH funding has made the papers of many Founding Fathers and other prominent Americans freely available online; these include the papers of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and John Adams and his family.

“[The program] forced students to work together, depend on each other, and take leadership roles. It was amazing to see the depth of their knowledge, the ideas they came up with.”

— Zachary Gargan, Teacher, Stonewall Middle School and Of the Student, By the Student, For the Student Instructor