



## Humanities Kansas Serves Kansans

*HK supports the state's cultural infrastructure by providing resources and awarding grants to local museums, libraries, and other cultural institutions. HK is an independent nonprofit since 1972.*

### FY 2025 BUDGET REQUEST

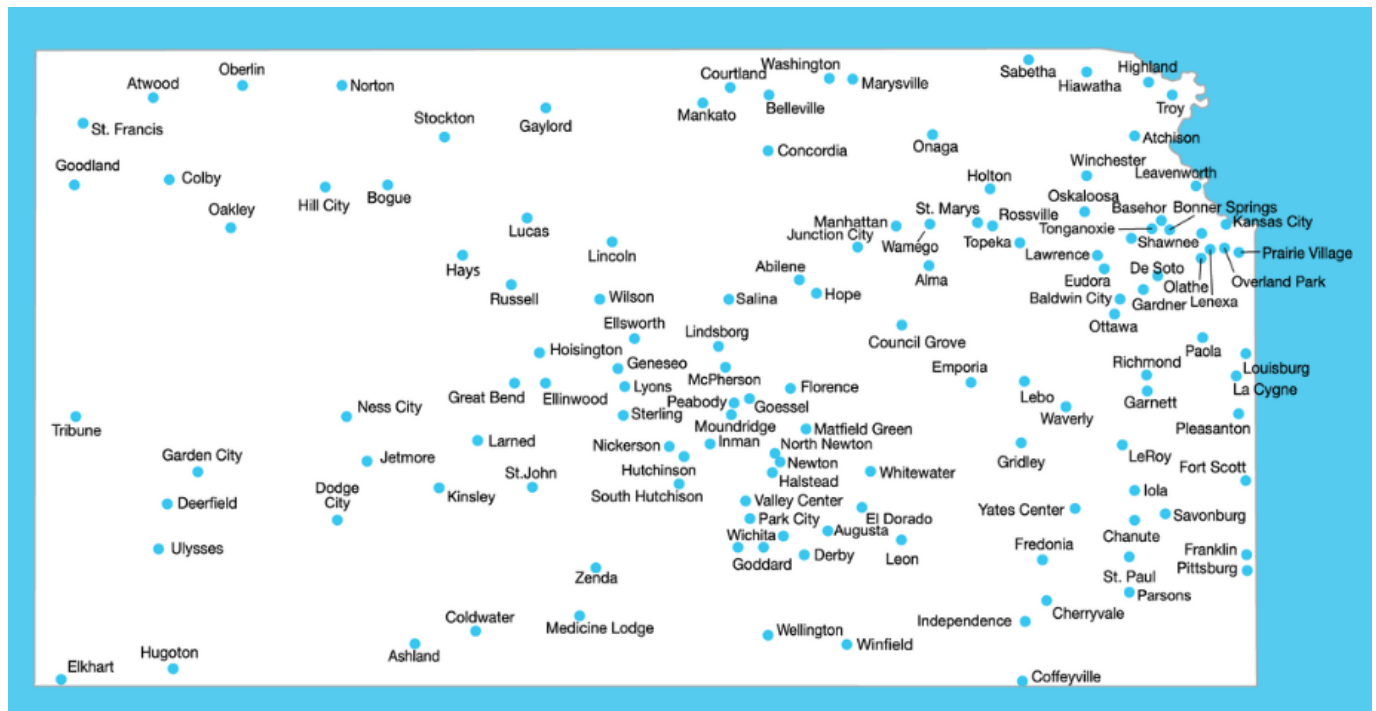
Humanities Kansas supports a robust increase in funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), including funding for the NEH line item Federal / State Partnership that supports state humanities councils. Humanities Kansas (HK) is the state humanities council for Kansas. In FY 2023, Humanities Kansas received **\$1,016,809.00** in federal funding through NEH's Federal/State Partnership. These funds support humanities grants, programs, and nonprofits in Kansas.

### STATEWIDE LEADERSHIP

HK provides leadership in the nonprofit cultural sector. HK brings together grassroots leadership, cultural networks, and our state's rich history into ongoing dialogue, and promotes civic engagement and innovation in history and heritage programming. HK has goodwill, stewardship, and experience to lead the state's cultural community.

### IN 2023, HK:

- **Supported towns of all sizes.** 124 communities used HK resources.
- **Diversified statewide resources.** 211 partnerships with local organizations statewide.
- **Customized resources to respond to Kansas needs.** 513 local humanities events & grants supported by HK.
- **Leveraged local dollars.** Local contributions doubled every \$1 provided by HK through NEH.



## 2023 Highlights: The Smithsonian Came to Kansas!

Last year, HK developed free resources on American democracy for museums and libraries and launched *21st Century Civics*, a statewide initiative anchored by the Smithsonian exhibition *Voices and Votes: Democracy in America* on the history of American democracy. The national exhibition spent six weeks each at the Boot Hill Museum in Dodge City, Nicodemus Historical Society, Winfield Public Library, Mid-America All-Indian Museum in Wichita, Old Depot Museum in Ottawa, and the Republic County Historical Museum in Belleville. A speakers bureau catalog provided 50+ presentations on democracy, Kansas history, and American history for use by organizations across Kansas. A statewide crowdsourcing opportunity using Clio, an online history app, encouraged Kansans to take “Sidewalk Civics” tours in their own communities. More than 12,000 Kansans participated. An early investment of federal dollars leveraged \$35,000 + in additional funding from the private sector.



## HK continues to respond to Kansas needs in 2024-2025

### HK launches *Kansas Stories of the Vietnam War*

HK is working with 11 organizations to collect oral histories of local Vietnam War veterans. These stories will be donated to the Library of Congress and become part of the national Veterans Oral History collection available to schoolteachers, students, and researchers worldwide. The communities involved are [Altoona](#), [Basehor](#), [Cherryvale](#), [Howard](#), [Hays](#), [Holton](#), [Hutchinson](#), [Kansas City](#), [Lincoln](#), [Tonganoxie](#), and [Topeka](#). Federal dollars have leveraged additional new private funding from the David Woods Kemper Veterans Foundation for a [public-private partnership](#).

### HK enters new partnership with the Smithsonian Institution

HK is in the early stage of bringing a brand-new Smithsonian traveling exhibition to Kansas. The exhibition is a modified version of the *Americans* exhibition currently on display at the National Museum of the American Indian. Increased tourism and support for the state’s cultural sector will [jumpstart local economies](#). The exhibition will be available in Kansas for school field trips and visitors August 2024 – May 2025. An infusion of federal dollars with a 1:1 match by HK is an investment in Kansas.

### HK prepares for the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence

HK will begin preparations for Kansans to engage with national conversations on the 250th anniversary of our nation’s democracy as marked by the signing of the Declaration of Independence. HK will work with partners to explore this milestone and consider the complexities of the time. An investment of federal dollars will leverage an investment in [civic engagement](#).

***“I am grateful for the work Humanities Kansas does to bring people together to talk about ideas and share history and culture. It is always needed and always valuable.” —Event Participant***

## Fun Facts

- Nearly 1 out of every 6 Kansans engage with HK resources
- More than 50% of interested organizations use more than one HK resource each year