



Speakers Bureau FAQ

Q: What is the Speakers Bureau?

A: HK's Speakers Bureau connects humanities experts with communities across Kansas to engage audiences with stories and ideas, spark conversations, and build community. The catalog of speakers features thoughtful, non-partisan, humanities-based presentations and discussions. Presentations are intended for adult, out-of-school audiences.

Q: What are the humanities?

A: The humanities explore the human experience and connect people and place. According to the 1965 National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act, *"The term 'humanities' includes, but is not limited to, the study 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 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."*

Q: I'm a scholar interested in learning more about how the Speakers Bureau works.

A: HK's Speakers Bureau connects humanities experts with communities across Kansas to engage audiences with stories and ideas, spark conversations, and build community. Here is how the Speakers Bureau works at a glance:

- An in-state nonprofit organization invites an HK speaker to present at an event. Speakers manage their own schedules and can accept or decline the invitation.
- After the speaker and organization confirm a time, date, and location, the sponsoring organization requests financial support from HK to cover the speaker honoraria and travel for in-person and online events. Speakers receive:
 - \$250 for presentations conducted online
 - \$250 for presentations conducted in the city where the presenter lives
 - \$400 for presentations conducted in-person traveling up to 200 miles one way
 - \$600 for presentations conducted in-person traveling between 201-350 miles one way
 - \$750 for presentations conducted in-person traveling 351+ miles one way
- Speakers and organizations work together to determine equipment and technology needs.
- The catalog is available on HK's website with downloadable speaker bios, photos, and press release templates for the organizations to use.

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Q: How do I become a Humanities Kansas speaker?

A: Humanities Kansas creates a new catalog of speakers every other year. Humanities experts, scholars, and cultural bearers are encouraged to submit a presentation proposal by filling out the [online application](#). Applications are then reviewed by a committee. Applications are evaluated on whether the proposal tells a compelling story; the proposed topic is timely and relevant with connections to Kansas; the topic takes a strong humanities approach; and the applicant demonstrates deep expertise of the subject. The process is competitive and not every application will be selected.

Humanities Kansas may not be accepting applications at this time or adding new speakers. Please email Operations Manager, Kaitlyn Savage for more details: kaitlyn@humanitieskansas.org

To apply, fill out and submit the online application form:

https://form.jotform.com/Humanities_Kansas/speakers-bureau-application-26

Q: I present a first-person portrayal of an historical figure. Is the HK Speakers Bureau the right place for my presentation?

A: The Speakers Bureau catalog **does not** include first-person portrayals of historical figures; however, HK welcomes proposals from scholars that explore the life and impact of an historical figure from a 21st century perspective.

Q: Can I submit more than one proposal?

A: Applicants can submit up to **two** proposals to be considered for inclusion in the Speakers Bureau Catalog. Submitting more than one proposal does not guarantee selection of one or both proposals.

Q: I am a returning Speakers Bureau presenter. I'd like to continue offering my topic. Can I?

A: HK prefers that each Speakers Bureau catalog features new topics and fresh perspectives.

Q: I don't have a professional headshot. What should I do?

A: No problem! Enlist the help of a friend to take a photo or submit a selfie. Photos should be current, well-lit, and show your face clearly.

Q: What is the estimated time commitment? How many bookings should I expect?

A: Speakers selected to join the catalog agree to a commitment of 1-year, renewable for a second year. On average, speakers can expect to present 1-3 times per year. Speakers manage their own schedules and can accept or decline invitations to present.

Q: Can I only offer online presentations?

A: Yes! Speakers must be willing to give presentations online and/or travel across Kansas to give presentations in-person.

Q: Tell me more about HK?

A: Humanities Kansas is an independent nonprofit spearheading a movement of ideas to empower the people of Kansas to strengthen their communities and our democracy. Since 1972, HK's pioneering programming, grants, and partnerships have documented and shared stories to spark conversations and generate insights. Together with partners and supporters, HK inspires all Kansans to draw on history, literature, ethics, and culture to enrich their lives and serve the communities and state we all proudly call home. In 2023, 8,080 people attended 237 Speakers Bureau presentations.