



OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES
PUBLIC SCHOLAR PROGRAM GRANT AWARDS, JULY 2015**

NEH Public Scholar awards support well-researched books in the humanities conceived and written to reach a broad readership.

CALIFORNIA (1) \$42,000

Berkeley

Wendy Lesser Outright: \$42,000

[Public Scholar Program]

Threepenny Review

Project Title: American Architect Louis Kahn (1901-1974): A Portrait in Light and Shadow

Project Description: The first full-length biography of Louis Kahn, the "public architect" of the 20th century who designed government centers, museums, religious centers, educational research complexes, and memorial parks.

COLORADO (1) \$50,400

Boulder

Thomas Andrews Outright: \$50,400

[Public Scholar Program]

University of Colorado, Boulder

Project Title: Animals in the History of the United States

Project Description: An animals'-eye view of U.S. history since 1400, the book explores the human-animal relationship within the context of changes in broader American culture and life.

CONNECTICUT (4) \$197,400

Hartford

Christopher Hager Outright: \$50,400

[Public Scholar Program]

Trinity College, Hartford

Project Title: I Remain Yours: Common Lives in Civil War Letters

Project Description: The first major study of Civil War letter-writing, using working-class Americans' correspondence to craft a history of emotional life during the Civil War.

Middletown

Andrew Curran Outright: \$46,200

[Public Scholar Program]

Wesleyan University

Project Title: French Enlightenment Philosopher and Critic Denis Diderot (1713-1784): The Art of Thinking Freely

Project Description: A biography of 18th-century thinker Denis Diderot. Overshadowed during his lifetime by Voltaire and Rousseau, Diderot was nonetheless his era's most

dynamic writer, engaging with virtually all of his century's forbidden subjects, from the origin of the species to the underpinnings of the slave trade.

Jennifer Tucker Outright: \$50,400

[Public Scholar Program]

Wesleyan University

Project Title: Caught on Camera: A History of Photographic Detection (and Evasion)

Project Description: The book will track the development of photographic detection, surveillance, and evasion from the 19th century to today. It explores how threats to individual privacy and identity posed by corporate and state surveillance techniques were confronted by earlier generations.

New Haven

Edward Ball Outright: \$50,400

[Public Scholar Program]

Yale University

Project Title: Constant LeCorgne (1832-1886): Biography of a Klansman

Project Description: A biography of Ball's great-great grandfather, Constant LeCorgne, a klansman in the American South during Reconstruction. The book traces LeCorgne's evolution into a vigilante as a way to explore the roots of American racial violence and ideology.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (1) \$25,200

Washington DC

Eric Cline Outright: \$25,200

[Public Scholar Program]

George Washington University

Project Title: Digging up Armageddon: The Story of Biblical Megiddo from Canaanites to Christians

Project Description: A narrative reconstruction of the archeology and history of ancient Megiddo in northern Israel, the site referred to as Armageddon in the Book of Revelation.

FLORIDA (1) \$50,400

Jacksonville

David Courtwright Outright: \$50,400

[Public Scholar Program]

University of North Florida

Project Title: Multinational Industries: Pleasures, Vices, and Addiction

Project Description: A history of the rise of abusive consumption and addiction in modern life and of the global economic systems that have enabled them.

ILLINOIS (2) \$100,800

Chicago

Aaron Cohen Outright: \$50,400

[Public Scholar Program]

City Colleges of Chicago, Truman College

Project Title: Move On Up: Chicago Soul Music and the Rise of Black Cultural Power

Project Description: A look at how Chicago's cultural changes during the 1960s and 1970s reverberated through the rhythm and blues music that was recorded in the city, and how music culture intersected with developments in education and battles over integration.

Evanston

Kevin Boyle Outright: \$50,400
[Public Scholar Program]
Northwestern University
Project Title: Bartolomeo Vanzetti (1891-1927) and the Culture of Early 20th-Century Anarchism
Project Description: An intimate history of political extremism in the early twentieth-century United States, centered on Bartolomeo Vanzetti, who as a young man joined an anarchist group public officials considered the most dangerous in the nation.

INDIANA (1) \$50,400

Notre Dame

Linda Przybyszewski Outright: \$50,400
[Public Scholar Program]
University of Notre Dame
Project Title: The Unexpected Origins of Modern Religious Liberty
Project Description: A book chronicling the 1869 Cincinnati school board vote to end Bible reading in public schools, which sparked mass protest across the nation and a lawsuit that lasted over 4 years.

IOWA (1) \$50,400

Iowa City

Kembrew McLeod Outright: \$50,400
[Public Scholar Program]
University of Iowa
Project Title: The Pop Underground: Downtown New York's Converging Arts Scenes in the 1960s and 1970s
Project Description: An account of the interlocking arts scenes that thrived in downtown Manhattan in the 1960s and 70s and the social networks that developed connecting the art, writing, film, theater, fashion, and music movements.

KENTUCKY (1) \$50,400

Lexington

Lien-Hang Nguyen Outright: \$50,400
[Public Scholar Program]
University of Kentucky
Project Title: Tet 1968: The Battles that Changed the Vietnam War and the Global Cold War
Project Description: The book will chronicle the entire history of the Tet Offensive looking at the politics, the battles themselves, the civil unrest in America in 1968, and the offensive's global ramifications by 1969.

LOUISIANA (1) \$50,400

New Orleans

Anne Rioux Outright: \$50,400
[Public Scholar Program]
University of New Orleans
Project Title: Reading *Little Women*: The History of an American Classic
Project Description: In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the publication of *Little Women*, Rioux will write a "biography" of the book, combining elements of

memoir, literary criticism, historical context, and literary biography in order to illuminate how the novel was written and why it endures.

MASSACHUSETTS (6) \$294,000

Boston

Carla Kaplan Outright: \$50,400
[Public Scholar Program]
Northeastern University
Project Title: Queen of the Muckrakers: The Life and Times of Jessica Mitford (1917-1996)
Project Description: The first major book to examine the life, writing, and influence of Jessica Mitford, a woman who walked away from British aristocracy to eventually revitalize muckraking. Mitford's expose-style writing re-introduced and radicalized Gilded Age ideas of civic responsibility in ways that still influence contemporary conversation about social inequality, whistle blowing, and the ethics of writing.

Cambridge

Christina Thompson Outright: \$46,200
[Public Scholar Program]
Harvard University
Project Title: The Wonder Story of the World: How the Islands of Polynesia Were Settled and How We Know
Project Description: A study of the colonization of the Pacific that combines research from fields of history, mythology, anthropology, and linguistics to tell the story of the settlement of Polynesia.

Diane McWhorter Outright: \$50,400
[Public Scholar Program]
Unaffiliated Independent Scholar
Project Title: Moon of Alabama: The Space Race and Civil Rights in Post-WWII Huntsville
Project Description: A chronicle of the Moon landing through the convergence of three major 20th century dramas -- World War II, the Cold War, and the civil rights struggle-- in the unlikely military-industrial complex of Huntsville, Alabama.

Jonathan Hansen Outright: \$46,200
[Public Scholar Program]
Harvard University
Project Title: Young Castro: The Making of a Cuban Revolutionary
Project Description: Drawing on previously unavailable sources such as family letters, photos, and interviews, this biography will examine the childhood, education, and development of Cuban leader Fidel Castro against the backdrop of reforms in Cuba and unfolding U.S.-Cuban relations.

North Grafton

Nicholas Basbanes Outright: \$50,400
[Public Scholar Program]
Unaffiliated Independent Scholar
Project Title: Cross of Snow: The Love Story and Lasting Legacy of American Poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1822)

Project Description: A biographical examination of the life, times, and unprecedented celebrity of the 19th-century American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and of his role in the shaping of a cultural identity that was truly American.

Northampton

Michael Gorra
[Public Scholar Program]
Smith College
Project Title: William Faulkner's Civil War
Project Description: The book will use the historical context of the Civil War to better understand Faulkner's fictional writings, and use his writings to better understand the war. It also describes Faulkner's personal struggle to come to terms with slavery, the war, and its meaning.

Outright: \$50,400

MICHIGAN (1) \$50,400

Ann Arbor

Mark Clague
[Public Scholar Program]
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Project Title: O Say Can You Hear?: A Tuneful Cultural History of "The Star-Spangled Banner"
Project Description: The book will share the forgotten and misunderstood musical history of Francis Scott Key's song and reveal how the song's story presents a surprising social history of the United States.

Outright: \$50,400

MISSOURI (1) \$50,400

Rolla

John McManus
[Public Scholar Program]
Missouri University of Science and Technology
Project Title: The U.S. Army in the Pacific/Asia Theater in World War II
Project Description: The project will result in a two-volume series on the history of the Army in the Asia/Pacific theater. McManus will explore the scale of American involvement in the Pacific War and its impact on WWII and American society, politics, and history in general.

Outright: \$50,400

NEW HAMPSHIRE (1) \$50,400

Durham

Jason Sokol
[Public Scholar Program]
University of New Hampshire, Durham
Project Title: Shot Rings Out: How Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Death Was Lived
Project Description: The book examines the broader historical impact of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s death. It looks at how individual Americans experienced King's assassination in the days, weeks, and months afterward, and its long-term impact on culture, race relations, and politics in America.

Outright: \$50,400

NEW MEXICO (1) \$50,400

Albuquerque

Andrew Sandoval-Strausz
[Public Scholar Program]
University of New Mexico

Outright: \$50,400

Project Title: Latino Landscapes: A Transnational History of Urban America since 1950
Project Description: The book will present a widely accessible history of how Latin American migrants have settled in the U.S and transformed their adopted neighborhoods while at the same time rebuilding the hometowns they left. Two case studies are used to illustrate this point: Chicago's Little Village Community and Dallas's Oak Cliff neighborhood.

NEW YORK (5) \$231,000

Brooklyn

Philip Dray
[Public Scholar Program]
Unaffiliated Independent Scholar

Outright: \$50,400

Project Title: The Age of Fair Chase: Making A Hunter's Paradise in America
Project Description: A history of hunting as a sport in America, showing its deep influence on culture and society since the 19th century.

New York

Bette Talvacchia
[Public Scholar Program]
University of Connecticut

Outright: \$50,400

Project Title: The Two Michelangelos
Project Description: The book will explore the works of the major protagonists of Renaissance and Baroque art, Michelangelo Buonarroti and Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio, explaining the making and reception of their paintings and unlocking larger historical problems still relevant today.

Noah Isenberg
[Public Scholar Program]
New School

Outright: \$42,000

Project Title: Everybody Comes to Rick's: How *Casablanca* Taught Us to Love Movies
Project Description: This books seeks to explain how *Casablanca* became not only one of the most loved movies of all time, but also how it became emblematic of "the movies". The book explores how meaning in film transcends mere plot-lines and taps into our continued fascination with motion pictures as a means of self-reflection and self-understanding.

Purchase

Judith Dupré
[Public Scholar Program]
State University of New York, Purchase College

Outright: \$37,800

Project Title: One World Trade Center: The Biography of the Building
Project Description: An account of the design, planning, and building of One World Trade Center. It details the tower's novel safety measures, its structural and construction challenges, and the politics of commemoration and financing. An interactive website will accompany the publication of the book.

Stony Brook

James Rubin Outright: \$50,400
[Public Scholar Program]

State University of New York, Stony Brook

Project Title: Why Monet Matters, or Meanings Among the Lily Pads

Project Description: Using the popularity of Monet to attract readers, this book will offer ways to go beyond the surface when looking at modern art. By moving from the visual experience of Monet's paintings to their literary, cultural, historical, and philosophical context, Rubin will show how they laid the groundwork for the painting of generations to come.

NORTH CAROLINA (1) \$50,400

Chapel Hill

Malinda Lowery Outright: \$50,400
[Public Scholar Program]

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Project Title: The Lumbee Indians: An American Struggle

Project Description: An examination of how Native people, specifically the Lumbees, are integral to the narratives of American history and how Native stories change the American past that we think we know. Lowery presents the Lumbee—the largest Native American tribe east of the Mississippi— as a microcosm of the Southern United States.

OHIO (1) \$29,400

Cleveland

Timothy Beal Outright: \$29,400
[Public Scholar Program]

Case Western Reserve University

Project Title: Revelation: A Biography

Project Description: A cultural history of the New Testament book of Revelation and the apocalyptic imaginations it has fueled. Revelation is continually reinvented and reimagined, taking on new forms of life in the hearts and minds of people, and this evolution will also be explored in Beal's biography.

SOUTH CAROLINA (1) \$50,400

Rock Hill

Gregg Hecimovich Outright: \$50,400
[Public Scholar Program]

Winthrop University

Project Title: The Life and Times of Hannah Crafts: The True Story of *The Bondwoman's Narrative*

Project Description: This book solves the mystery of who wrote the rediscovered 19th century novel, "The Bondwoman's Narrative by Hannah Crafts a Fugitive Slave Recently Escaped from North Carolina" (published in 2002). Hecimovich identifies Hannah Crafts as Hannah Bond and tells the story of her life and the search for her identity.

UTAH (1) \$50,400

Provo

Craig Harline Outright: \$50,400
[Public Scholar Program]

Brigham Young University, Provo

Project Title: Wild Boar: The Monk Martin Luther presenting his life as a flesh-and-blood man rather than as the monumental religious figure who changed the shape of western society. The book focuses on Luther from 1517 to 1522, the five years during which he transformed from an obscure monk to an outlaw celebrity.

----- **U.S. Citizens Abroad** -----

UNITED KINGDOM (3) \$151,200

Glasgow

Phillips O'Brien Outright: \$50,400

[Public Scholar Program]

University of Glasgow

Project Title: The Second Most Powerful Man in the World: Admiral William D. Leahy (1875-1959), Statecraft and the Shaping of the Modern World

Project Description: A biography of Admiral William D. Leahy, the first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the only person in US history to hold the job of Chief of Staff to the Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy. He served continuously from 1942 - 1949 advising both Roosevelt and Truman.

Hove

Sarah Dry Outright: \$50,400

[Public Scholar Program]

Unaffiliated Independent Scholar

Project Title: Water World: How the Sciences of Water Went Global

Project Description: Spanning meteorology, oceanography, atmospheric sciences and glaciology, the book tells the history of our global understanding of climate and water. Each chapter places a unique moment, individual, and place in studies of water, ice and vapor in the wider social, political and cultural context of its time.

Sussex

M. Lynne Murphy Outright: \$50,400

[Public Scholar Program]

University of Sussex

Project Title: How America Saved the English Language: The Facts and Fictions of British and American English

Project Description: A rigorous examination of why American and British English national dialects differ, the degree to which they differ, and how they are changing with and despite each other's influence. The book is aimed to help English users examine biases in treatment of the two dialects and appreciate the richness of their language.