



## HELP RAISE THE VISIBILITY OF NEH PROGRAMS

NEH summer seminars and institutes provide professional development opportunities for teachers across the country, helping them forge connections, acquire subject-area expertise, and learn new pedagogical methods. As an NEH summer scholar, you can play an important role in increasing the sustainability of these programs by telling elected officials and your community about your experience. Below are two concrete ways to make your voice heard.

### WRITING A LETTER TO YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

In a letter, let your Members of Congress know that you are a recipient of NEH funding and what you gained from your experience with the summer program. Include concrete details about how this experience will strengthen your work with students.

- Members of Congress often hear from NEH project directors, but they rarely hear from program participants. Writing them is an effective way to help them understand what NEH funding supports.
- For the biggest impact, send your letter to your Members' arts and humanities staffers. Email Cecily Hill ([chill@nhalliance.org](mailto:chill@nhalliance.org)) for their contact information.

### WRITING AN OP-ED FOR YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

Writing an op-ed for your local newspaper is a good way to help others in your community understand what you have gained by participating in an NEH summer program. It will help the general public in your region better understand what these programs do—and it might encourage other teachers to participate in them!

Before you begin writing, make sure you know the guidelines for submitting an op-ed to your local paper.

- These guidelines should be fairly easy to locate by Googling “[name of local paper] op-ed submission.”
- The guidelines should include a word count and either the email address you should send the op-ed to or an online submission form.

For examples, take a look at our compendium of op-eds that make the case for the value of the NEH: [nhalliance.org/oped\\_list](http://nhalliance.org/oped_list).

In crafting your op-ed, consider using [NEHforAll.org](http://NEHforAll.org) as a resource for exploring how the NEH supports K-12 education more broadly.

If you place an op-ed in your local paper, make sure to send it to your Members of Congress! Contact Cecily Hill ([chill@nhalliance.org](mailto:chill@nhalliance.org)) to get the contact information for your Members' arts and humanities staffers.

If you have any questions about writing or placing your op-ed please email Alex Nowicki ([anowicki@nhalliance.org](mailto:anowicki@nhalliance.org)).



# LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW THE NEH SUPPORTS TEACHERS — AND HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE NEH!

The National Endowment for the Humanities makes high-quality educational resources available to teachers and students across the country. Learn more about the resources that are available thanks to the NEH and help educate others about its work!

## HIGH-QUALITY LESSON PLANS FOR ALL AGES

A partnership between the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Trust for the Humanities, *EDSITEment!* brings the web's best educational humanities resources together in one place. The site curates lesson plans and digital resources on history and social studies, arts and culture, and foreign languages and literature and makes them freely available nationwide. Visit [edsitement.neh.gov](http://edsitement.neh.gov) for more information.

## PRIMARY SOURCES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

By funding the digitization of primary sources, the National Endowment for the Humanities provides educational resources for teachers across the United States. A partnership with the Library of Congress, *Chronicling America* digitizes historic newspapers; *Founders Online* hosts the papers of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, Benjamin Franklin, and John Adams and Abigail Adams, among others; and the Center for Digital Research in the Humanities at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, hosts *The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, *The Walt Whitman Archive*, and many other resources.

## DOCUMENTARIES FOR CLASSROOM USE

From *Superheroes: A Never-Ending Battle* to *The Roosevelts: An Intimate History* and Ken Burns's acclaimed *The Civil War* and *Vietnam*, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports the production of documentaries in a wide range of humanities subject areas. With institutions like the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the NEH also supports the creation of websites like *Created Equal*, which provide lesson plans and supplemental materials to help make these documentaries more accessible in the classroom.

Visit [NHAlliance.org/teachers](http://NHAlliance.org/teachers) to learn more. Text NEHteachers to 52886 join Teachers for NEH!



## ABOUT THE NATIONAL HUMANITIES ALLIANCE

The National Humanities Alliance (NHA) is a nationwide coalition of organizations advocating for the humanities on campuses, in communities, and on Capitol Hill. Founded in 1981, NHA is supported by over 200 member organizations, including: colleges, universities, libraries, museums, cultural organizations, state humanities councils, and scholarly, professional, and higher education associations. It is the only organization that brings together the US humanities community as a whole.

