



Minnesota Humanities Center

2015 Annual Report

Our Programs

With an emphasis on strengthening what connects rather than divides us, our relationship-based approach to humanities programming illuminates authentic voices of all people, especially those left out or marginalized.



EDUCATION STRATEGY

mnhum.org/mned

Based in the humanities, our Education Strategy champions schools as human communities, emphasizing the educator-student connection as the root of educational transformation. By deepening understanding across cultural experience, that connection thrives, increasing engagement and achievement.

In partnership with the Minnesota Historical Society Press, the Humanities Center published *Blues Vision: African American Writing from Minnesota* to rave reviews. Already in its second printing, this collection by 45 black writers showcases the unique vision of Minnesota's African American community.

Blues Vision cover detail, art by Ta-coumba T. Aiken.

Created in 2013, this flourishing program completes Veteran narratives, drawing on the power of the humanities to honor their contributions and life experiences. In addition to designating October *Veterans' Voices Month*, we amplify Veterans speaking through the arts, discussions, and the Veterans' Voices Award.

Along with The Telling Project, we produced *Telling: Minnesota 2015*, a play performed by a cast of Minnesota Veterans, written from their own experiences. Presented at the Guthrie Theater, Minnesota Veterans Home, and St. Cloud Technical & Community College, it allowed area military veterans to speak, and their fellow citizens to listen.



VETERANS' VOICES

mnhum.org/vets

2015 Veterans' Voices Awardee Tyler Sanchez with Commissioner Larry Shellito.

Water/Ways is a traveling exhibition and community engagement initiative of the Smithsonian Institution's *Museum on Main Street* project, led by the Humanities Center, state and federal partners, and six greater Minnesota communities.

Each community will explore the meaning of water as part of their identity, history, and culture. Communities will tell local water stories and envision the future of water.



Water/Ways host site leaders.

Public Humanities emerged as program priority in 2015, and the Humanities Center continues its tradition of hosting public events to dialogue with Minnesotans around a range of issues and perspectives.

An Evening with Krista Tippett exemplified the power and depth of these Public Humanities conversations. Krista's radio show explores questions at the center of human life: What does it mean to be human, and how do we want to live?



PUBLIC HUMANITIES

Board member Patrick Henry interviews Krista Tippett, host of the acclaimed radio program *On Being*.

Our Highlights

2015 was a year full of powerful programming and community dialogues.

Our **Bdote Field Trip** opened to public audiences for the first time in 2015, educating nearly 100 participants about the importance of place from a Dakota perspective.



Increase Engagement through Absent Narratives—our foundational workshop—continues to create space for authentic engagement through the humanities, helping people engage others with respect and empathy.

42 educators completed our **Educators' Institute Pilot**.



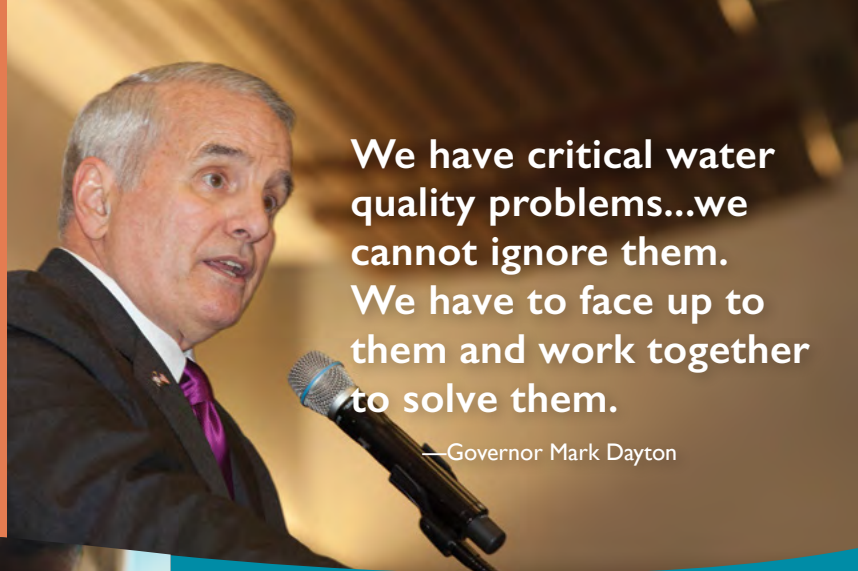
Veterans' Voices Radio Series

explored the wisdom, experience, and leadership of Veterans. In partnership with *ampers*, a community radio association, the project broadcast 30 segments across 16 different radio stations multiple times, reaching nearly 300,000 Minnesotans each week.



We have critical water quality problems...we cannot ignore them. We have to face up to them and work together to solve them.

—Governor Mark Dayton



The humanities are my battle buddy.

—Ryan Schmidt, MN Army Veteran

Photo by David Leeson, *Dallas Morning News*.



The **#UncoveringPublic Salon Series** brought participants together for conversations about the state of public life in the U.S., not only at the in-person events, but also on a Twitter Town Hall.



Always Lost: A Meditation on War, an emotionally powerful exhibit, toured across 14 Minnesota locations. The exhibit features the Wall of the Dead—a collage of over 6,500 faces, one for each U.S. military war casualty in Iraq and Afghanistan since September 11, 2001—and reveals the story of SPC Noah Pierce, a Minnesota Veteran who took his life after serving two tours in Iraq.

@humanities | mnhum.org

Our Reach

Located in St. Paul, the Minnesota Humanities Center is a statewide agency that connects and serves all Minnesotans.

17,780

people attended our programs, events, and exhibits across...

104

MN communities.

\$1.6m

in grants given to MN organizations.

50,110+

online resource pages accessed.

9,000+

guests served in our Event Center.

800






resources distributed statewide.

1,200+

educators participated in our Ed Strategy.

Veterans' Voices Award Ceremony crowd:

436

-  Veterans' Voices Event
-  Why Treaties Matter Exhibit Site
-  Grant
-  MN Education Strategy (K-12)
-  Water/Ways Exhibit Site



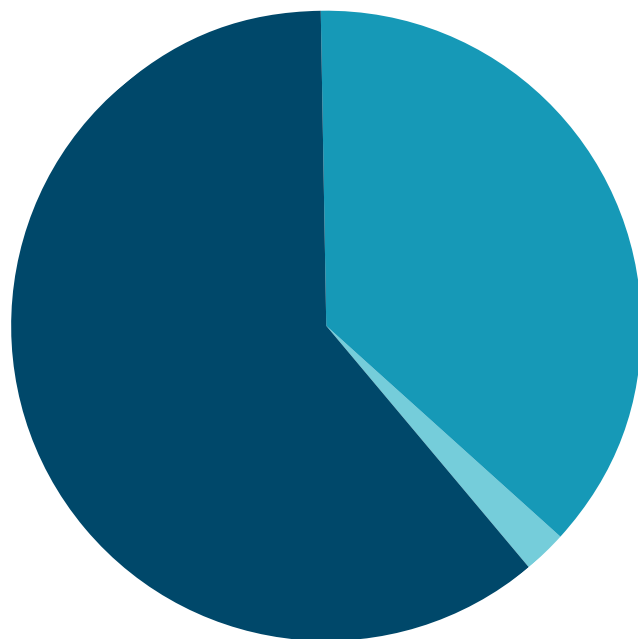
Minnesota
Humanities
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Our Numbers

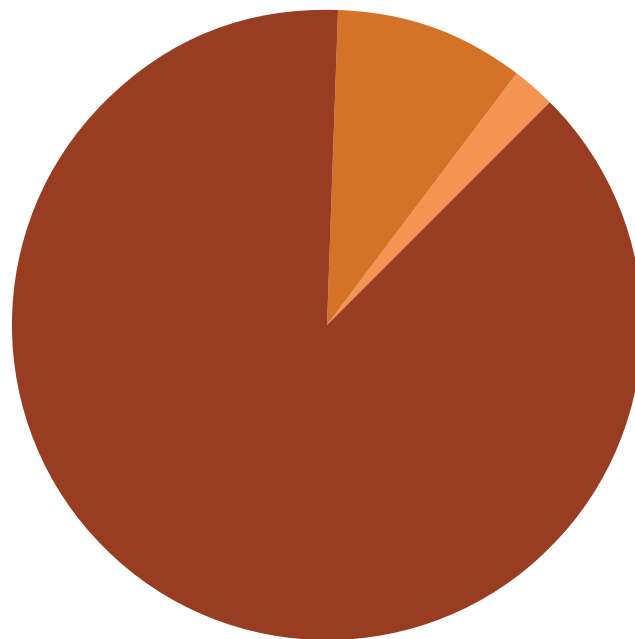
These financials reflect fiscal year 2015:
November 1, 2014 – October 31, 2015

Support & Revenue



- **Contributions:** 61%
- **Government Grants:** 37%
- **Earned & Other Revenue:** 2%

Expenses



- **Program Services:** 88.1%
- **MGMT & General:** 9.8%
- **Fundraising:** 2.1%

Support & Revenue

Contributions	\$10,857,135
Government Grants	\$6,591,810
Earned & Other Revenue	\$351,420
Total Support & Revenue	\$17,800,365

Expenses

Program Services	\$5,510,380
Management & General	\$614,358
Fundraising	\$127,731
Total Expenses	\$6,252,469

Net Operations Income \$11,547,896



Annual Report photos courtesy of Michael Murray Photography unless otherwise noted.



Minnesota
Humanities
Center

mnhum.org

651-774-0105

Our Leaders

Steering us through another year,
a watchful eye to the horizon.

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We are grateful to the donors
who support our mission and programs.

\$50,000 and above

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\$20,000 to \$49,999

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