

DELAWARE

HUMANITIES

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



50 YEARS OF DELAWARE HUMANITIES

LETTERS



Executive Director, Michele Anstine *Michele Anstine*

FY23, our 50th anniversary year, brought both change and recommitment to Delaware Humanities and our programs and grantmaking. Early in the year, after acting on data gathered during the pandemic, we made the crucial decision to refocus our program services solely on the humanities organizations that define your local communities. This resulted in rethinking some of the programs we offer. First, we launched a new “Toolkits” initiative providing ready-made programs for organizations large and small to engage their audiences without having to invest crucial time and money in research and development. Next, we entered an agreement to become the state affiliate of the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities’ successful Prime Time Family Reading program, which promotes both youth literacy and exploration of big ideas within family units. Each new program initiative immediately attracted funding support, our Environmental Justice Toolkit from the Christiana Care Community Investment Fund, and Prime Time from Welfare Foundation, Inc., for which we and our partner organizations are grateful. It is essential for Delaware Humanities to build local as well as federal support for programs like these so that we can expand their reach to meet needs throughout the state. Our popular Speakers program and grantmaking, which already focused on supporting Delaware’s humanities organizations, rebounded in FY23. The demand for these resources demonstrate the continuing need for coordinated state-level support for museums, libraries, historical societies, senior centers, and other community organizations that provide essential services in your communities. Delaware Humanities is pleased to join with our supporters and partners to meet this need.

*Adenike
Davidson*

Board Chair, Adenike Davidson

It is my great pleasure to serve as Board Chair this year, especially as we celebrated our 50th Anniversary. As many organizations and institutions begin to tackle a return to normal and yet remain cautious after Covid-19, Delaware Humanities has adapted to the ever-shifting foundation on which Humanities is built. With the introduction and promotion of AI and Chat GPT, Humanities work is again under question and sometimes feels like under assault. We were proud to support programs which countered the idea of literacy and history as unnecessary – the success of Prime Time and the History Book Festival proved that wrong. At our 50th Anniversary celebration, the insightful conversations about the relevance and importance of the Humanities, especially in these trying times, fueled us with new energy and verve to tackle the unknown which lies ahead. Our Environmental Justice Toolkit introduced issues of injustice and their impact in our communities, and we are committed to reaching all three counties with our Community Conversations Program, tackling issues most pertinent to you. Our Board, Executive Director, Staff, Speakers, and Programs passionately represent the First State and the Humanities, and we look forward to this year and another 50 years.



BOARD & STAFF

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Michele Anstine
Executive Director



Ciera Fisher
Deputy Director



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Senior Programs
Officer



Helen Siers
Grant & Operations
Manager



Rachel Sheffield
Programs Assistant

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OPERATIONS

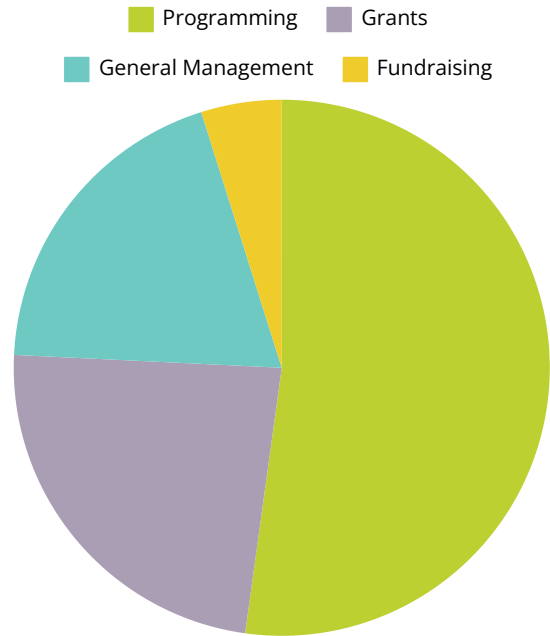
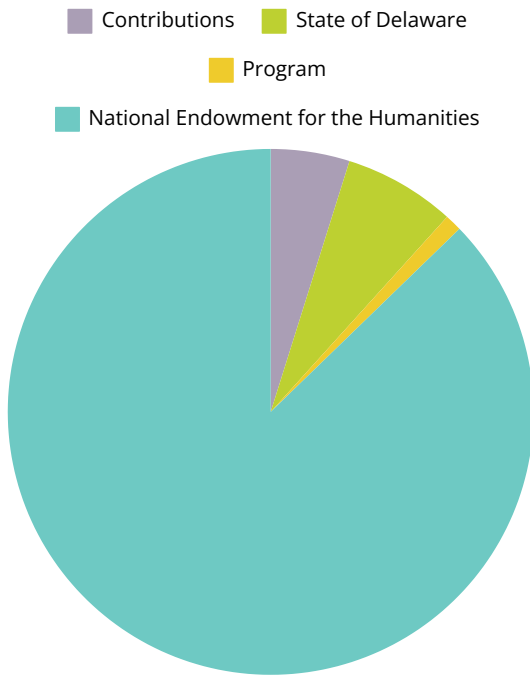
For Fiscal Year 2023 (November 1, 2022 - October 31, 2023)

REVENUE

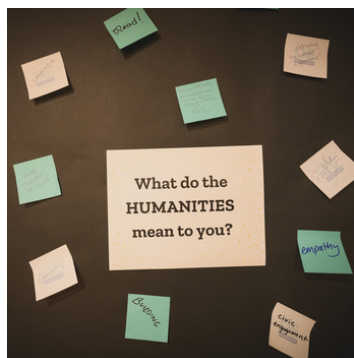
National Endowment for the Humanities	\$847,469
State of Delaware	\$66,604
Public Contributions	\$47,057
Program Income	\$10,141
Total Current Revenue	\$971,271

EXPENSES

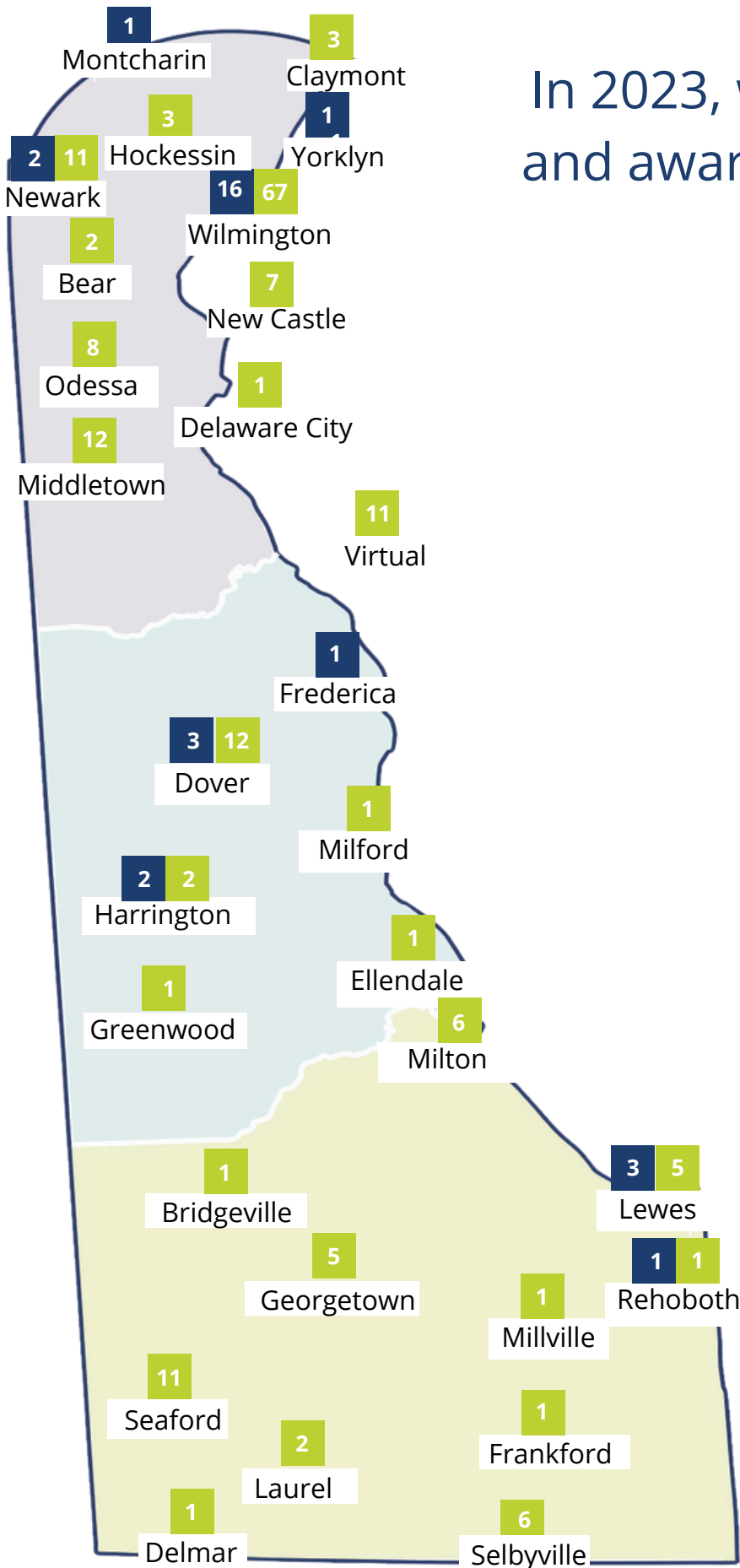
Programming	\$550,791
Grants	\$248,908
General Management	\$204,557
Fundraising	\$51,244
Total Current Expenses	\$1,055,500



Fiscal Year 2023 financial data is preliminary pending audit



OUR IMPACT



In 2023, we held **182 PROGRAMS** and awarded **30 GRANTS**

In 2023, our programs **reached 23,783 people** across Delaware at host sites such as libraries, historical societies, museums, and community organizations.

These programs included the culmination of the **Crossroads Museum on Main Street** exhibit, **Speakers presentations**, and our new **Prime Time Family Reading** and **Let's Talk About Environmental Justice Toolkit**.

We were also able to fund **30 projects** through our Action and Innovation, Opportunity, and other grants. **\$247,921 was distributed to 24 organizations** throughout the state.

For the grant projects completed in FY23, **2,323,526 people participated in activities** including festivals, reading and discussion programs, conferences, exhibits, lectures, and documentaries.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SPEAKERS



Our Speakers program sends scholars, authors, and experts to community groups, organizations, businesses, and K-12 classrooms throughout the state, providing a broad array of thought-provoking presentations that make culture and history available and accessible to all audiences. In FY23, we held 102 total Speaker programs, serving 1,850 individuals, hosted by 44 different organizations.

TOOLKITS



In July we launched "Let's Talk About Environmental Justice," a DIY program toolkit that allows host organizations to educate audiences on how environmental harms and inequalities affect Delaware communities. With supplemental funding from the Christiana Care Community Investment Fund, we distributed 37 toolkits to an array of groups rich in diversity, and are continuing to distribute more in 2024.

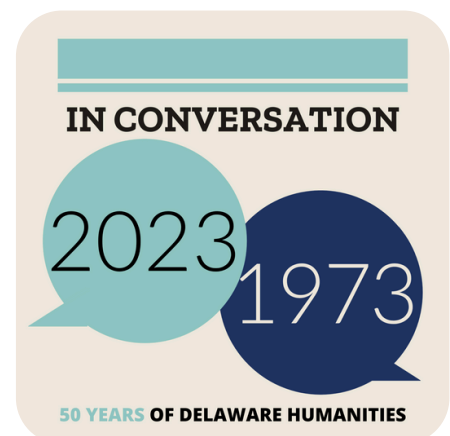
PRIME TIME



In 2023, we became an affiliate partner of Prime Time Family Reading for the first time, bringing this widely successful reading and discussion program to libraries in Delaware in both an English and a Spanish-English bilingual program. Our two pilot programs, at the Georgetown Public Library and the New Castle Public Library, concluded in November. This program was generously funded in part by the Welfare Foundation.

CHECK OUT OUR 2023 PODCAST

Our podcast *2023/1973: In Conversation* reflected on Delaware today versus in 1973, the year Delaware Humanities was founded. Each episode examined changes in the last 50 years including the shifting cultural landscape of the nation, demographics shifts in Delaware, shifts in health and healthcare, and changes in how we as a society receive political information.



GRANT HIGHLIGHT

The recipient of our 2023 Joseph P. Del Tufo Award, Doug Poore of the Greater Harrington Historical Society (GHHS), has proven just how far our grants can go!

Since 2019, GHHS has received over \$70,000 in subaward funding for six different projects. Doug has championed the preservation of the rural history and lives of Delawareans, utilizing Delaware Humanities grants to help fund the digitization of over 22 years of newspapers and over 6,000 minutes of oral histories.

Each project culminated in either a lasting digital archive or an exhibit space in which GHHS can share their local history. In FY23, GHHS was awarded both an Opportunity and an Action/Innovation grant. The Opportunity grant was awarded to digitize histories of local Delawareans that had been recorded in the late 1980's and 90's. Additionally, GHHS has been using an Action/Innovation grant to create a video history and exhibit of Blue Hen Records, a 1950s record label in Harrington. The exhibit is set to open on April 1st, 2024 and run until March 31st, 2025.



Curator of the Greater Harrington Historical Society, Doug Poore, being awarded the Joseph P. Del Tufo Award at the Delaware Humanities' 50th Anniversary Celebration.

The Greater Harrington Historical Society has had the opportunity to work close with Delaware Humanities on many projects that have told the story of people in our area. Our latest grant that has been so generously funded by Delaware Humanities will tell the story of Harrington's place in Rock & Roll in Delaware, as the small town was the birthplace of the Rockabilly sound in Delaware. The folks at Delaware Humanities are amazing and are always supportive of ideas and groups that are looking to tell the story of us!

Doug Poore, Curator of the Greater Harrington Historical Society

\$250K AWARDED IN FY23 IN GRANTS

ACTION/ INNOVATION

- ACLU of Delaware** *"Entre Nosotr@s: Stories from Delaware Immigrants"* - \$10,000
- Berkana Center for Media & Education** *"In Due Course: Milford's Desegregation Story"* - \$7,500
- Cityfest Inc.**, *"Wilmington Black Storytelling Residency"* - \$3,000
- Cornerstone West CDC** *"West Side Grows Together Community Pride Series"* - \$17,200
- Delaware Agriculture Museum & Village** *"Learning from the Past, Living in the Present, Planning for the Future"* - \$5,000
- Delaware Art Museum** *"Building New Narratives"* - \$5,000
- Delaware Historical Society** *"Educational Outreach"* - \$10,000
- Delaware Public Media** *"Delaware Election Campaign 2024"* - \$18,000
- Friends of Cooch's Bridge Historic Site** *"Cooch's Bridge African American Heritage Research"* - \$10,000
- Greater Harrington Historical Society** *"Blue Hen Records: The Sound of Delmarva"* - \$18,000
- Jewish Historical Society of Delaware** *"Delaware Jewish Community Oral History Collection Initiative"* - \$10,000
- Local Journalism Initiative of Delaware** *"Local Journalism's Role in Democracy & Community"* - \$5,000
- Network Delaware** *"Expanding Civic Leadership Capacity Across Delaware"* - \$10,000
- Todmorden Foundation** *"The Bancroft Brothers - An Untold Story"* - \$5,000
- University of Delaware** *"Sustaining & Expanding Thing Tank"* - \$5,400

OPPORTUNITY

- ACLU of Delaware** *"From Selma to Stonewall Film Screening"* - \$4,375
- Berkana Center for Media & Education** *"Voices of Delaware's Black History Part 4"* - \$5,000
- Bower's Beach Maritime Museum Inc.**, *"Bower's Beach Buccaneer Bash"* - \$5,000
- Delaware Historical Society** *"Incorporating Faith: Celebrating the Enduring Legacies of Black Placemaking"* - \$3,200
- Friends of Auburn Heights/Marshall Steam Museum** *"Collaborative Exhibit on the Crossroads of Fashion & The Auto Industry 1900-1950"* - \$2,500
- Greater Harrington Historical Society** *"Digitize Harrington Oral History Stories"* - \$5,000
- Lewes Public Library** *"History Revival: Coastal Chronicles"* - \$3,700
- Lewes Public Library** *"The Writer's Room & The Troupe"* - \$2,100
- Mayor's Office of Economic Development** *"Wilmington Black Restaurant Week Pre-Event"* - \$5,000
- Rehoboth Beach Historical Society & Museum** *"150th Anniversary: The History of Rehoboth Beach"* - \$3,126
- Serviam Media, Inc.**, *"Community Conversations - Delaware Voices"* - \$4,820
- The Biggs Museum of American Art** *"Andrew Wyeth, Then & Now"* - \$5,000
- University of Delaware** *"Cataloguing & Rehousing the Howard High School Collections"* - \$5,000
- Wilmington Public Library** *"An Evening with Lynn Whitfield"* - \$5,000

ADDITIONAL

- History Book Festival** - \$50,000

GRATITUDE

We are grateful to our supporters for your generous contributions! Your donations and funding help us continue to support organizations throughout the state in strengthening communities by connecting through the diversity of human experiences.

\$1 - \$99

Regina M. Barry

Harry R. Brake

Sarah Bucic

Lisa Chase

Akash Dania

Ann De Felice

Gwendolyn Elliot

Devon Filicchia

Kathleen Folliard

Mary F. Kaltreider

Alana D. King

Thomas Leitch

Lola M. Russell

Dennis & Marilyn J. Siebold

Nettie Singleton

Claire Sylves

Friends of Claymont
Library

\$100 - \$499

Wendy Bellion

Kimeu Boynton

David Brown

Mary Brown

Susan Brynteson

Gregory Campbell

Jianguo Chen

Lucas Clawson

Dennis Coker

Adenike Davidson

Lisa Dill

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\$500+

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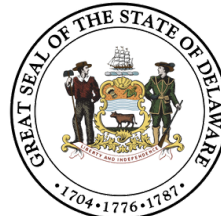
Thomas Williams

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

WELFARE
FOUNDATION,
INC.



DELAWARE HUMANITIES 50TH

On November 1, Delaware Humanities gathered with partners, grantees, current and former board and staff members, and friends to celebrate our 50th anniversary. There was cake, champagne, and like all good humanities events, conversations on the human experience and the importance of the humanities in our world.

- 1: Guest speakers of the event: Wendy Bellion, author and Professor of American Art History at University of Delaware (left) and Robert Townsend, Program Director for Humanities, Art & Culture at the American Academy of Arts & Sciences (right).
- 2: Senator Kyra Hoffner (left) presenting a proclamation to Michele Anstine, Executive Director of Delaware Humanities (right)
- 3: Michele Anstine (left), Wendy Bellion (center), and Robert Townsend (right).



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



4: The 50th Anniversary Event was held at the Smyrna Opera House.

5: Theresa Del Tufo, widow of Joseph P. Del Tufo, holds the award created in her late husband's honor.

6: Rebecca Olsen, Senior Programs Officer

7: Michele Anstine (left) and Jenna Greenlee, Engagement Officer for Delaware Humanities (right), pulling tickets for the event's raffle drawing.

8: Theresa Del Tufo (center) and Michele Anstine (right) present Doug Poore (left) with the Joseph P. Del Tufo Award.

9: Michele Anstine (left), Marilyn Whittington, former Executive Director of Delaware Humanities (center), and Ciera Fisher, Deputy Director at Delaware Humanities (right).

DELAWARE

HUMANITIES

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Wilmington, DE 19801
dehumanities.org



SOCIAL MEDIA

Our friends on social media are the first to know about all events, organization changes and updates.

Follow us on our social media to stay up-to-date on all things Delaware Humanities!



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