Dear Friends of the Humanities,

I’m pleased to present the 2009 Idaho Humanities Council Annual Report. This report offers a summary of Council’s accomplishments in 2009—the year of “connecting people with ideas”—by targeting the Council’s commitment to one mission: “connecting people with ideas” and to inspiring and cultivating intellectual inquiry. 2009 was highly successful in these areas, both on the local and national levels. The Council’s programming addressed a variety of issues including climate change, the ethics of the war on terror, the “war on ideas,” and the importance of education. The Council’s programming is designed to spark conversation, to educate, to inform, to inspire, and ultimately to engage the public in the humanities.

The IHC annually recognizes an individual or organization for its contributions to the humanities. The 2009 Humanities Award was presented to Miller. Miller is director of the Idaho Humanities Council and has been with the Council since 1972. Miller has been instrumental in the development of many of the Council’s programs, including the Speakers Bureau, the Humanities Lecture Program, and the Humanities Grants Program. Miller has also been a key figure in the Council’s efforts to increase the visibility of the humanities in Idaho.

The Speakers Bureau is the Council’s most visible program. The Bureau consists of over 50 scholars available to speak to community organizations about such humanities topics as Abraham Lincoln, Lewis and Clark, the Chinese in Idaho, Basque culture, Idaho literature, etc.

The Bureau booked 129 programs statewide. For example, the Bureau brought Dr. Ted Lieb, a professor of history at the University of Idaho, to speak about “The Supreme Court Since 9/11.” The Bureau also sponsored programs on other timely topics such as “Understanding Climate Change,” “The War on Terror—Looking Back,” and “The Human Rights of the Elderly.”

The Bureau’s popular Speakers Bureau continued bookings in all regions of the state. Programs have been presented in 42 cities and towns throughout Idaho, reaching more than 5,500 people. The Bureau consists of over 50 scholars available to speak to community organizations about such humanities topics as Abraham Lincoln, Lewis and Clark, the Chinese in Idaho, Basque culture, Idaho literature, etc.

Over 500 people attended IHC’s annual summer institute, “Supreme Court Since 1971.” The institute was held at the College of Idaho in July. The week featured an historical overview of the development of the Court, its inner-workings, its relations with Congress and the Presidency, and the landmark decisions that have defined its role in American history. The timely topic also provided an opportunity for participants to watch portions of the hearings for the 2009 Supreme Court.

The Bureau funded in 2009, and it also highlights the efforts of many organizations and individuals throughout the state that sought to examine the history, traditions, literature and values of human culture. The Bureau has received consistent positive feedback for its programs, which are designed to spark conversation, to educate, to inform, to inspire, and ultimately to engage the public in the humanities.

The bureau has a track record of success. In 2009, the bureau booked 129 programs, reaching more than 5,500 people. The bureau is the most visible program of the Idaho Humanities Council, and it has been a key figure in the council’s efforts to increase the visibility of the humanities in Idaho.

The bureau has a rich history, dating back to its establishment in 1975. The bureau has been instrumental in the development of many of the council’s programs, including the speakers bureau, the humanities lecture program, and the humanities grants program. The bureau has also been a key figure in the council’s efforts to increase the visibility of the humanities in Idaho.

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2009 grants for public projects, Research Fellows, K-12 teacher projects, and project planning

MINI AND MAJOR GRANTS:

Note: Many grants were awarded in FY 2009, many of the projects funded are not yet complete as of 2010. Projects are currently proposals or have received preliminary support. Funds are issued upon completion of required project plans.

Boise State University’s Story Initiative (Boise) was awarded $2,000 to support the production of a documentary film titled “The Art of Everyday Life.” The film focuses on Professor Louis Peretz, a recently retired Classics professor at the University of Idaho.

The Prove Theatre Company (Provo, Utah) was awarded $3,900 to help support a Heritage Festival that took place in July 2010 in conjunction with the Smithsonian Journey Stories exhibition.

The Institute for Pacific Northwest Studies at the University of Idaho (Moscow) was awarded $2,000 to help support publication of a book exploring Idaho history and culture entitled Idaho’s Place: Reforming the Grow State.

Kootenai-Shoshone Area Libraries (Hayden) received $3,980 to bring independent actor, Melinda Strobel, to Idaho for a tour of a new one-woman show titled Women: Writers, Pioneers and Protectors.

The Basque Museum (Boise) received $6,500 to help develop a major new exhibit entitled “Identities in Thin Ice.” The Basques was on display at Ellis Island and at the Boise Museum in 2010. The exhibit showcases Basque culture, origins, language, immigration changes, and the history of the Basque people and their place in America.

The Wallace District Mining Museum (Wallace) received $4,580 to help digitize its collection of artifacts, photographs, and historical paper ephemera related to the mining history of the Silver Valley. The museum is entering the second year of a two-year project to electronically catalog the collection. The main goals of this information project are to improve collections management, expand access, and improve interpretation.

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS:

Leslie Durham, Boise State University Associate Professor of Theater Arts (Boise), received $3,200 to create a book about the difficulty women playwrights confront in getting their plays performed on American stages.

Keith Peterson, Idaho State University Assistant Professor (Pocatello), received $3,500 to complete a biography of U.S. Captain John Mullan (1800-1899), who led the crew of 1860s who built the Millinocket Railroad across northern Idaho, the first railroad built in the United States. The book will be published by the University of Nebraska Press.

Ben Hatzenbuehler, Idaho State University Professor (Pocatello), received $3,500 to complete a book-length comparative study of Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln. His comparative study will cover their positions on race, federalism, citizenship, the power of the presidency, and more.

Cheryl Hindrichs, Boise State University Assistant Professor of History (Boise), received $2,500 to help complete a book on late modernism in the 20th century literature, particularly the works of three major writers, American poet Hilda Doolittle (H.D.), British novelist Virginia Woolf, and German critic Walter Benjamin, who developed the poetics of high modernism.

Erika Kahlman, Associate Professor of history at Idaho State University (Pocatello), was awarded $3,500 to complete a book on the history of widows and widowhood, following the history of women from the 19th century to the present, often within the nation’s war memories after WWI.
Teacher Incentive Grants:

Sandra Gray, a teacher at Washington Elementary (Pocatello), was awarded $1,000 to purchase multiple copies of picture books and children’s novels for a teachers reading group. She received a second $1,000 to bring author Gary Happy to the school for a one-day writing workshop.

Marie Robertson, 5th grade teacher at A.H. Bush Elementary School (Idaho Falls), was awarded $800 to purchase digital cameras and materials for a special humanities project.

Barbara Burton, of the Eagle Arts Commission (Eagle), was awarded $500 to students to attend a summer writing camp held at Tino North Creative Learning Center in Eagle.

Madeline Lave, teacher at Skyline High School (Idaho Falls), was awarded two grants of $500 each for help with an interdisciplinary science/English humanities class.

Jan Ward, a teacher in the Garden Valley School District (Garden Valley), was awarded $522 to enhance the 9th grade Springboard curriculum that focuses on how students as individuals change and grow over the year intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally.

Jammie Williams, kindergarten teacher at Lapwai Elementary School (Lapwai), was awarded $280 to support a study of family history and cultures.

Lynn MacIsaac and Marilyn Mangum, teachers from Pinehurst Elementary School (Plushouse), were awarded $1,000 to conduct four evening workshops focusing on the cultures of four different countries throughout the school year.

Mary Lee Blackford, Library Director at Ola Free District Library (Ola), was awarded $728 to update and improve the Accelerated Reader program at the Ola School.

The Garden City Library (Garden City) was awarded $1,000 to support “Bells for Books” program, a mobile literacy project to bring the library to neighborhoods where residents would not have the opportunity to come to the library, specifically serving low-income and non-English-speaking families and at-risk students.

Douglas Stanwiesen, Tiderline High School teacher (Boise), received $952 for “The Bone Architecture Project,” an on-going award-winning program for advanced placement history students and history club members.

Susan Staglowski, a teacher at Valley Verse Elementary School (Bonneville), received $1,000 for several activities related to the history of Human Rights activities conducted by the school district in collaboration with the Boundary County Task Force.

Planning Grants:

The University of Idaho (Moscow) received $1,000 to support research and planning of a UI History Week for high school teachers.

Idaho State University (Pocatello) received $1,000 to support planning meetings and two “pilot” community presentations in American Falls and Lava Hot Springs for the “Big Read” project, which encourages members of the two communities to read and discuss the same literary works.

Rathdrum/Westwood Historical Society (Rathdrum) was awarded $1,000 to support planning meeting with several consultants to develop an interpretive plan for renovating the old Kootenai County jail and the annex near it as a museum with historical displays and research space.

Cassia County Museum (Burley) received $1,284 to support scholar consultants Keith Peterson, Mary Reed, and Tom Blanchard in setting long-range goals to enhance interpretation of the museum’s collections.

Folkinger Rosalie Sorens (Boise) was awarded $1,000 to support preparation of interpretive materials related to an album of traditional and regional folk music.

Trailing of the Sheep Festival (Hailey) was awarded $1,000 to support planning for an archival project that will assemble 13 years of the recorded histories, stories and traditional accounts of sheep life around Idaho and the west.

Ana Maria Schauffelli (Boise) received $750 to support creation of a CD-based on the books Latitudes in Idaho and Jesus Urquides: Idaho’s Premier Muleteer.

Picturing America Grants:

The National Endowment for the Humanities awarded several Idaho libraries the Picturing America package of 40 large, high-quality reproductions of selected American masterpieces. These pictures allow citizens to learn about history and culture in a fresh way. They help introduce library patrons to their artistic heritage, and provide an opportunity for them to gain a deeper appreciation for American history. The IHC awarded six grants for library programs exploring aspects of these masterpieces.

American Falls District Library (American Falls) received $500 to support a special Veteran’s Day commemoration, featuring a scholarly lecture and an essay contest.

Burley Public Library (Burley) was awarded $500 for a presentation by Idaho State University Political Science Professor David Adler on the Bill of Rights, to bring attention to paintings related to the Founding Fathers.

Jerome Public Library (Jerome) received $600 for community members to study several historical photographs from the city and the methods of producing the art depicted in the historic pictures.

The Blackburn Charter Community Learning Center (Blackfoot) was awarded $500 to support classes on Native American history, a day-long program presented by Brenda Hemena on local Native American traditions.

The Oscar A. Foundation Library (Pocatello) received $1,000 to help support a program titled “Fiber & Fabric: Art Born of Necessity.”

Hayden Library (Hayden) received $1,800 to help support the first three speaker presentations in an eight month series from October 2009 through June 2010.

IHC Mission

The Mission of the Idaho Humanities Council is to deepen the understanding of human experience by connecting people with ideas.

The Vision of the Idaho Humanities Council is that the humanities inspire a more literate, tolerant, and intellectually inquisitive Idaho citizenry, better able to embrace life’s possibilities.

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Annual Report
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This list reflects donations made to the IHC from November 1, 2008 to October 31, 2009. We have made every effort to correctly list the names of each of our donors and supporters. If we have omitted or incorrectly listed your name, please accept our apology and know that your gift is appreciated.

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