Each morning, the staff of the Idaho Humanities Council comes to work in a two-story late Queen Anne home located a few blocks east of the Idaho State Capitol. The home’s connection to the Capitol is more than its proximity—both were designed by the same architect, J.E. Tourtellotte.

Education has always been a part of the home. Hester M. Spackman had the home built for herself and her sister Blanche’s family in 1899. A lifelong educator, Hester taught in several Boise schools and served as the Ada County Superintendent in 1900. Blanche also was a teacher. The family resided in the home until the 1970s when it was sold to local attorneys Guy Hurlbutt and Bill Payne and the home was converted into law offices. In 1978, the home was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource to the State Street Historic District.

In 1986, the home was generously donated to the Idaho Humanities Council and served as the offices of the Idaho Centennial Commission. During that time, the IHC Board voted to name the house the Centennial House. The council moved into the home in 1991.

A new era for IHC and our offices was unveiled on October 18. That evening, IHC friends, board members, and staff gathered at the home to celebrate the renaming of the house in honor of retired IHC Executive Director Rick Ardinger. Rick served as the Executive Director for 22 years and instituted numerous IHC programs that reached thousands of Idahoans, increased the public’s understanding of the humanities, and expanded IHC’s reach across the state. Rick also worked for the Idaho Centennial Commission prior to IHC—his connection to the home spanned nearly three decades. In his remarks that evening, Rick beautifully captured the essence of our home:

It’s not just an office. It’s still a home, a home for ideas, where we also happen to celebrate holidays and birthdays and meet fascinating people who may have interesting projects, or who walk through the door to say hello when they are in town, or to drop off a donation, or pick up a book purchased in the silent auction, or simply just to ask “What is the Idaho Humanities Council?”

The legacy of the Idaho Humanities Council is great, and to be tied personally to that great history in even a small way is ennobling and forever gratifying.
At this fall’s distinguished lecture in Boise, I was asked “is this what the IHC does, put on this talk each year?” To which I said, “yes, and so much more.”

It’s worth reflecting on that “more”—the role of the IHC in connecting people with ideas in Idaho. The “more” is the nuts and bolts of what the IHC does every day, and what more we hope to do in 2019 to expand our programs and the support for our partners.

IHC is as a convener and facilitator for important conversations, from civic engagement to wilderness to the Civil War and more. The Council directly provides public humanities programming through, for instance, the lectures and dinners held in four locations statewide each year, reading and conversation series, pop-up programs with writers and speakers, and the annual summer teachers institute for K-12 instructors. IHC also supports the humanities activities of other local and statewide groups through competitive grant awards. These projects range from Idaho Public Television programming to the interpretation of the Mary Hallock and Arthur Foote home at the base of Lucky Peak Dam outside Boise, and from the Wallace Steps in north Idaho to regional festivals in south-central and southeastern Idaho, encouraging the efforts of local citizens in preserving and celebrating their own stories and experiences.

In 2019 we want to grow the “digital humanities” in Idaho, including podcast episodes on Idaho’s history, cultures, and the Idaho experience. We’ll add more humanities programming content to this newsletter and our revamped website, making those outlets another way to connect Idahoans with the humanities. And we’ll tailor a portion of the Council’s grant awards around selected themes—such as the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage—to leverage the creativity of a wide variety of Idahoans in documenting and interpreting these events.

So yes, there is much more to the IHC than the annual distinguished lecture dinners. We hope you’ll join us in supporting these broad efforts and letting us know your thoughts on them.

My grandfather was not a talkative man. Instead, he expressed his affection in more silent ways—a hug, leaving a crisp $10 bill under the breakfast plate, or making sure the hamper was stocked with Pepsi.

He had an Underwood typewriter in his room and each time we packed up to leave I would hear the methodical clacking of typewriter keys. After several minutes, he would emerge and hand my father a note that contained a few short sentences saying how much he enjoyed the visit. It was a simple gesture, full of kindness, and those words remain a cherished part of my childhood.

The notes are lost but today that typewriter sits in my office as a reminder of the power of the written word in all of its forms. Whether it’s a novel, poem, newspaper article, or thank you note the written word has the ability to inform, change perspectives, or simply brighten one’s day.

This edition of Idaho Humanities contains information about our programs, grants that were recently funded, and a very special renaming ceremony. You will also notice that the look has changed to reflect our new “Open Idaho” logo. This is the second step in the council’s rebranding effort and a new website will be unveiled in the new year.

I hope these words inform you of our work across the state, help you understand the importance of the humanities, and perhaps brighten your day.
Eve Chandler, Boise, is the author of two books, Building Bogus Basin and Brundage Mountain: Best Snow in Idaho. She has worked in higher education as a health science writer in Chicago, as a history writer for Boise State University’s 50th anniversary, and as a freelance writer for local, regional and national publications on historical subjects and the arts. Since the early 2000s, she has been a board member of Christ Chapel Historical Society, and has worked to preserve the oldest Protestant church in Idaho, Wyoming and Utah, that now resides on the BSU campus. Recently, she wrote a comprehensive article on the artist James Castle for Territory magazine. She has served on the boards of the Friends of Idaho Public Television, Bogus Basin Recreational Association, and was a commissioner on the Boise Arts and History Department.

Shelley McEuen-Howard, Twin Falls, is a Professor of English and General Education at the College of Southern Idaho. She is a PhD candidate at Idaho State University, holds a BS in English Education, and MAT in English, both from the University of Idaho. Her work focuses on connecting current nature writing with earlier historical narratives and ideologies working to shape contemporary views. She previously served in the United States Peace Corps in Kenya from 1999-2001.

We are proud to come to work every day, promote our mission of deepening understanding of human experience by connecting people with ideas, and serve Idahoans in the newly christened Ardinger House.

That evening also marked the reveal of our new “Open Idaho” logo which reflects the inclusiveness of our programming, our promotion of open dialogue, and the power of the humanities to open minds. As we move forward in this new era, the logo is just a part of our efforts to reach new audiences, provide programming to every Idahoan, and demonstrate our role in bridging divides.
The Idaho Humanities Council recently awarded $115,489 in grants to organizations and individuals. Thirty-four public programs include twenty-eight grants for public humanities programs, three Research Fellowships, three Teacher Incentive Grants, and three other public programs were awarded in part by funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Idaho Humanities Council’s Endowment for Humanities Education. The following projects were funded:

### PUBLIC PROGRAMS:

- Ada Community Library, Boise, was awarded $4,000 to support Read Me Treasure Valley in 2019.
- Caldwell Fine Arts Series, Inc., Caldwell, was awarded $2,000 to host a photographic exhibit titled Where Children Sleep, revealing bedrooms of children throughout the world. On display in November 2018, the exhibit explored the complex social and cultural issues of the young. The project director was Alison Benson Moulton.
- City Club of Boise, Boise, was awarded $5,000 to host non-partisan, luncheon programs to encourage constructive dialogue on relevant topics. Forums are also broadcast on Boise State Public Radio. The project director is Morgan Keating.
- Department of English and Philosophy at Idaho State University, Pocatello, was awarded $1,299 to bring David Wanczuk, author of REPT: Deadly and the Unseen World of Baseball for the Blind, to Idaho in November. He gave a public reading and held a public question and answer session regarding literary magazine editorialship. The project director was Bethany Schultz Hurst.
- Global Lounge Incorporated, Boise, was awarded $3,000 for the World Village Pot 2019, a three-day multi-cultural celebration showcasing the community’s expanding blend of cultural arts and literature that are part of the many traditions and cultures around us. The project director is Days Ayedele.
- Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Boise, was awarded $3,500 to present a condensed version of William Shakespeare’s As You Like It to students in junior high and high schools around Idaho. The performances are supplemented with study guides, question and answer sessions and workshops. The project director is Christine Zimowsky.
- Idaho State University, Pocatello, was awarded $1,395 to support a series of Humanities Cafes held in Pocatello. These public programs will examine Global Idaho, with scholars and the public meeting together to explore Idaho’s global reach. The project director is Erika Kuhlman.
- Lewis-Clark State College Center for Arts & History, Lewiston, was awarded $2,000 for a January 22, 2019 evening performance of Nuestros Corridos. Nuestros Corridos involves a five-person group performing Mexican ballads and using the music as a way to illuminate the history and culture of Latinos/Latinas in Idaho. The project director is Charlotte Kremser.
- Lewis-Clark State College Native American Club, Lewiston, was awarded $2,000 for support of Native American Awareness Week in March 2019. The week provides a public forum to discuss and review contemporary and historical issues relating to Native Americans and culture. The project director is Rob Sobotta.
- Magic Valley Arts Council, Twin Falls, was awarded $2,000 to offer the public free screenings of PBS Independent Lens films. The films are followed by moderated discussion to examine a variety of topics, including the opioid crisis, Native American influence on rock and roll, and the legacy of Mr. Rogers. The project director is Carolyn White.
- Museum of Idaho, Idaho Falls, was awarded $4,450 to expand a new Way Out West exhibit. The exhibit explores the history of southeast Idaho and examines the lives of those who settled the area. The project director is Kimberly Lee.
- Nez Perce County Historical Society and Museum, Lewiston, was awarded $1,295 for support of an exhibit that will highlight the history of local theaters in Nez Perce County. Small window exhibits will be displayed at the Liberty Theater in Lewiston, and other locations in the Lewiston Orchards, Culdesac, Lapwai, and Peck. The project director is Amanda Van Lanen.
- Oneida Stake Academy Foundation, Preston, was awarded $1,355 to help restore historical drawings of Preston City, Idaho, depicting the town’s main street. They will be displayed at the Oneida Stake Academy, a historic school building. The project director is Alexis Beckstead.
- Panhandle Alliance for Education, Sandpoint, was awarded $650 to bring the multi-media, interactive program Living Voices “Our Revolution” to Idaho in January 2019. The program is the story of an African-American soldier in the American Revolution of 1776, and will be presented to the public and to students. The project director is Carol Deane.
- Salmon Arts Council, Salmon, was awarded $5,150 to host Living Voices “The Unseen World of Baseball for the Blind” to Salmon, Idaho. The program examines the journey from the tumult of the famine in Ireland to the promise of America, and will be presented to the public and to students. The project director is Susan Payne.
- Stay-in-School Quinceanera Program Organization, Inc, Boise, was awarded $2,000 to research the history of the Weiser Labor Camp, ca. 1945-1946, and create a brochure. The project director is Kathleen Hodges.
- The Caucus, Boise, was awarded $9,350 for support of its Readings & Conversations lecture series, bringing some of the best authors, thinkers, rabble-rousers, and cultural icons to Boise. Audience members have a chance to hear authors share their work, personal stories, and commentary on current events and culture. The project director is Kurt Zwolfer.
- The City Club of Idaho Falls, Idaho Falls, was awarded $4,500 for its 2019 luncheon series, promoting civil dialogue and discourse on all matters of public interest. Each month they present a new subject, encouraging broad participation by the community at large. The project director is Kelli Jenkins.
- The Community Library, Ketchum, was awarded $3,500 for a community-wide read program in order to encourage literacy, literary engagement, and civil discourse around themes of immigration, identity, diversity. The community will read Into the Beautiful Potlatch, Idaho. They will collect more oral histories, create a web photo gallery. The project director is Kathleen Hodges.
- University of Idaho, Moscow, was awarded $4,500 to expand its oral history collection about the former Riverside Dance Hall in Pocatello, Idaho. They will collect more oral histories, create a web portal to host the collection, and present public programs exploring Pocatello history and its relevance on present issues. The project director is Diane O. Kelly-Riley.
- University of Idaho-Dept of Modern Languages and Dept of History, Moscow, was awarded $5,450 for a film and lecture series entitled “The Weimar Republic, 1916-1933. Peraza Imperfect.” The films were chosen to help increase understanding and awareness about this historical period and German culture and society. The project director is Rachel Halverson.

### RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS:

- Zackery Heern, Idaho State University, Pocatello, was awarded $13,500 to conduct research for a book on the history of the state formation in Idaho during and after World War I. His book would advance the scholarship of the histories of Iraq, Britain, Shi’ism, and early twentieth-century world history. The project director is Zackery Heern.
- Philip Homan, Idaho State University, Pocatello, was awarded $5,500 to conduct research on the experience of the South African War horse from Idaho to the Transvaal. Homan is continuing his study of Idaho’s horse dealer, Kittie Wilkins, whose horse ranch provided many of these war horses. The project director is Philip Homan.
- Jennie Daniels, The College of Idaho, World Languages, Caldwell, was awarded $6,000 to conduct research in Argentina for her book studying Latin American novels. She seeks to promote an understanding of Latin America and its diverse peoples. The project director is Jennie Daniels.

### TEACHER INCENTIVE GRANTS:

- Garden City Library Foundation, Garden City, was awarded $2,400 for its Books for Boise program. The funds help the library provide access to library materials throughout the community via the bookmobile program. The project director is Melissa Gable.
- Kevin Manhart, Grace School Dist., 148, Grace, was awarded $1,000 to improve a photography class emphasizing local history through photography. Funds will help him purchase quality cameras for his students to develop an on-line community history photo gallery. The project director is Kevin Manhart.
- Treasure Valley Family YMCA, Boise, was awarded $1,000 to support their program teaching high school students how to be active citizens. Students participate in the processes of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government. The project director is Carrie Magnuson.

grants continued on page 11
Bestselling author and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Anna Quindlen delivered the Idaho Humanities Council’s 22nd Annual Distinguished Humanities Lecture last September at the Boise Centre to a large crowd of over 600. Quindlen’s topic was “How Reading and Writing Will Ensure Our Democracy.”

Quindlen’s lecture was part of a statewide series of IHC Distinguished Lectures in 2018 exploring the theme “Democracy and the Informed Citizen,” a special initiative supported in part by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Before the event Quindlen was welcomed at the downtown offices of Holland & Hart for the Benefactor reception.

The IHC thanks the following event sponsors for helping to make a very memorable evening: Holland & Hart, Boise State University, Idaho State University/Idaho State University Kasiska Division of Health Sciences, Boise State Public Radio, Idaho Statesman and Idaho Public Television.

An additional thank you goes to Rediscovered Books for facilitating book sales at the Boise Centre.

Thank you to the following very generous individuals who helped share the evening with students through their donations to the student scholarship fund: Jenny Emery Davidson and Mark Davidson, Rory and Sisti O’Connor, Lisa Scales, Timothy and Belinda Gordon, Michael Faison and Gisela Zechmeister, Peter and Marjorie Reedy, John Thomas, Paula Bramble, Clyde and Elizabeth Cody, Marshall Priest, Velma Vance, and Rick and Rosemary Ardinger.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Adam Johnson delivered the Idaho Humanities Council’s 15th Annual North Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture in mid-October at the Coeur d’Alene Resort to over 500 guests. He discussed his book The Orphan Master’s Son, the bestselling novel of North Korea: an epic journey into the heart of the world’s most mysterious dictatorship.

The event was made possible in part by major support from Marc and Vicki Brinkmeyer and Idaho Forest Group. Before the evening event at the Resort, Johnson was welcomed at Blair Williams’ Art Spirit Gallery for the Benefactor reception sponsored by the Hagadone Corporation.

The IHC also is grateful for additional critical support for the event from Lewis-Clark State College, Coeur d’Alene, North Idaho College, University of Idaho, Coeur d’Alene, Coeur d’Alene Press and Idaho Public Television.

Thanks also to the Well-Read Moose for facilitating book sales at the resort that evening and for donating a portion of their book sales back to the IHC to support humanities programs.

The following morning, before an audience of several hundred Coeur d’Alene High School students, Johnson was interviewed by IHC’s Executive Director David Pettyjohn about his writing process and working in North Korea.
Idaho teachers of all grades and disciplines are invited to apply to attend the Idaho Humanities Council’s 2019 weeklong summer institute, titled “Are Women People?” The Journey for Voting Rights, July 15-20 (Monday through Saturday), on the campus of Boise State University. Successful applicants will receive lodging and meals, texts, and the opportunity for optional college credit. Community college teachers also are eligible to apply. The deadline for online applications is March 1, 2019.

This institute will help teachers across the state understand the many stories of women’s suffrage, paying attention to different strategies used, rationales given, and outcomes achieved. There was no one journey for the fight for women’s votes, even after the 19th Amendment. This institute examines not only the history leading up to the passage of women’s voting rights, but also how those rights were not equally exercised or available to all women even after 1920. Scholar presenters so far include Katherine Aiken, Emeritus Professor of History, University of Idaho, Amy Canfield, Associate Professor of History at Lewis-Clark State College and IHC Executive Committee member, and others.

Teachers traveling more than 250 miles one way may be eligible for a modest travel stipend upon request. The online application deadline is March 1, 2019. For more information, visit www.idahohumanities.org, call the IHC office, 208-345-5346, or contact Cindy Wang at cindy@idahohumanities.org.
SAVE THE DATE!

AUTHOR AND JOURNALIST HAMPTON SIDES TO SPEAK IN TWIN FALLS IN APRIL

A native of Memphis and a Yale graduate, Hampton is the 2015 Miller Distinguished Scholar at the Santa Fe Institute and an advisory board member of the Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Conference and the Author’s Guild. He is also a partner of Atalaya Productions, an independent film company that develops non-fiction and historical stories for the screen. A frequent lecturer, Hampton divides his time between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Colorado College, where he teaches narrative non-fiction and serves as Journalist in Residence.

Mark your calendars for this event!

SAVE THE DATE!

HISTORIAN DOUGLAS BRINKLEY TO SPEAK IN IDAHO FALLS IN APRIL

A distinguished professor of history at Rice University and a fellow at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy, Douglas Brinkley is one of the most distinguished historians of our time. His writing covers a broad range of topics, including presidents, military campaigns, American leaders, Catholicism and Hurricane Katrina. He thrills audiences with his insights on history’s biggest people and events and how they relate to current events. He is the Presidential Historian for CNN and a contributing editor for Vanity Fair.

As the fiftieth anniversary of the first lunar landing approaches, American Moonshot takes a fresh look at the space program, President John F. Kennedy’s inspiring challenge, and America’s race to the moon.

On May 25, 1961, JFK made an astonishing announcement: his goal of putting a man on the moon by the end of the decade. In his engrossing, fast-paced epic, Brinkley returns to the 1960s to recreate one of the most exciting and ambitious achievements in the history of humankind. American Moonshot brings together the extraordinary political, cultural, and scientific factors that fueled the birth and development of NASA and the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo projects, which shot the United States to victory in the space race against the Soviet Union at the height of the Cold War.

Mark your calendars for this event!

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IN MEMORIAM

In memory of Randy Stimpson                     
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Clay and Barbara Morgan                          

In memory of Bill Studebaker                    
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Elizabeth Sims                                   

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Richard Kochansky and Jennifer James              

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Dick and Gerry Wisdom                             

In memory of Jeff and Phyllis Ward                
Susan Schaper                                      

In honor of Ruth Olsen                           
Patti Smith                                        

In honor of Dr. Terry Abraham                    
Priscilla Wegans                                  

IN HONOR

In honor of Rick Ardingler                        
Cindy Haagenson                                    

In honor of Jenny Emerson David                    
Danny and Elaine Bryant                           

In honor of the Wilder Class of 2019              
Clay Hatfield                                      

In honor of Laurens Fins                          
University of Idaho Retirement Association        

In honor of Sheila GARY’s 75th Birthday          
Cary Miller                                        

IN MEMORY

In memory of Michael Beavert                      
Mary Beavert Jackson                             

In memory of Alvin Beavert                        
Beverly M. Ross                                   

In memory of Terry Abraham                        
Priscilla Wegans                                  

In memory of Matti Smith                         
Garry Wenske                                      

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Kathleen Hulley                                   

In memory of Jean Keising                        
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In memory of Dorothy Harrington                   
Helen Harrington                                 

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IN THANKS

In memory of Sheila GARY’s 75th Birthday          
Cary Miller                                        

In honor of Rick Ardingler                        
Cindy Haagenson                                    

IN HOOR

In honor of Penny Emerson                          
Danny and Elaine Bryant                           

IN FAVOR OF

In honor of the Wilder Class of 2019              
Clay Hatfield                                      

IN SUPPORT OF

In honor of Laurens Fins                          
University of Idaho Retirement Association        

IN CONSIDERATION

In honor of Sheila GARY’s 25th Birthday           
Cary Miller                                        

IN SIMCHA

In honor of Dr. Terry Abraham                      
Priscilla Wegans                                  

IN CONSIDERATION

In memory of Sheila GARY’s 75th Birthday          
Cary Miller                                        

In honor of Rick Ardingler                        
Cindy Haagenson                                    

IN CONSIDERATION

In honor of Penny Emerson                          
Danny and Elaine Bryant                           

IN CONSIDERATION

In honor of the Wilder Class of 2019              
Clay Hatfield                                      

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IN CONSIDERATION
I have read many novels where books are the central character, but my favorites are by Carlos Ruiz Zafón. It is impossible to not be intrigued by a series called the Cemetery of Forgotten Books. The fourth and final book in his series, is *The Labyrinth of the Spirits*, is every bit as good as the first, if not more so.

In *Labyrinth*, an investigator for Spain’s secret police, Alicia Gris, finds a rare book that contains clues to the mysterious disappearance of Spain’s Minister of Culture. The subsequent adventure illuminates secrets from a prison during World War II and within Franco’s regime, discovered through writers, booksellers, and books.

It is best to read the books in order, as characters and events overlap and develop. With lyrical writing and interesting characters, Ruiz Zafón’s Barcelona penetrates the imagination and portrays a world where books are a reason for living.