



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Kathy
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Schmaltz
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.  
n/a
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Michigan Humanities
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
2364 Woodlake Drive Suite 100, Okemos, MI 48864
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
Statewide
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Statewide
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution. Michigan Humanities (MH) is an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. As one of 56 state and territorial humanities councils, MH provides programming and funding opportunities to over 500 organizations in all 83 counties. The MH mission is "bringing people together through stories, histories, cultures, and conversations." MH fulfills this mission through a portfolio of statewide programs, grants, workshops, and events. MH's programs engage partners such as museums, libraries, cultural centers, veteran organizations, tribal communities, K-12 schools,

community colleges, and universities.

One of MH's programs is the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street, which brings high-quality Smithsonian traveling exhibitions to museums, historical societies, and other small-town cultural venues nationwide. These exhibits boost civic pride, as residents young and old, from diverse backgrounds come together to share and celebrate their heritage. Host venues are selected through a competitive application and awarded to communities as a cohort that will work and train together over the next year, leading up to opening day at the first venue.

Since 2007, the Great Michigan Read, the signature program of MH, has united communities across the state through Michigan-centered fiction and non-fiction books. These selections inspire conversations from diverse perspectives, foster a deeper appreciation for human experiences and connect thousands of readers with authors and engaging educational programs. Each book is chosen by seven regional selection committees, representing every corner of Michigan. This program engages over 300 partner organizations and 29,000 participants in each biennial cycle. MH provides over 6,000 free books, 15,000 supplemental guides, free access to e-books and audiobooks, and an author tour that reaches underserved areas of Michigan. Since 2020 MH has distributed over 48,000 free books to Michiganders.

MH also has three grant programs that support organizations and communities as they uplift untold stories through educational exhibits, conversations, and public programming. Annually, MH grants out over \$600,000, leveraging over \$2.1 million in community investment.

- Humanities Grants emphasize collaboration among cultural, educational, and community-based organizations and institutions in order to serve Michigan's people with public humanities programming. These grants play a vital role in defining our culture, our state, our community, and ourselves. They are intended to connect us to Michigan's rich cultural heritage and historical resources through initiatives that help the people of our state reason together and learn from one another.
- Bridging Michigan grants provide Michigan nonprofits with up to \$2,500 in support of public humanities programming that sparks in-depth thinking and conversation around persistent challenges affecting our communities. MH encourages projects using a variety of public humanities formats, including reflective conversations, reading series, film screenings with discussions, web projects, walking tours, public lectures, and the creation of exhibits.
- The Arts and Humanities Touring Grant program is a joint collaboration of MH and the Michigan Arts and Culture Council. Michigan nonprofits can apply for Touring Grants to host arts and humanities programming that feature artists and presenters from both the humanities and performing/visual arts fields. This grant program awards funding to over 100 organizations each year that reach over 54,000 event attendees.

MH has been serving the state of Michigan for over 50 years. Uniquely positioned as a private nonprofit, and as an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, MH has a network of state and national partners, funders, and resources that are shared widely.

with over 500 partners in all counties. Since 2020, MH has awarded over 2,000 grants totaling over \$5 million and impacting over 11 million Michiganders.

9. Attach documents here if needed:

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.

1000000

11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.

["Federal","State"]

12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:

Non-profit organization

13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Yes

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

Bill Beekman (Board Chair) Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, Michigan State University East Lansing Monique Marks (Board Vice Chair) President and CEO, Franklin Wright Settlements, Inc. Detroit Dr. Joseph Cialdella (Board Secretary) Assistant Director, Professional Development and Engagement, University of Michigan Ann Arbor Maureen Martin (Board Treasurer) University of Michigan, Retired Gregory Camron Amin Professor of Middle East and Iranian Diaspora Studies, University of Michigan-Dearborn Berkley Peg Asmus Nonprofit Consultant, Retired Kewadin Kimberly Batchelor Davis Assistant Director of Alumni Relations, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law Detroit Dr. Ethriam Brammer Assistant Dean, University of Michigan South Lyon Paul Chaffee Senior Consultant, Paul C. Chaffee LLC Freeland Anne Donohue Superiorland Library Cooperative Marquette Dr. Jennifer Drake Acting Provost and VP for Academic Affairs, Grand Valley State University Sparta Antonio David Garcia MI PODER and MiGen Oak Park Dr. Angela H. Graham Fetzer Institute, Retired Kalamazoo Deanne Hartman Senior Relationship Strategist, PNC Bank Plainwell Dr. Ollie A. Johnson III Chair and Professor,

Department of African American Studies, Wayne State University Farmington Hills Elise McGowan-Cuellar Appellate Justice, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Frankfort Emilio Rodriguez Director, Black and Brown Theatre Ypsilanti Tansley Stearns President and CEO, Community Financial Credit Union Canton Karen Trout Community Engagement Librarian, Kalamazoo Public Library Kalamazoo Jenée Velasquez Executive Director, The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation Midland

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

10/1/2025-9/30/2026

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes