

MAINE HUMANITIES COUNCIL

130th Maine Legislature
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs
February 23, 2021

Senator Breen, Representative Pierce, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs; Senator Daughtry, Representative Brennan, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs: My name is Hayden Anderson - I am the Executive Director of the **Maine Humanities Council**. I am speaking in support of the Council's item in the Biennial Budget.

The Maine Humanities Council is an independent statewide nonprofit that supports life-long learning and civic engagement. We serve as the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress Center for the Book. We provide educational programs throughout the state addressing a range of needs, including literacy, promotion of reading, teacher enrichment, community history, increased civic engagement, and cultural tourism. Our constituents include low-literacy adults, public school teachers, Veterans, domestic violence agencies, prisoners, health care workers, library patrons, and general audiences. The Council conducts direct programs and also provides matching grants for community cultural activities.

All funding received from the State of Maine is distributed as grants to communities throughout the State. These grants offer an avenue for community-based cultural organizations, schools, and libraries to mount public programs on a wide range of local history and other cultural topics. 100% of state funding to the Maine Humanities Council is distributed to communities through matching grants. The Council does not retain any of the funds to cover overhead, personnel, or administrative costs. Grants are awarded through a competitive review conducted by members of the Council's volunteer Board of Directors, and any organization that receives a grant is required to match it at least one to one. In effect, the impact of these State funds is doubled. State appropriation to the Council is paid out 100% to support the initiative, energy, and creativity in communities throughout the state.

In the past year, the Council has awarded 51 grants through our regular grantmaking, totaling nearly \$79,000. In addition, last spring the Council was called upon to distribute relief grants in Maine funded by the federal CARES Act. We distributed \$432,000 to 98 different Maine organizations, divided equally between the 1st and 2nd Congressional Districts, and representing all 16 Maine counties.

I have included a list of those CARES Act grants with your handout, and I'd invite you to look through it to get a sense of the kinds of community-based organizations we support.

The grants we make are not large, but we have the experience and know-how to get them to organizations who will make good use of every penny. This funding goes an awfully long way, and it makes a big difference in our communities, directly reaching Mainers statewide.

The past year has been exceedingly hard on the community-based cultural organizations in the cities and towns of Maine, especially small grassroots organizations. Many are still struggling to survive; some may not make it. If the realities of the State budget permit it, I promise you that any increase to the Maine Humanities Council – \$25,000, \$50,000, or any other amount – will be directed in its entirety to Maine organizations in a way that will make a meaningful difference to the communities they serve.

I thank you for the opportunity to speak, and I will happily answer any questions you may have. Thank you very much.

Hayden W. Anderson, Ph.D.
Executive Director



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Maine Humanities Council

CARES Act Grants Awarded

June 2020
Sorted by Town

Grant Number	Organization	Town	County	District	Amount Awarded
19-20-CARES-22	Kennebec Historical Society	Augusta	Kennebec	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-31	Literacy Volunteers of Greater Augusta	Augusta	Kennebec	1	\$1,900
19-20-CARES-70	Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine	Augusta	Kennebec	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-61	Bar Harbor Historical Society	Bar Harbor	Hancock	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-94	Abbe Museum	Bar Harbor	Hancock	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-33	Sagadahoc Preservation Inc.	Bath	Sagadahoc	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-83	Maine's First Ship	Bath	Sagadahoc	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-42	Friends of the Belgrade Public Library	Belgrade	Kennebec	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-60	Belgrade Historical Society	Belgrade	Kennebec	2	\$2,500
19-20-CARES-14	Berwick Library Association	Berwick	York	1	\$2,540
19-20-CARES-13	Biddeford Cultural and Heritage Center	Biddeford	York	1	\$3,862
19-20-CARES-32	Biddeford Mills Museum	Biddeford	York	1	\$2,175
19-20-CARES-71	The Bremen Library Association	Bremen	Lincoln	1	\$3,003
19-20-CARES-19	Bridgton Public Library	Bridgton	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-39	Bridgton Historical Society	Bridgton	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-47	Arts Are Elementary	Brunswick	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-04	Canaan Farmers Hall	Canaan	Somerset	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-80	Chebeague Island Historical Society	Chebeague Island	Cumberland	1	\$4,500
19-20-CARES-84	Cornish Library Association	Cornish	York	1	\$3,485

19-20-CARES-40	Center Theatre for the Performing Arts	Dover-Foxcroft	Piscataquis	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-43	Maine Adult Education Association	Dover-Foxcroft	Piscataquis	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-81	Eastport Public Library Association	Eastport	Washington	2	\$3,636
19-20-CARES-25	Raitt Homestead Farm Museum	Eliot	York	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-27	Farmington Historical Society	Farmington	Franklin	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-68	Fort Fairfield Public Library	Fort Fairfield	Aroostook	2	\$2,885
19-20-CARES-49	Franklin Library	Franklin	Hancock	2	\$2,200
19-20-CARES-92	Freedom Community Historical Society	Freedom	Waldo	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-20	Fryeburg Public Library	Fryeburg	Oxford	2	\$1,500
19-20-CARES-66	Guilford Memorial Library	Guilford	Piscataquis	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-02	The Maine Center for Public Interest Reporting	Hallowell	Kennebec	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-54	Friends of L.C. Bates Museum	Hinckley	Somerset	2	\$3,000
19-20-CARES-73	Soldiers Memorial Library	Hiram	Oxford	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-91	Hiram Historical Society	Hiram	Oxford	2	\$1,000
19-20-CARES-57	Cary Library	Houlton	Aroostook	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-05	Brick Store Museum	Kennebunk	York	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-34	Webster Library	Kingfield	Franklin	2	\$3,300
19-20-CARES-58	Rice Public Library	Kittery	York	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-26	Museum L-A	Lewiston	Androscoggin	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-06	Liberty Library	Liberty	Waldo	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-21	Association culturelle et historique du Mont-Carmel	Lille	Aroostook	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-15	Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library	Lovell	Oxford	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-69	Lubec Memorial Library	Lubec	Washington	2	\$1,200

19-20-CARES-08	Porter Memorial Library	Machias	Washington	2	\$4,200
19-20-CARES-11	Machias Bay Chamber of Commerce	Machias	Washington	2	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-89	Walter T. A. Hansen Memorial Library	Mars Hill	Aroostook	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-12	Milbridge Public Library	Milbridge	Washington	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-17	Monhegan Historical & Cultural Museum Association	Monhegan	Lincoln	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-55	Dr. Shaw Memorial Library	Mount Vernon	Kennebec	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-85	United Society of Shakers	New Gloucester	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-67	Norway Memorial Library	Norway	Oxford	2	\$3,795
19-20-CARES-45	Ogunquit Memorial Library	Ogunquit	York	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-72	Wabanaki Cultural Preservation Coalition - Nibezun	Old Town	Penobscot	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-01	Indigo Arts Alliance	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-09	Snowlion Repertory Company	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$3,800
19-20-CARES-10	Mugadi (Women in Need) Foudation	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-23	Maine Archives and Museums	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-35	Maine Charitable Mechanic Association	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-41	Gateway Community Services Maine	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-44	Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-51	Mayo Street Arts	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-53	ALL INCLUSIVE	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-62	Maine Film Association	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$4,815
19-20-CARES-63	Maine Jewish Film Festival	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-75	Speak About It, Inc.	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-77	Greater Portland Landmarks	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000

19-20-CARES-79	Portland Public Library	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-82	Portland Media Center	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-87	The Committee to Restore the Abyssinian	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-88	Ladder to the Moon Network	Portland	Cumberland	1	\$5,255
19-20-CARES-18	Penobscot Boys & Girls Club	Presque Isle	Aroostook	2	\$5,814
19-20-CARES-24	Presque Isle Historical Society	Presque Isle	Aroostook	2	\$3,800
19-20-CARES-38	Mark & Emily Turner Memorial Library	Presque Isle	Aroostook	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-37	Dorcas Library Association	Prospect Harbor	Hancock	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-64	Rangely Lakes Historical Society	Rangely	Franklin	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-56	Raymond Village Library	Raymond	Cumberland	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-29	Robbinston Historical Society	Robbinston	Washington	2	\$4,500
19-20-CARES-48	Penobscot Language School	Rockland	Knox	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-50	Solon Center for Research and Publishing	Rockland	Knox	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-46	Sebec Village Associates	Sebec	Piscataquis	2	\$1,000
19-20-CARES-07	Paris Hill Library Association	South Paris	Oxford	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-65	Standish Historical Society	Standish	Cumberland	1	\$1,940
19-20-CARES-28	Henry D. Moore Parish House and Library	Steuben	Washington	2	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-52	Maine-Wabanaki REACH	Stillwater	Penobscot	2	\$5,814
19-20-CARES-78	Stonington Public Library	Stonington	Hancock	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-03	Frenchman Bay Library	Sullivan	Hancock	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-30	Friends of the Thomaston Public Library	Thomaston	Knox	1	\$4,725
19-20-CARES-59	Tremont Historical Society	Tremont	Hancock	2	\$2,500
19-20-CARES-86	Turner Public Library	Turner	Androscoggin	2	\$5,227

19-20-CARES-76	Vassalboro Public Library	Vassalboro	Kennebec	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-93	West Paris Public Library	West Paris	Oxford	2	\$3,000
19-20-CARES-16	Whitneyville Library and Whatnot Association Inc.	Whitneyville	Washington	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-36	Wilton Free Public Library	Wilton	Franklin	2	\$5,227
19-20-CARES-74	Lincoln County Historical Association	Wiscasset	Lincoln	1	\$5,000
19-20-CARES-90	Maine Preservation	Yarmouth	Cumberland	1	\$5,000