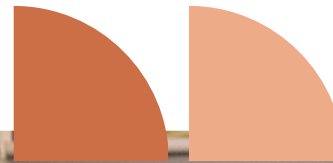


ANNUAL REPORT 2024



Prime Time Family Reading, Lynnwood





Humanities Washington's Values

- **Critical thinking**

We encourage personal reflection, open mindedness, lifelong learning, and truth seeking.

- **Stewardship**

We uphold public trust through impactful and transparent use of resources.

- **Belonging**

We want people of all ages, means, and cultures to feel welcome and valued in our organization and programs.

- **Connection**

We promote healthy dialogue between people with different perspectives in order to build better communities.

- **Respect**

- We believe people are equal in dignity. We provide welcoming spaces where everyone feels heard and can productively exchange ideas.

2024 Roadmap

Highlights from our journey across Washington State

JAN

Speakers Bureau: The 2024–25 roster took over with the very first event of the year: Harriet Baskas' "Wonderful, Weird, and Worrisome Objects in Washington State Museums" hosted by Mount Vernon City Library.



FEB

Joy Harjo Live: Former United States Poet Laureate Joy Harjo joined Washington State Poet Laureate Arianne True for a conversation and poetry reading online and live at Town Hall Seattle.



APR

Washington Stories Fund: We announced the 2024 grantees, which ranged from the Young and Indigenous podcast's Fish War series to Voices of the Himalayas: Female Migrants' Narratives event.



MAY

Revolutions in Reading: Professor Geoffrey Turnovsky was on deck at the Larson Gallery in Yakima to explore how inventions like the printing press, the book, and the internet changed how and what we read.



"This program makes a huge difference in our community. We are a small and scrappy municipal library with a staff that makes the impossible happen on a regular basis. It's such a joy to be able to bring speakers like Harriet Baskas to our community."

— **Speakers Bureau** host,
Mount Vernon City Library



Our 2024 journey continued >>



JUN

The Queer Medieval with Nicola Griffith:

We hosted celebrated novelist Nicola Griffith for a unique talk on queer representation in historical fiction. There was even a performance from the Medieval Women's Choir!



JUL

Heritage Arts Apprenticeship Program:

We selected 16 teams who will work together through July 2025 to pass on such traditions as Quileute basketweaving, Mongolian horsehead fiddle, and ballet folklórico.



SEP

Washington Reads Freely:

For Banned Books Week, we partnered with Washington Center for the Book to share stories from the public about what reading freely means to them.

"For me, reading IS growing."

— **Rose Mooallem**, Kitsap county, age 11



DEC

Prime Times Family Reading: By the end of 2024, we completed 61 Family Reading series, reaching over 3,000 Washingtonians – that's more kids, parents, libraries, and schools served through Prime Time in a single year than ever before.



OCT

Latino Poetry: Places We Call Home:

In honor of *Latino Poetry: The Library of America Anthology*, we championed special events at Wenatchee Valley College and Casa Latina.

The humans behind Humanities Washington's programs

(the humanities are nothing without the human beings who do them)

>> The families of Prime Time Family Reading



"[Prime Time] inspired a love of reading and learning that extends beyond the six-week sessions. Seeing families leave the program with a renewed enthusiasm for reading and a stronger connection to each other was incredibly fulfilling."

— **Prime Time Family Reading** host, Cottonwood Elementary School

"I am deeply impressed by the positive impact this program has had on both children and adults. The transformation from the initial session to the sixth is truly remarkable. Children demonstrate increased critical thinking skills, a newfound love of reading, and a greater interest in reading at home with their families."

— **Prime Time Family Reading** host, Edmonds Library

>> Host Spotlight: Erin Kolb at Asotin County Library



Every year, Erin Kolb at Asotin County Library partners with Humanities Washington to bring a series of Speakers Bureau talks to Basalt Cellars Winery in Clarkston, WA. She calls it Wine & Wisdom.

WINE & WISDOM 2024

AUG 6



UFO Northwest:
How Washington State
Spawned the Men
In Black

AUG 13



Homelessness and
the Meaning of Home

AUG 20



The Trickster: How
an Ancient Archetype
Helps Us Imagine
a Better World

"We are so grateful to Humanities Washington for their support. Our community TRULY loves these programs. I regularly get feedback from patrons who appreciate opportunities to attend such wonderful (free!) programs."

— Erin Kolb, Asotin County Library

>> Fellows Spotlight: Yesenia Hunter



Public Humanities Fellow Yesenia Navarrete Hunter presented a series of events titled “We Are Neighbors / Somos Vecinos” at the Yakima Valley Museum. Neighbors of all backgrounds were invited to attend and participate in creating cross-cultural dialogue across the Yakima Valley.

The event topics were:

- Que Cora La Voz: Spanish Radio in the Yakima Valley
- Songs over Sagebrush: the creative lives and poetry of Japanese women on the Yakama Reservation
- Quinceañera Dreamscapes and Desires

“Through these events, I learned that expression and celebration is necessary for place-making and for getting to know our neighbors.”

— **Yesenia Hunter** on the impact of the Public Humanities Fellows program



>> Heritage Arts Apprenticeship Program Spotlight: 송파산대놀이 Korean Traditional Mask Dance



MASTER ARTIST

Kevin Okcheon Shim
Federal Way

APPRENTICE

Che Sehyun
Seattle

"My apprentice has now started his own team under my guidance, and it breathes life and love back into the dance, something I had almost given up on since it was so challenging to continue by myself. I have been doing this same dance for almost 50 years now and I can finally see a future of it here in Washington."

—**Kevin Okcheon Shim** on the impact of the Heritage Arts Apprenticeship Program

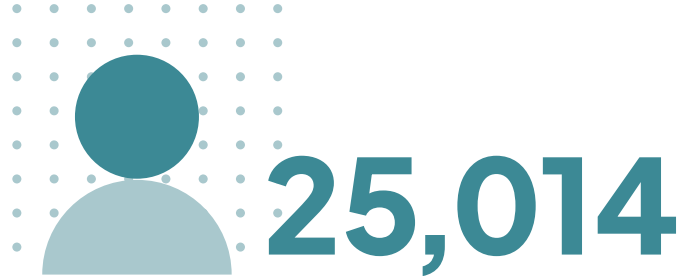


By the Numbers

Serving Washington communities from Bellingham to Walla Walla



Communities
across WA State



People attended
415 Events



Partners & Host
Organizations



People attended one of
335 Speakers Bureau events



People attended one of our
61 Prime Time Family Reading series



People attended an event with
the Washington State Poet Laureate



Staff & Board

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Director of New Audience Engagement and Folklife Specialist

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Brad Richardson, *Vancouver*

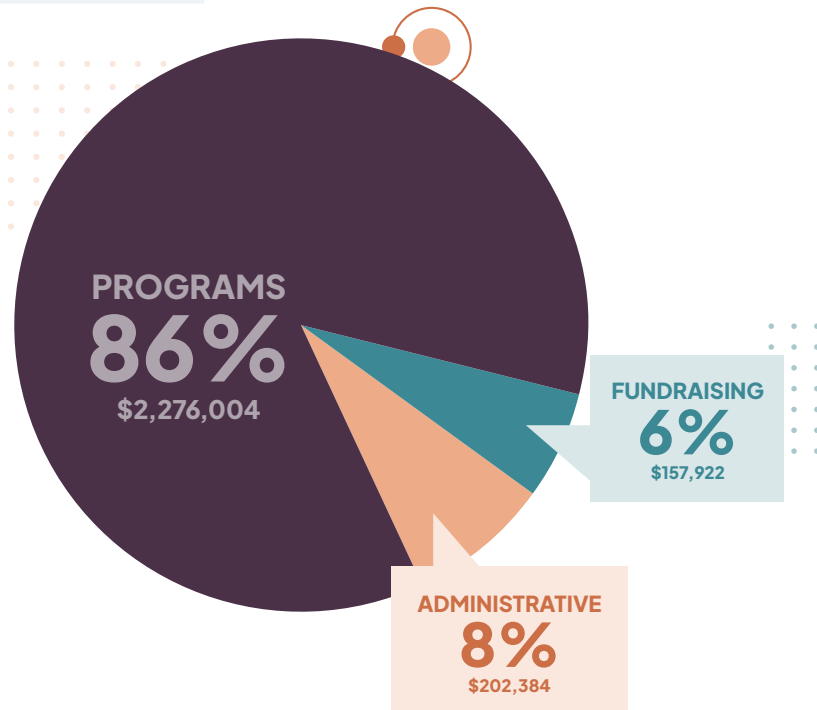
Joe Ross, *Seattle*

Carli Schiffner, *Olympia*

Financials

Humanities Washington is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Washington State.

>> **2024 Total Expenses: \$2,636,310**



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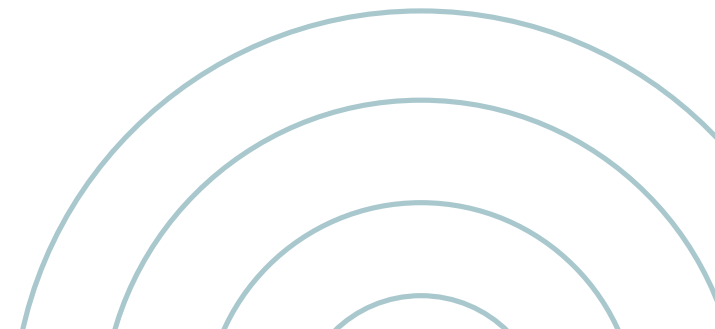
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Washington Secretary of State
Washington State Arts Commission



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Auburn
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Bellevue
Bellingham
Blaine
Bothell
Bremerton
Burbank
Burien
Burlington
Camano Island
Camas
Carnation
Centralia
Chehalis
Clarkston
Colfax
Connell
Coupeville
Covington
Dayton
Des Moines
DuPont
Eastsound
Eatonville

Edmonds
Ellensburg
Enumclaw
Everett
Everson
Ferndale
Forks
Freeland
Friday Harbor
Gig Harbor
Goldendale
Graham
Granite Falls
Ilwaco
Issaquah
Kennewick
Kent
Kettle Falls
Kingston
Kirkland
La Conner
Lacey
Lake Stevens
Lakewood
Langley
Leavenworth
Longview
Lopez Island
Lynnwood
Maple Falls

Marysville
Medical Lake
Metaline Falls
Monroe
Montesano
Morton
Moses Lake
Mount Vernon
Mountlake Terrace
Mukilteo
Newport
Normandy Park
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