

Take Action Today!

We need YOUR help to save educational and cultural programs across Wisconsin

This Thursday, the U.S. House of Representatives will debate a Continuing Resolution that would force the Wisconsin Humanities Council to reduce services and funds to local organizations and communities across Wisconsin.

Please [help me tell Congress](#) why the humanities are a critical resource for YOUR community, by [emailing your Representative](#) today.

Local organizations need the WHC now more than ever.

Faced with extreme cuts at the state and local level, many libraries, schools and other civic organizations are struggling to continue their work. If passed, this Continuing Resolution will restrict our ability to help local organizations meet critical community needs.

Cuts to humanities funding will NOT solve the deficit.

In fact, federal spending for the humanities equals 1/21,000th of the federal budget -- **barely more per capita than the cost of a postage stamp.**

Yet the benefits to our society are enormous -- from educating citizens about our state and nation's great history; to preparing workers to compete in the global economy; to encouraging informed, non-partisan public discussion of the challenges we face.

The humanities did not cause the current fiscal crisis - - but the perspectives they offer WILL help us solve it.

Consider these benefits to Wisconsin (please feel free to copy and paste these figures into your [email to Congress](#)). In 2009 alone, the most recent year for which data is available, the WHC:

- Served 186,139 people across our state.
- Supported 974 community-based programs and events -- in EVERY Congressional District in Wisconsin.
- Distributed 47 grants to local organizations across Wisconsin.
- Awarded \$98,450 in federal grant dollars.
- Leveraged more than **\$1.1 million** in private and state dollars as a match for federal grant funds.

For almost 40 years, the Wisconsin Humanities Council has invested in the health of Wisconsin communities. **You can help ensure our impact continues.**

Tips for contacting elected officials

- 1. Give your full name.**
- 2. Provide your full address and phone number.** Elected officials must confirm you are a constituent for your comments to count.
- 3. State your position clearly.** Do you support or oppose the policy discussed? In emails, place your position in the subject line.
- 4. Tell your story.** Explain in succinct and real-life terms how the policy being debated will affect your life, your family, your community.
- 5. Be respectful.** Civil comments show your credibility and are far more likely to have an impact.

**THANK YOU for
Taking Action Today!**

Questions or Feedback?

I want to hear from you! As always, feel free to contact me at dena.wortzel@gmail.com or by phone at 608-265-5593.

[Click here](#) TODAY to email your member of Congress and **share your support** for the Wisconsin Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

- Click [the link](#) and select "Write your Legislators."
- Fill in your name and contact information.
- Click "Review my message."
- Scroll down and add any personal comments that reflect the importance of WHC programs in your community, or feel free to use this: "The Wisconsin Humanities Council is a critical resource for Wisconsin communities, working to use history, culture and discussion to strengthen economic and cultural life for everyone in Wisconsin."
- Click "Send message."

Thank you for your help. In addition to the proposed cuts for the current year, the stage is being set for FY 2012 appropriations. There is strength in numbers, so **let's make our voices heard!**

Sincerely,
Dena Wortzel
Executive Director, Wisconsin Humanities Council