



NEW HAMPSHIRE HUMANITIES COUNCIL *Connecting people with ideas*

Information about Becoming a *Humanities to Go* Presenter

Humanities to Go (HTG) is a traveling speakers' bureau that offers entertaining and informative programs to the general public in a wide range of humanities disciplines. The New Hampshire Humanities Council encourages scholars and other qualified presenters from around the state and region to submit proposals in their areas of expertise. Our purpose? To connect people with ideas!

What are the Humanities?

The humanities are those fields of inquiry that explore the heart of the human experience. They are also methods of learning and interacting – critical thinking, moral reasoning, and civil discourse – that improve individual and civic life. The humanities include but are not limited to comparative religion and culture, ethics, gender studies, geography, history, interpretation of the fine and performing arts, international studies, jurisprudence, languages, literature, philosophy, public policy, and social anthropology. The humanities often use multiple disciplines to create rich interpretations of and complex vantage points on the human experience.

New Hampshire Humanities Council Mission and Vision

The mission of the New Hampshire Humanities Council is to offer essential opportunities for discovery, self-reflection, and lifelong learning by fostering civil discourse and bringing ideas from the humanities to the people of New Hampshire. We connect people with ideas.

We are a private non-profit organization dedicated to providing public humanities programs statewide. We offer over 1,000 free, public programs annually. We are part of a national network of state humanities councils affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Although our mission is specific to New Hampshire, we are not part of state government. We rely on the NEH, individual, corporate, and foundation support for our diverse programs.

Pitch a Program

Current *HTG* programs are listed on-line and in a paper catalog published in 2008 and updated by a supplement just issued. In 2011, we will again be updating our on-line listing of programs. We will be seeking proposals that directly connect to your recent scholarship, your teaching, writing, and research interests. We will consider any proposal that addresses substantive humanities themes and topics. Talks should be lively, fun, informative and concise (45 – 60 minutes plus 15 minutes Q & A). They should NOT be read from a text, although notes may be used. Discussion questions, illustrations, maps, videos/DVDs/films, slide shows, and other media may be used in presentations. Theatrical presentation of living history (called “Chautauqua”) is especially popular with audiences. Please view the current *Humanities to Go* catalog and visit our website at www.nhhc.org to become familiar with our programming.

Selection is competitive. Submissions will be evaluated by the NHHC according to the following criteria. The proposed program:

- is balanced and does not advocate a particular political position;
- is well-structured, clear, and easy to understand;
- is NOT read from a text although notes may be used;
- covers the topic in depth and explores essential questions of meaning, including thoughtful examples and contexts;
- illustrates central humanities themes and how they contribute to personal and public understanding of contemporary life;
- provides viewpoints from multiple disciplines where applicable;
- encourages audience involvement.

Speaker qualifications

Our speakers can be faculty at colleges or universities. They also can be independent scholars with recognized expertise and authority, publication, and presentation experience. Most HTG speakers will have a Ph.D. or M.A. in a humanities discipline from a nationally-accredited college or university. Applicants must be experienced in public speaking or teaching, be genuinely interested in addressing public audiences, and be available to travel around the state.

Speaker Stipend

The stipend for a program is \$200 for a 45 - 60 minute program plus 15 minutes of Q & A. Mileage is reimbursed at \$.50 per mile. A living history presenter who gives a costumed performance may charge an additional fee, not to exceed \$125. This fee is negotiated by the speaker and program host at the time the program is booked, and this additional fee is the responsibility of the program host. For programs involving two presenters together, each presenter receives a \$200 stipend but the program may only be booked six times per year.

Humanities to Go Audiences

Organizations around the state — libraries, historical societies, museums, civic and membership organizations, hospitals, schools, churches, for-profit businesses — partner with us to present *HTG* programs for their patrons, employees, colleagues, and fellow community members. New Hampshire residents of all ages and backgrounds engage in lively and meaningful discussion with *HTG* speakers. Last year, 416 programs reached 17,000 citizens statewide.

How do I apply?

If you would like to receive a Request for Proposals when we send them out again in 2011, please email your contact information and a brief line or two about your area of expertise in the humanities and your program idea to our Grants Officer, Susan Hatem, at shatem@nhhc.org.