

bold experiences. shared stories.

2022 Annual Report



welcome

Humanities plays a critical role in helping us understand the pressing issues of our times - explaining the past, understanding the present, and shaping the future. We are thrilled to reflect on another year of creating and supporting bold experiences and compelling programs throughout the state of Maryland.

This year we welcomed a new Board Chair and several new staff members. Their expertise and enthusiasm will further enhance our ability to serve the people of Maryland with our diverse programs and initiatives.

In FY22, we were proud to see the impact of the SHARP grants we distributed in FY21 to humanities organizations around the state. These grants and their administration laid the groundwork for creating our SHINE grant program. They are a testament to our commitment to effectively and equitably support humanities organizations in Maryland and will have a positive and lasting impact on our communities.

None of our achievements would be possible without the unwavering support of our partners and supporters. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our sponsors, donors, volunteers, and collaborators who have joined us in advancing our mission. Your continued dedication to the humanities and the people of Maryland is truly inspiring, and we are grateful for your ongoing support.

We look forward to another year of meaningful engagement and impactful programs, as we continue our journey of promoting the humanities as a catalyst for positive change in Maryland.

Thank you for your continued support of Maryland Humanities.

Alicia Jones McLeod, Chair



Lindsey Baker, Executive Director



57,938

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

152

VIRTUAL EVENTS

our mission

MARYLAND HUMANITIES CREATES AND SUPPORTS BOLD EXPERIENCES THAT EXPLORE AND ELEVATE OUR SHARED STORIES TO CONNECT PEOPLE, ENHANCE LIVES, AND ENRICH COMMUNITIES.

year at a glance

Bold experiences and shared stories informed and inspired powerful humanities programs throughout Maryland. Here's a snapshot of our Fiscal Year 2022 (November 2021 – October 2022).

Maryland Humanities launched **SHARP** in FY21, an important initiative to distribute federal funds to local humanities organizations throughout Maryland. This funding supported grantee's efforts in FY22. After receiving over 140 applications, we awarded a total of \$910,000 in general operating support funds to 91 Maryland nonprofits (\$10,000 per organization). From Western Maryland to the Eastern Shore, these organizations are located in 19 counties and Baltimore City. General operating expenses include salaries, rent, utilities, supplies, programs, and other expenses, allowing organizations to determine where funds are most needed. This grant program, along with our CARES funding the prior year, was the inspiration for our SHINE grant program.

Crossroads: Change in Rural America, our Museum on Main Street partnership with the Smithsonian Institution, toured the state from September 8, 2022, to May 31, 2023, and was hosted by the Farm Heritage Conservancy at Serenity Farm, Oxford Museum at St.

Paul's Church, Western Maryland Heritage Association at the Allegany Museum, Rose Hill Manor Park and Museums, and Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area at the Kent Cultural Alliance. Each Crossroads host community created programming to complement the traveling exhibition, collaborating with a wide variety of partners to develop innovative programs for visitors of all ages. Crossroads themes offered a unique opportunity to extend our work bringing a humanities lens to discussions about the various ways people have lived and worked in these rural communities along with stories of change and resilience.

Maryland History Day successfully returned to an in-person contest, followed by a virtual award ceremony. We welcomed nearly 500 students, their parents, and 147 judges for our first in-person contest since 2019. At the National History Day contest, 19 Maryland students received honors. Highlights include a group from Accokeek Academy receiving first place in Junior Group Performance, a student from Thomas Johnson



Elementary/Middle School receiving second place in Junior Individual Website, and two students from Burleigh Manor Middle School receiving third place in Junior Individual Performance and Junior Individual Website. Overall, Maryland History Day served 26,248 students in 19 counties and Baltimore City.



One Maryland One Book (OMOB) returned to an in-person author tour after two years of virtual, with Naima Coster's *What's Mine and Yours*.

[READ MORE IN OUR ONLINE REPORT.](#)



Maryland Humanities was awarded second-year funding for a grant from The Library of Congress **Teaching with Primary Sources Program (TPS)**. With this funding we will recruit materials testers for the primary source-based, project-based learning materials for English learners (ELs) that were created in the previous grant year. This will allow us to gather feedback, make edits, and think strategically about how to present the Maryland History Day program before disseminating the materials further among teachers of ELs to make the program accessible to a more diverse population of students.

With funding provided by "Towards A More Perfect Union," Maryland Humanities launched the multipronged **Designing Culturally Inclusive Programming** series, which focuses on creating opportunities for deeper statewide professional development among nonprofit professionals and educators. The series explored six themes that community organizations struggle with, including collaboration; diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA); and power sharing. Six discussions provided participants with examples and ways to implement within their organizations. These conversations were captured beautifully by talented graphic recorders.

[SEE MORE IN OUR ONLINE REPORT.](#)

looking ahead

Now that you've had a look back at some of the highlights of 2022, please enjoy this overview of some exciting new developments for the next 12 months.

We are proud to receive funding from the state of Maryland to provide **SHINE grants** to humanities organizations, supporting their initiatives. Drawing from our experience with distributing funds to our grantees and lessons learned from our surveys, we will reach out to humanities organizations that we might not have connected with in the past or did not think their cultural initiatives could be funded. We will also develop resources that organizations can use to learn more about our application process. In this way, we ensure that our grantees can use our funds to continue doing great work, while utilizing the lessons learned and resources to expand their initiatives.

The **Regional Humanities Network (RHN)** serves as a space where organizations from different sectors, such as community organizations, universities, colleges, libraries, museums, and historical societies, can come together to share resources, discuss challenges they are facing in their respective areas, and find solutions. The RHN will conduct listening sessions to learn from our partners about patterns and explore opportunities. Our findings will inform our efforts to adapt, build trust, and engage intentionally.

Recent census data indicate that about 15 percent of Maryland's population is made up of immigrants, many

of whom speak languages other than English. Given the role of Maryland Humanities in the state, we understand that we cannot operate in isolation from the human right of **language access**. Maryland Humanities has already begun assessing its language access needs. For instance, we met with six community leaders to understand the different services they offer to multilingual audiences. We are excited to develop a language plan that will allow us to identify multilingual communities and determine what materials should be translated or provide interpreters at our events.

Maryland Humanities will organize a summit, **United We Stand**, to address issues related to information and media literacy while examining the negative effects of media on mental health. This summit is the result of our previous experience spearheading one in 2018, which was well-received by our participants. Maryland Humanities will invite experts and provide participants with tools for analyzing the news.

Racial Equity continues to be an important aspect of Maryland Humanities' internal and external policies, practices, and programming. We will focus on operationalizing workshops for our staff, creating healthy habits for the workplace, and implementing frameworks for collaboration.

Maryland Humanities' grantee Imagination Stage collected immigrant and refugee youth stories and produced a play about immigration. The play, "Linda y Libre," was an extension of its "¡Óyeme!" initiative with the Montgomery County Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS), focusing on immigrant and refugee youth. *Read more about this compelling story online.*



"LINDA Y LIBRE"

donors

Thanks to our generous donors, we are able to keep hundreds of annual program activities – more than 1,100 during FY22 – free and accessible to all. This list reflects gifts and pledges received between November 1, 2021 and October 31, 2022. Individual contributors to the annual fund of \$1,000 or more are members of our Leadership Circle. *Please call (410) 685-0095 to notify us of any errors.*

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17,530
SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

26,365
VIDEO VIEWS

799
IN-PERSON EVENTS

financials

Statement of Financial Position FY2022

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	\$ 1,954,336
Accounts Receivable	809,888
Other	21,972
Total Current Assets	2,786,196
Fixed Assets	20,569
Other Assets	2,500

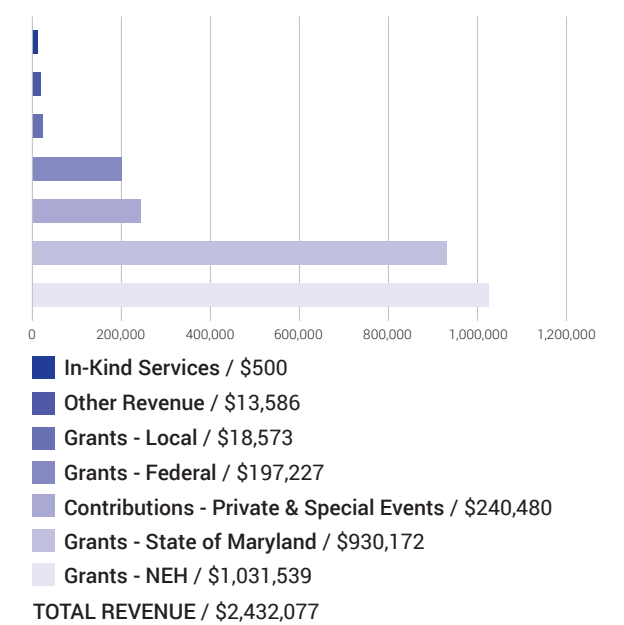
Total Assets **\$ 2,809,264**

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

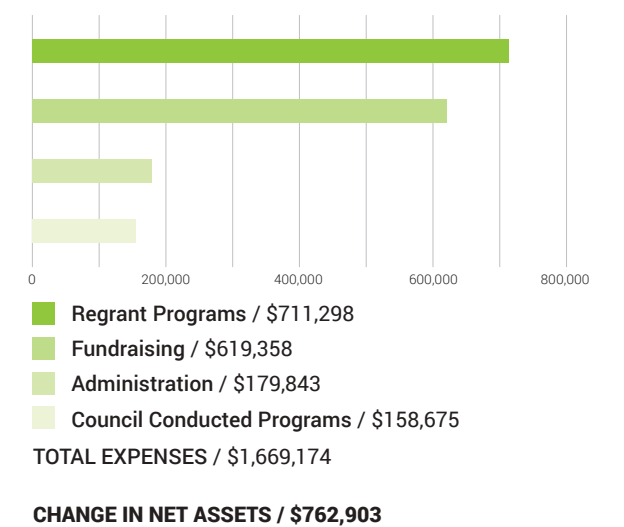
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$ 52,317
Credit Cards	4,432
Other	58,933
Total Current Liabilities	115,682
Long-Term Liabilities	9,597
Total Liabilities	125,279
Net Assets	2,683,985

Total Liabilities and Net Assets **\$ 2,809,264**

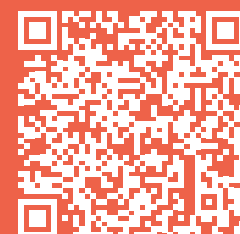
REVENUE



EXPENSES



SHARP grantee Writers in Baltimore Schools (WBS) used their grant funds to sustain their school-year writing programs at six Baltimore City schools. This photo pictures WBS alumni who served as instructors last year. The retreat provided an opportunity for the alumni to spend time with their own writing after focusing so much on becoming writing instructors. *Read more about this compelling story online.*



WBS RETREAT

The 1619 Project creator Nikole Hannah-Jones was a keynote author at partner CityLit Project's Spring 2022 CityLit Festival. The live and virtual signature event, which celebrates readers and writers, resonated with participants, including Maryland Humanities Board member and writer Saima Sitwat. Sitwat also organized the panel, "Becoming American," which consisted of conversations and panel discussions with immigrant women in Maryland. *Read more on our website.*



CITYLIT FESTIVAL



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Maryland Humanities' Grantees and Partners, along with additional program highlights can be found on our website. Follow the QR code to link to the online version.



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