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## Michigan Humanities Council Launches New Website

(LANSING)-----The Michigan Humanities Council announces it has launched a new design of its website, [www.michiganhumanities.org](http://www.michiganhumanities.org). The new website was created to enhance the image of the Council as one of Michigan's prominent cultural programming organizations and to respond to the public's need to better access information about engaging in public humanities programs.

"The Michigan Humanities Council is pleased to present a website with a new look," stated Jan Fedewa, executive director of the Michigan Humanities Council. "We are hopeful the public and the cultural community find our website friendly and easy to navigate."

New features include a site-wide search engine, a Google calendar of events integrating all of the Council's grants programs, and a database of the Council's grant awards. The website also features an enhanced Directory of Humanities Professionals, in which the public can access nearly 300 Michigan-based professionals who have expertise in the wide variety of disciplines in the humanities – among the most comprehensive directories of its kind in the country. The new website has a media archive featuring audio and video clips from the award-winning Arts & Humanities Media Project in collaboration with the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, Michigan Radio, and Michigan Television. Other features include access to grant information, public humanities programming, and news items.

"The new site leverages multiple technologies to provide improved features for visitors and enhanced administration tools for Michigan Humanities Council staff," said Adam Richardson of Envision Internet Consulting, LLC, of Lansing, Michigan, who created the databases, architecture, and technical aspects of the new website. "Site visitors will benefit from Yahoo! Search and from Google Calendar. Council staff can now use a simple administrative tool that centralizes management of the various web technologies, automates common tasks (e.g., RSS feeds), and augments services with customized information (e.g., additional event details that Google Calendar could not accommodate) using the Nephtali web framework."

The Michigan Humanities Council, founded in 1974, is a private, non-profit organization, funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities. For additional information, please visit: [www.michiganhumanities.org](http://www.michiganhumanities.org) or call 517-372-7770.

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