FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 7, 2020

CONTACT: James Nelson
Phone: 517-372-7770
jnelson@mihumanities.org

Michigan Humanities grants over $660,000 of CARES Act funding to 116 cultural and community nonprofits

LANSING, MI—Michigan Humanities is pleased to announce $661,085 in emergency CARES Act funding to 116 Michigan cultural and community organizations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Michigan Humanities Organizations Pandemic Emergency Grants (MI H.O.P.E.) of up to $10,000 provided general operating support, with an emphasis on maintaining personnel, in 53 counties across Michigan.

“We strive to be a pillar of support for organizations around the state to be able to do their humanities work,” said Shelly Hendrick Kasprzycki, president and CEO of Michigan Humanities. “We’re proud of how efficiently we were able to disburse the CARES Act funding across the state and how broadly we were able to grant these emergency dollars to so many of the cultural and humanities organizations of Michigan.”

Through funding provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, MI H.O.P.E. Grants were available to museums, libraries, archives, historic sites, and other humanities-focused nonprofits in Michigan and could be used for eligible general operating support expenses impacted by the pandemic, including salaries and fringe benefits, rent and mortgage payments, and utilities.

“Small historical societies play an important role in protecting and preserving the historical record and interpreting the past to the public. Many of these societies, like ours, are tiny, underfunded, and understaffed,” said Cindy Willson, membership director and grant coordinator at Millington-Arabela Historical Society. “Some will not survive this pandemic, losing precious local artifacts and local culture. However, with the funds provided by the H.O.P.E. grant, we will
be able to keep the doors open, paying basic core operating expenses like water, electricity, heat and building insurance.”

A total of 306 applications were received, with a total of $2.5 million in requests. The full list of grant recipients by county can be found below. Applications were open April and May, and reviewed on a weekly basis to ensure grantees received funding within two weeks of application. All payments have been disbursed.

Michigan Humanities works to inspire communities to come together in creative and freely expressed ways to deepen our understanding of ourselves and others, and for all people of Michigan to experience and understand the importance of humanities. For more information on available grants and programs, visit michiganhumanities.org.

###

**About the Michigan Humanities**

As one of 56 state (and territories) humanities councils in the country, Michigan Humanities was founded in 1974 as a result of federal legislation. Funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, Michigan Humanities also actively seeks grants, sponsorships and individual donations to further support cultural programming for Michigan communities.

**Mission**

To inspire us to come together in creative and freely expressed ways to deepen our understanding of ourselves and enrich our communities.

**Vision**

For all people of Michigan to experience and understand the importance of humanities to enrich lives.

**Values**

- Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity
- Discovery and Understanding
- Authentic Conversation
- Respectful Collaboration
- Meaningful Experiences

**Pillars**

- Build awareness and excitement for humanities in everyday life.
• Achieve best practices and sustainability for all humanities programs and services in Michigan.

For more information on future programs, upcoming grant opportunities or how you can support these efforts, please visit www.michiganhumanities.org or call (517) 372-7770.

###
MI HOPE Grant Recipients by County:

**Alcona**
Alcona County Library $5,000.00
Curtis Township Library $7,500.00

**Allegan**
Holland Historical Trust $5,000.00
Saugatuck- Douglas History Center $5,000.00

**Alpena**
Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan $5,000.00
Friends of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary $7,500.00

**Antrim**
Bellaire Public Library $5,000.00

**Barry**
Midwest Miniatures Museum $5,000.00

**Benzie**
Benzonia Public Library $7,500.00
Elizabeth Lane Oliver Center for the Arts $5,000.00

**Berrien**
Eau Claire District Library $5,000.00
Heritage Museum and Cultural Center $7,500.00
Maud Preston Palenske Library $5,000.00
Berrien County Historical Association $5,000.00
Long Haul Productions $7,500.00
Berrien Springs Community Library $5,000.00

Branch
Branch County Historical Society $1,385.00

Calhoun
Kingman Museum Inc $5,000.00

Cass
Dowagiac Area History Museum $10,000.00
Underground Railroad Society of Cass County $10,000.00
Marcellus Township Wood Memorial Library $7,500.00

Charlevoix
Beaver Island Historical Society $10,000.00
Raven Hill Discovery Center $7,500.00

Chippewa
Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society $5,000.00

Clare
Surrey Township Public Library $5,000.00
Dickinson
Dickinson County Library $5,000.00

Emmet
Alanson Area Public Library $5,000.00
Crooked Tree Arts Council $5,000.00
Little Traverse History Museum $5,890.00
Mackinaw Area Public Library $5,000.00
Northland Library Cooperative $5,000.00

Genesee
Youth Arts: Unlocked $7,500.00

Gogebic
Bessemer Public Library $7,500.00
Ironwood Carnegie Library $5,100.00

Grand Traverse
City Opera House Heritage Association $7,500.00
Great Lakes Children's Museum $2,500.00
Northwestern Michigan College $5,000.00

Hillsdale
Camden Township Library $2,745.00
Hillsdale Community Library $5,000.00
**Houghton**

Quincy Mine Hoist Association $5,000.00
Real People Media $6,835.00

**Huron**

Harbor Beach Area District Library $5,000.00

**Ingham**

East Lansing Public Library $5,000.00
Nokomis Cultural Heritage Center $5,225.00

**Ionia**

Lake Odessa Community Library $7,500.00

**Jackson**

Ella Sharp Museum $5,000.00
Grass Lake Area Historical Connections $5,000.00

**Kalamazoo**

Speak It Forward Inc. $5,000.00
Vicksburg Historical Society $695.00

**Kalkaska**

Title Track $2,500.00
Kent
Cedar Springs Public Library $7,500.00
Ebony Road Players $5,000.00
Lowell Area Historical Museum $5,000.00
The Diatribe $10,000.00
Grand Rapids African American Museum and Archives $10,000.00
Grandville Avenue Arts & Humanities $7,880.00

Leelanau
Leelanau Historical Society $5,000.00
Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum $5,000.00

Lenawee
Clinton Township Public Library $5,000.00
Tecumseh Area Historical Society, Inc. $2,000.00
The William G. Thompson House Museum $5,700.00
Stair District Library $5,000.00

Luce
Tahquamenon Area Library $5,000.00

Mackinac
Mackinac Island Public Library $7,500.00
Michilimackinac Historical Society $10,000.00
Museum of Ojibwa Culture $10,000.00
Macomb
Macomb County Historical Society & Crocker House Museum $7,500.00

Marquette
Cedar Tree Institute $5,000.00
Marquette Regional History Center $6,000.00
Negaunee Public Library $7,400.00

Mason
Mason County Historical Society Research Library $7,500.00
Sable Points Lighthouse Keeper Association $7,500.00

Mecosta
Artworks: Big Rapids Area Arts and Humanities $7,500.00
Morton Township Library $6,300.00

Midland
Coleman Area Library $7,500.00

Missaukee
Missaukee District Library $7,000.00

Montcalm
Richland Township Library $5,000.00
White Pine Library $5,000.00
**Muskegon**
Muskegon Museum of Art Foundation $5,000.00
USS Silversides Submarine Museum $5,000.00

**Newaygo**
Newaygo County Museum and Heritage Center $6,685.00
White Cloud Community Library $5,000.00

**Oakland**
Affirmations LGBTQ Community Center $2,500.00
Chaldean Cultural Center $5,000.00
Milford Historical Society $7,500.00
Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society $10,000.00
PuppetART $5,000.00
Troy Historical Society $5,000.00
Huron Valley Council for the Arts $7,500.00

**Oceana**
Pentwater Township Library $4,300.00

**Ontonagon**
Carp Lake Township Library $6,000.00
Presque Isle
Presque Isle District Library $2,500.00

**Roscommon**
Houghton Lake Public Library $5,000.00

**Saginaw**

Friends of Theodore Roethke Foundation $5,000.00
Japanese Cultural Center Tea House & Garden of Saginaw $5,000.00
Saginaw Art Museum dba Temple Arts $2,500.00
White Pine Library Cooperative $5,000.00
Merrill District Library $5,000.00

**Sanilac**

Sanilac County Historical Society $7,500.00

**Tuscola**

Bullard Sanford Memorial Library $2,500.00
Millington-Arbela Historical Society $2,025.00

**Van Buren**

Paw Paw District Library $4,000.00
South Haven Scott Club $1,400.00
Van Buren District Library $5,000.00

**Washtenaw**

Argus Museum/Washtenaw County Historical Society $2,500.00
Wild Swan Theater $5,000.00

**Wayne**
Dearborn Historical Museum $6,600.00
Garden City Public Library $5,000.00
A Host of People $5,000.00
ACCESS (parent to the Arab American National Museum) $5,000.00
Detroit Experience Factory $7,500.00
Detroit Public Theatre $5,000.00
Friends of Historical Hamtramck $7,420.00
Plowshares Theatre Company $10,000.00
Yankee Air Force/ Yankee Air Museum $5,000.00

**Wexford**

Mid-Michigan Library League $5,000.00