

IHC awards \$70,000 in grants

The Idaho Humanities Council awarded \$70,443 in grants to organizations and individuals at its fall board meeting in Boise. Twenty-five awards include ten grants for public humanities programs, four Research Fellowships, four Teacher Incentive Grants, and seven planning grants. The grants were supported in part by funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities “We the People” program and IHC’s Endowment for Humanities Education. The following projects were funded:

**Lewis-Clark State College (Lewiston)** received \$2,000 for the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Native American Awareness Week, March 7-11, 2011. This event featured PowWows, panel discussions, storytelling, a banquet, and speaker presentations designed to increase awareness of Native American cultures. The project director is **Bob Sobotta**.



Coeur d’Alene tribal member Jeanne Givens (L) and her sister Sue Garry offered a keynote to the “Journey for Peace and Human Rights” institute in Coeur d’Alene last November.

**Human Rights Education Institute (Coeur d’Alene)** was awarded \$4,500 to help support a series of Chautauqua presentations in November titled “Journey for Peace and Human Rights from 1850-Present.” Nine performances featured portrayals of Sojourner Truth, Abraham Lincoln, Eleanor Roosevelt, Susan B. Anthony, Mother Jones, Mohandas Gandhi, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Coeur d’Alene Chief Ignace Hayden Garry, and a 19<sup>th</sup> century “Buffalo Soldier.” The project director was **Tony Stewart**.

**Wallace District Mining Museum (Wallace)** received \$4,750 for the third year of their collection automation project designed to improve collections management, expand accessibility, and improve interpretation. The museum is digitizing its entire collection of artifacts, photographs, and historical paper ephemera related to the mining history of the Silver Valley. The project director is **Jim McReynolds**.



Author Jamie Ford visits Kootenai County in March.

**Community Library Network (Hayden)** was awarded \$8,000 from NEH “We the People” funds for a regional reading program involving 15 area libraries. Participants will read *The Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford, about Japanese-American internment during World War II. Several public presentations, including three readings and talks by Ford, a jazz concert exploring the role of music culturally and historically for Japanese Americans in Idaho, and lectures about Japanese-American internment will be held in February and March 2011. Ford made three presentations March 15-16. The project director is **Karen Yother**.

**Idaho Public Television (Statewide)** received \$12,500 for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Season of the award-winning series *American Experience*. Along with the rebroadcast of some programs, new shows to air this season include documentaries on America’s unique religious landscape in *God in America* (a six-part series), a biography of Robert E. Lee, the story of the gay rights movement in the U.S., the history of the Panama Canal, and the story of the Freedom Riders during America’s civil rights movement. The project director is **Penny Traylor**.

**Rocky Mountain Writers Festival (Pocatello)** was awarded \$1,000 to help support special speakers at the 2011 festival March 9-12, 2011. Titled “Combining History with Fantasy: The New Historical Narrative,” speakers included writer Karen Joy Fowler and Brian Attebery, Idaho State University English Professor and co-editor (with Ursula K. Le Guin) of *The Norton Book of Science Fiction*. Along with Fowler’s books, they will explore works by Molly Gloss, Michael Chabon,

(See GRANTS, Page 5

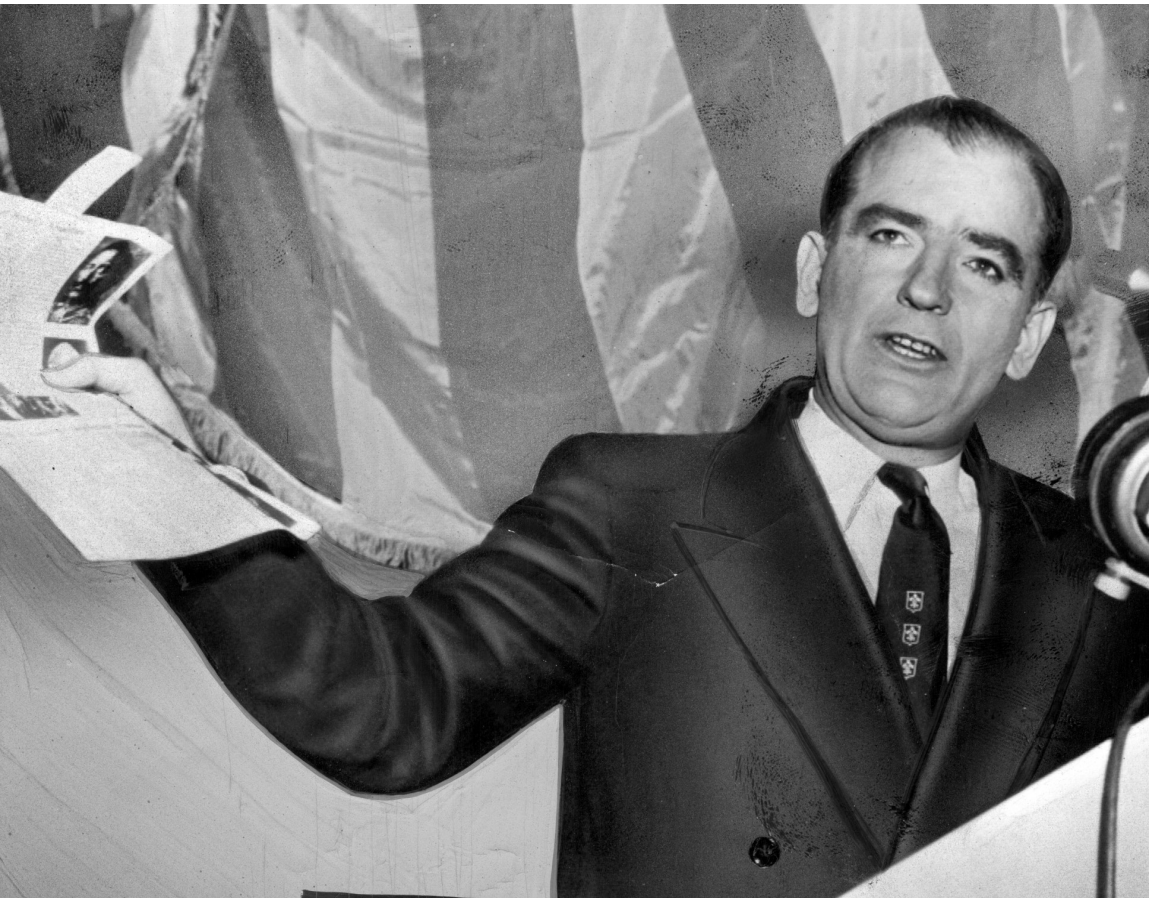
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Remembering the Great Fear:  
McCarthyism and Repression  
in America

By David Gray Adler  
James A. McClure Professor  
University of Idaho



Senator Joe McCarthy alleged that communists had infiltrated Hollywood, the U.S. military, and some of the highest offices of government.

**Editor’s note:** The Idaho Humanities Council will host a weeklong summer institute for K-12 teachers, July 24-29, 2011, at the College of Idaho in Caldwell, exploring the history of the Cold War in the 1950s, entitled ‘Are You Now, or Have You Ever Been . . .’: Fear, Suspicion, and Incivility in Cold War America (see related article, page 4). In anticipation of that institute, we asked one of our institute’s lead scholars, Constitution scholar David Gray Adler, director of the University of Idaho’s James A. & Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research, to reflect on the theme and perhaps give a glimpse of what’s in store for teachers this summer.

“Are you now, or have you ever been . . . a member of the Communist Party?”

In the broad sweep of American political history few phrases, and still fewer questions, resonate in our collective consciousness as sharply as this period-defining inquiry posed to witnesses called before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, known by supporters and opponents alike as “The Committee.” Books, films, plays, essays, lectures and op-ed pieces, as well as scores of coffee house courts and barroom rants have discussed, analyzed and debated the virtues and vices of this query, at once the principal manifestation of repressive governmental action and the most conspicuous domestic symbol of the Cold War. Defenders viewed “the question” as critical to the preservation of liberty, national security and the Constitution, an efficient and necessary means of rooting out communists and subversives committed to the destruc-

tion of the United States and American Democracy. Critics regarded it as a witch-hunting dagger, brandished before witnesses for the immediate purpose of chilling dissent and curbing challenges to governmental policies and programs, and for the larger goal of establishing “Americanism,” which championed governmental determination of politically correct opinions, values and truths.

Most immortal political phrases, justly celebrated for their poetry, elegance and insights, inspire and stir the citizenry to action and greatness. The immortality of Thomas Jefferson’s exaltation of natural rights in the Declaration of Independence—“We hold these truths to be self-evident”—etched in the memory of citizens from the cottages of New England to the cabins of Idaho, charted not only a path for the American Revolution but a political creed for humanity. Abraham Lincoln’s majestic Second Inaugural Address, an urgent appeal to Americans’ better angels—“With malice toward none and charity for all”—sought grace for a nation consumed by the fires of war and retribution in the earnest hope of restoring the Union. Franklin D. Roosevelt’s stewardship found its voice in reassurance—“We have nothing to fear but fear itself”—and lifted the chin of a beleaguered nation, dazed and knocked to its knees by economic calamity. John F. Kennedy pointed to the moon and stirred a new generation to action: “Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.” Martin Luther King’s aspirations for humanity, punctuated by the most moving speech ever delivered on American soil—“I have a dream that someday . . . men will be judged not by the color of their skin but by the content of

(See GREAT FEAR, Page 3)

From the Director

# Save the public humanities: Contact Idaho's congressional delegation today

By Rick Ardinger

At a recent meeting with directors from several other state humanities councils, my colleague from Indiana posed a question to get our conversation going: "Imagine that your state council suddenly found itself with \$10 million—how would you put this money to use?" The question caught us all off guard, as we are all so used to thinking the opposite—how to keep our programs going with extremely modest budgets, shoestring level funding, or, worse, how we'd deal with a significant cut in our federal funding. Each of us dreamed about how better to meet the needs of our states, how best to help teachers, how to help our public libraries and museums, and how to better enhance public understanding of literature, history, philosophy, and other humanities disciplines. The exercise was useful, if only to spark a conversation about why the humanities matter at all. Unfortunately, what Congress proposes for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) this year and next is slashing millions from its already meager budget, meaning a potentially severe reduction in support to the Idaho Humanities Council.

I keep reminding readers that the IHC is a nonprofit organization (not a state agency!) that receives a relatively modest annual grant from the NEH, a federal agency. Last year, the entire budget for the NEH was only \$167 million, which amounts to about 1/21,000<sup>th</sup> of one percent of the national budget. Of that \$167 million, about \$40 million was divided among the 56 humanities councils in the states and territories, based on a formula that takes into account the state's population.

For Idaho, that formula yielded less than \$600,000 for the IHC in 2010—not a huge amount of money for a statewide program, from which we award grants to libraries, museums, and other cultural organizations, support programs that benefit K-12 teachers and their students, send scholars to lecture in some of Idaho's most



remote communities, promote research, bring library reading/discussion programs and Smithsonian traveling exhibits to some of Idaho's most humanities-hungry communities, and bring nationally recognized historians, novelists, journalists, and other writers to Idaho to speak to the value of lifelong learning in the humanities.

Every federal dollar awarded in grants is matched at least four to one in Idaho to make many projects and programs happen from Bear Lake to Bonners Ferry. For many of the organizations that currently rely on IHC support, there are few options other than the IHC to complete the important—often thankless—public educational work they do. Many IHC-funded programs bring rippling economic benefits to Idaho in the form of cultural tourism.

What impact on the federal deficit will slashing the budget of the NEH have? It would amount to a flyspeck in the scheme of things, simply a symbolic cut that will especially hurt small states like Idaho.

Idaho's Congressional delegation needs to hear from Idahoans today about their support for the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Idaho Humanities Council. Through this spring (and most of this year), Congress will debate ways to cut federal spending. Congressman Mike Simpson chairs the House Interior Appropriations Committee, which recommendations the funding level for the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Let Idaho's Congressional delegation today know how important this funding is for Idaho. ♦

Congressman Mike Simpson  
[www.simpson.house.gov](http://www.simpson.house.gov)

Congressman Raul Labrador  
[www.labrador.house.gov](http://www.labrador.house.gov)

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[www.crapo.senate.gov](http://www.crapo.senate.gov)

Senator Jim Risch  
[www.risch.senate.gov](http://www.risch.senate.gov)

## Four new members elected to IHC board begin three-year terms



**Margo Aragon**  
Lewiston



**Mike Kennedy**  
Coeur d'Alene



**Jenny Emery Davidson**  
Hailey



**Ed Marohn**  
Idaho Falls

The Board of Directors of the IHC has elected four new board members to its 20-member board from **Lewiston, Coeur d'Alene, Hailey** and **Idaho Falls** to serve three-year terms. The new members attended their first meeting in February 2011.

**Margo Aragon (Lewiston)** is a freelance journalist and college instructor for both Walla Walla Community College in Clarkston, Washington, and the Northwest Indian College in Lapwai, Idaho. Margo holds an M.A. degree in journalism from the University of Memphis and an MFA in writing and literature from Bennington College in Vermont. A few years ago she collaborated with Nez Perce elder Horace Axtell on the memoir *A Little Bit of Wisdom: Conversations with a Nez Perce Elder*, and worked with Axtell to translate the oldest printed book in the Pacific Northwest, *Nez Perces First Book: Designed for Children and New Beginners*. She currently is president of the Idaho Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists and also serves as a trustee on the Western States Arts Federation.

**Mike Kennedy (Coeur d'Alene)** is president of Intermax Networks and serves as a City Councilman in Coeur d'Alene. He fills a northern Idaho public position vacancy. Mike holds a B.A. in political science from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Coeur d'Alene Library Foundation and the Summer Theater, among other community activities. Additionally, he is a founding board member of Catholic Charities of Idaho, and serves on the board for the North Idaho Housing Coalition.

**Jenny Emery Davidson (Hailey)** is the Blaine County Campus Director for the College of Southern Idaho campus

in Hailey. She fills an eastern Idaho academic position vacancy. Jenny holds a Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Utah and her writing and research has focused on the literature of the American West and environmental literature. For the past 10 years, she has worked at CSI as an English instructor as well as the campus director. Last year, she was a Fulbright Fellow in Guanajuato, Mexico, where she taught American literature and studied Mexican literature, film, history, and culture. Recently she wrote an essay about working on a BLM range fire crew that was published in an IHC-funded anthology of essays about fire, titled *Forged in Fire: Essays by Idaho Writers*, edited by Mary Clearman Blew and Phil Druker.

**Ed Marohn (Idaho Falls)** is a retired executive with 30 years experience with Continental Tire North America. He fills an eastern Idaho public position vacancy. Ed holds an M.A. degree in Counseling and Guidance from the University of Nevada and a B.A. degree in political science with a minor in history from the University of Idaho. He also served for 10 years as a Captain in the U.S. Army.

The IHC board is comprised of Academic, Public, and At-Large members representing all regions of the state (N, SW, and SE). Four members are appointed by the governor. Terms are three years, renewable once. Several members rotate off the board each fall as terms expire and new members are elected. The IHC board will fill two vacancies in the fall of 2011. ♦

# IDAHO Humanities COUNCIL

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The Idaho Humanities Council, a nonprofit organization, receives funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and from other foundations, private corporations, and individuals. IHC's mission is to increase the awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the humanities in Idaho. It accomplishes this through educational projects for the general public and various target audiences. The Council plans and conducts projects on its own and in concert with other organizations such as universities, colleges, libraries, civic clubs, professional associations, historical societies and museums, and other cultural, educational, and community entities. IHC also provides grant support for humanities projects throughout Idaho.

Opinions expressed in *Idaho Humanities* do not necessarily reflect views of the Idaho Humanities Council or the National Endowment for the Humanities.

**MISSION STATEMENT**  
The mission of the Idaho Humanites Council is to  
deepen understanding of  
human experience by  
connecting people  
with ideas.



Roy M. Cohn (second from right) confers with Sen. Joe McCarthy during a break in hearings about alleged communist infiltration of the U.S. military.

their character”—established an irresistible moral standard for the United States.

If the question—“Are you now, or have you ever been, a member of the Communist Party”—lacked the elegance, inspirational and aspirational qualities of those immortal phrases, a recognition, perhaps, of the grim realities that America faced, as its defenders would argue, it nevertheless raised questions of profound importance: Has the state a role in shaping and controlling the views and values of the citizenry? If so, what is the scope of the state’s authority in that capacity? How should the United States strike a proper balance between the maintenance of its national security and its duty to preserve and protect constitutional principles, including civil rights and civil liberties?—a question with which the nation has wrestled, periodically, as seen, for example, in its struggles in the Quasi-War with France (1798-1800), and in World Wars I and II and, in our own time, since the attack on America on September 11, 2001. Is it permissible if, indeed, it is possible, for the government to sacrifice or violate constitutional principles and republican values in the name of saving the republic?

“The question,” surely the most notorious ever asked by a congressional committee, was born of fear and insecurity, and lacked the wholesome characteristics, the confidence in humanity and the soaring aspirations that have characterized our most memorable political phrases. It appealed to our darker impulses and a fantasy of security derived from uniformity of opinion; it promoted, not freedom, but tyranny for, at bottom, it represented an assault on freedom of thought and expression of opinion. Even some critics of The Committee could share, for example, its fears and concerns about ruthless conspiracies, plots and acts aimed at the violent overthrow of the government, but not its open-angled attack on dissenters. But those fears supplied little camouflage for its efforts to still the voices of dissent. More than anything else, “the question” shook the foundations of republicanism, as eloquently expressed by Justice Robert H. Jackson who, in his landmark opinion for the United States Supreme Court in the 1943 flag-salute case of *West Virginia Board of Education v. Barnette*, stated: “If there is any fixed star in our constitutional constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion or force citizens to confess by word or act their faith therein.” It was “the question” which, emphatically, sought to impose on the citizenry a prescription for political orthodoxy. That, precisely, was why critics of The Committee transposed the letters of its acronym and cleverly dubbed it “HUAC”—the House Un-American Activities Committee, for there was in its efforts to coerce uniformity of opinion no clearer manifestation of “Un-American” activities.

No question in our nation’s history has so clearly

and symbolically defined the politics of a period, known ever since as “McCarthyism,” in quite the way the question of that season defined the Cold War and the 1950s. Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin was surely the most visible face of the repression that characterized America in those years, and while his antics were reprehensible, he nevertheless represented only one of several key cogs in the wheel that rolled over fundamental values of freedom and democracy.

Senator McCarthy, it is familiar, exploded on the political scene and the national consciousness on February 9, 1950 when, in a speech in Wheeling, West Virginia, he accused the State Department of harboring 205 Communists. National headlines proved for him to be a heady brew, and for the next four years he delivered in a riot of demagoguery speech after speech in which he warned of known Communists haunting the precincts of governmental departments. From city to city, in his speeches across the country, McCarthy exercised the creative prerogatives of the novelist. His assertions of “known” communists harbored within this or that department, varied widely, as did the number of “Reds,” who enjoyed sanctuary within their walls. His speeches, grounded in fiction, terrified the populace and provided for governmental officials a measure of justification for their repressive programs and policies. Until his censure by the Senate in 1954, McCarthy was an intimidating bully, whose schoolyard seemed boundless. McCarthy, too, was symbolic of the sweeping intolerance of dissent and the allure of a nation in pursuit of “Americanism.”

That he was a Republican was of no moment; Democrats were just as engaged in the search for the Holy Grail of unanimity. Tom Clark, appointed by President Harry Truman to the office of U.S. Attorney General, expressed for many in Washington the desire for uniformity in a 1948 address to the Cathedral Club of Brooklyn: “Those who do not believe in the ideology of the United States, shall not be allowed to stay in the United States.” Clark, who was subsequently elevated to the United States Supreme Court by Truman, was said to have believed that even a single disloyal or subversive citizen threatened the democratic process.

Perhaps, for reasons involving its infamy, “the question” will never be rivaled. It has acquired in the memories of the politically conscious, a certain immortality—for its audacity and effrontery, its marked irreverence for the Constitution and its attack on the First Amendment’s guarantee of freedom of speech. It epitomized a regrettable time in America, a time when the Bill of Rights itself lost many of its zealous defenders as fears of communism overwhelmed the good sensibilities of men and women as well as organizations historically devoted to the defense of broad freedoms and liberties. There were rationales, of course, for Americans’ tempered defense of the Great Freedoms. Some saw in the programs and policies of the Soviet Union—the creation of its own atomic

bomb and its expansion in Eastern Europe—as well as other events and developments, including the “loss” of China, the Alger Hiss case and the disclosure of a Soviet spy ring in the upper echelons of the Canadian government, an inexorable world-wide march of communism destined to encircle Washington and enslave America. These developments, exaggerated and exploited by various politicians for self-aggrandizement, and touted by others who held genuine fears of the Russian Bear, contributed to a climate of suspicion and fear in which critics and dissenters were seen as subversives which, in the scheme of things, ineluctably led to their being branded as communists. Criticism of American foreign policy in the Truman and Eisenhower years, particularly as it pertained to the Soviet Union, invited governmental scrutiny and investigation of citizens’ views and values and, more than occasionally, the loss of passport privileges and the right to travel abroad. A host of governmental programs designed to discern disloyalty among the citizenry, instituted by both the legislative and executive branches, awaited the dissenter. Viewed in this light, perhaps, it was understandable that Americans might retreat from vigorous discussion and debate of pressing issues in the public square, long regarded as essential to Jeffersonian Democracy.

Those who didn’t, the record reveals, faced grim challenges and circumstances imposed by governmental committees, boards and investigative units, with few good options. Subpoenas from HUAC, for example, led to a medley of bizarre questions, and, not infrequently, contempt charges, humiliation, public excoriation, loss of employment and loss of friendships. A female witness might be asked, for example, if she owned a “red” dress. Possession of such an article, it was believed by members of The Committee, shed light on the politics and loyalty of the witness. Another was asked if he lived in a “red brick” home. Others were asked if they slept on the floor for the purpose of staying in touch with common folk, a question made relevant, apparently, by virtue of the fact that communism was said to appeal to the poor throughout the world. Another witness was asked if he read the popular magazine, *National Geographic*. Readers of that magazine, declared the legislator, are “deep-thinking types.” Deep-thinkers, he concluded, are dangerous to America.

The Committee was notorious, of course, for its effort to secure from witnesses their own solemn pledge of loyalty to the United States. The ultimate test of loyalty was found in the willingness of witnesses to “name names” of those whom they believed to be disloyal, subversive or sympathetic to communism. Failure to offer up names often carried a contempt charge. In an effort to avoid contempt charges and jail time, many witnesses chose to “name names,” even if their targets were neither disloyal nor subversive. As critics observed, witnesses sold their souls to avoid persecution, even if it meant that their selfishness created a parade of horrors for those whom they implicated. Those who were “named” were, in time, subpoenaed by The Committee and the cycle continued. The stigma of being “named” entailed sweeping consequences. It frequently resulted, for example, in the loss of one’s job. The taint of suspicion rendered subsequent employment extremely difficult, as “guilt by association” was in full sprint and traversed the landscape. Friendships were dissolved, careers destroyed and lives ruined.

Witnesses called before HUAC had virtually no viable sanctuary, politically or legally. Those, for example, who sought to invoke Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination were dubbed “Fifth Amendment Communists,” and fired by their employers and banished by former friends. Witnesses who sought in the First Amendment’s Free Speech Clause protection from committee questions, received no reprieve and were held in contempt of Congress. For its part, the Supreme Court afforded witnesses little or no help with its rulings that exalted the congressional power of inquiry over free speech protections as long as committee questions were pertinent to a congressional function. The Court, predictably, accorded broad deference to congressional determination of its powers and functions.

The Committee’s methods of coercion and intimidation proved effective, to be sure. Occasionally, however, HUAC was confronted with a witness whose wit, intelligence and stubbornness proved an equal match, as in its encounter with the indomitable

(See *GREAT FEAR*, Page 4)



Asked by HUAC to offer names of any communists she knew, playwright Lillian Hellman is said to have responded, “I cannot and will not cut my conscience to fit this year’s fashions.” She was later blacklisted from working in Hollywood.

spirit of Lillian Hellman, a prominent playwright, who refused to participate in the loathsome practice of naming names. Called before the panel to answer questions about her trip to Moscow in 1934, and her “association” with the “subversive” crime and mystery writer, Dashiell Hammett, the creator of the “Thin Man,” with whom she had lived for 30 years, Hellman displayed a fighting spirit that undermined the efforts of her inquisitors. Shortly after assuming the presidency, Franklin D. Roosevelt normalized relations with the Soviet Union. Consistent with international law, the United States and the Soviet Union exchanged ambassadors and foreign ministers. In an act of friendship, FDR also sent Hellman to Moscow as a goodwill emissary. It was a trip without consequence until, years later, when The Committee decided to investigate the motives and purposes of Hellman’s trip to Russia.

Hellman’s appearance before The Committee was reflective of the hundreds that preceded hers. The transcript reveals that the Committee was intent on determining her loyalty to the United States. In accordance with procedure, the Chairman asked Hellman “the question.” She replied that she was not a communist. That prompted the Chairman to ask why she had traveled to Moscow. She explained that President Roosevelt asked her to represent the United States as

a goodwill emissary. The Chairman repeated his question, and Hellman repeated her explanation, repeatedly it should be noted. Generally persuaded by her answers that she was, indeed, loyal to the United States, the Chairman sought proof: “if you are loyal to the United States, prove it by naming those persons whom you believe to be communists, or are sympathetic to communism.” At this juncture, Hellman found herself in a vulnerable state. She informed the Committee that, while she was willing to discuss her own political views and associations, she was unwilling to talk about others. If the Committee insisted on asking her questions about the activities of others she would invoke the Fifth Amendment and the Committee would get nothing from her. Unlike others, she refused to name names and, in a moment of defiance, declared to HUAC in a memorable statement crafted by her attorney, Paul Porter, of the prominent Washington law firm of Arnold and Porter: “I cannot and will not cut my conscience to fit this year’s fash-

ions.” Despite her arrangement with the Committee, Hellman was subjected to the “Hollywood Blacklist” and reduced to working at Bloomingdale’s as a sales girl for a period of time.

HUAC was only one of several governmental agencies and programs, at both the federal and state levels, that targeted dissenters. Scholars have disagreed on the issue of “which” program was more fraught with mischief and malice, but their names are notorious: the Attorney General’s List, the Hollywood Blacklist, the Loyalty Order Review Board, and, among others, the various loyalty oaths required of school teachers and other state employees. Individually, and in combination, these governmental programs conducted investigations into the political views and opinions of American citizens, a claim to power thought by virtue of the First Amendment to be beyond the reach of government. They instilled in Americans what the writer, David Cate, has aptly described as “The Great Fear.”

The complexities and debates about the Cold War, including its causes, implications and lessons, continue to absorb the wit and energies of scholars, pundits and politicians. The palpable dangers of the Cold War, reflected in the deep-seated military, political and economic hostility between the United States and the former Soviet Union, generated intense anxiety across

the globe. More than a few nations and a few statesmen harbored genuine fears that the two super powers might plunge the world into a nuclear holocaust. The arms race, profitable for the munitions makers, rent the economies of the antagonists. Characterized as a war of ideas, values and precepts, rather than a hot war associated with bullets, bombs and violence, the Cold War focused attention on the incompatibility, indeed, the implacable hostility between capitalism and communism. The deep-seated tensions reverberated across longitudinal and latitudinal lines as the two superpowers, distinguished by their sole possession among the nations of the earth, of atomic and, later nuclear weapons, courted and banished foreign nations in an epic battle for the hearts and minds of people everywhere—whether kings, queens, aristocrats or peasants. For all of their ideological differences, and they were substantial, the US and USSR shared in common a single trait: in their efforts to seduce the nations of the world, each created a big tent and welcomed any who would enter. Of course, no bi-partisanship or dual-citizenship was conceivable; the world was etched in black and white terms. The ultimatum emanating from their respective capitals was clear: “You’re with us or against us.” The world, as dictated by the two superpowers, became bi-polar. The nations of the world cast their lots, crossed their fingers and hoped for the best.

While the Cold War focused the attention of the citizenry on the evils of outer perdition, it is worthwhile to contemplate, as participants in the summer institute will, its implications for American constitutional law and domestic politics. As it happened, the Cold War provided the impetus for the emergence of the Imperial Presidency. It was under the guise of preventing the spread of communism in Asia that President Harry Truman deployed American troops to Korea, without obtaining congressional authorization as required by the Constitution. Truman was the first American president to assert a unilateral executive power to initiate military force, a claim that defied the aims and purposes of those who wrote the Constitution. Supporters, impervious to constitutional requirements, sought justification for a presidential war power and, indeed, sweeping unilateral executive authority in foreign affairs, in the threat of communism. The Soviet threat, it was contended, required the president to act with speed and dispatch to promote the foreign policy interests of the United States. Oblivious to a constitutional arrangement for foreign affairs that exalted discussion and debate, collective decision making and checks and balances, those who exalted executive rule exaggerated the temperament, knowledge, skills and judgment of a single individual without regard for the flaws, foibles and failures that attend even the most successful presidencies. Once unleashed, that rationale trumped competing concerns, including constitutional objections, and presidents of both parties came to rely on it to justify their foreign policy adventures. The nation would come to regret this new approach when the theory of executive unilateralism was exploded in the Viet Nam War.

Cold War politics opened the door to further expansion of presidential power, in the case of executive privilege. To support his accusation that the Pentagon was harboring known communists, Senator McCarthy demanded access to the personnel files of various employees. In response to that request, President Eisenhower, already simmering over the coarse behavior of McCarthy, and prompted by a growing popular desire for a rebuke of the Senator, refused to provide the information and, for the first time in the history of the republic, conjoined the terms, “executive” and “privilege,” in the creation of a presidential power to withhold information from Congress. Americans applauded Eisenhower’s action, and even admired his claim of a constitutional basis for his refusal, but the genie was released from the bottle, and the nation, in subsequent years, would come to regret the manner in which presidents used—and abused—the claim of executive privilege which, scholars have demonstrated, finds no foundation in the architecture of the Constitution.

It has been justly observed that the two great moral issues of the 1950s were racial justice and McCarthyism. Ironically enough, they were merged by Cold War concerns. In the great civil rights case of *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), in which the Supreme Court eventually held that segregation in the public schools violated the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, those

## IHC summer teacher Institute to focus on 1950s Cold War America

The Cold War may have ended in the late-1980s, but it continues to cast a large shadow on scholars, policy makers, and citizens alike. The 2011 IHC Teacher Institute will focus on the Cold War, with specific emphasis on the 1950s, in order to study its origins and legacy for domestic and foreign policy.

Titled ‘*Are You Now or Have You Ever Been . . . : Fear, Suspicion, and Incivility in Cold War America*, the institute, to take place on the campus of the College of Idaho in Caldwell, July 24-29, will explore the McCarthy Hearings and their impact on American constitutional law and civil liberties; Americas’ fears of Soviet missile technology and atomic capabilities; race, class, and gender implications of Americas’ post-WWII orientation toward privacy, security; and increased government spending on the military and weapons of mass destruction.

The week will include lessons on the popular culture of the 1950s, including how Cold War fears were interpreted in American literature, music, art, and film. Participants also will examine Idaho’s political history during this period, the implications of Cold War fears for American politics, and its lingering impacts.

For educators, the Cold War represents a subject at once so broad and deep that it poses considerable difficulties in communicating

to students its character, seminal events, and implications. The IHC Teacher Institute seeks to provide teachers with the academic content and scholarly perspectives from which to understand this crucial period in American and world history and the pedagogical tools for involving their students in investigating the multiple dimensions of the Cold War.

Lead scholars will be David Adler, Director, James & Louise McClure Center, University of Idaho; Katherine Aiken, Dean, College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences, University of Idaho; and Ron Hatzenbuehler, Associate Dean of Arts and Social Sciences, Idaho State University.

Successful applicants will receive lodging and meals, texts, and the opportunity to apply for optional college credit. In addition to receiving the primary texts, teachers also will receive an electronic compilation of related essays and articles recommended by the presenting scholars. Teachers will be selected in April 2011 and sent texts to read in advance of the institute.

**The application deadline is April 15, 2011.** Interested teachers may apply online. Contact the Idaho Humanities Council at (208) 345-5346 or email institute coordinator, Cindy Wang at [cindy@idahohumanities.org](mailto:cindy@idahohumanities.org) for more information. ❖

**GRANTS**  
(Continued from Page 1)

Ursula K. Le Guin, and Kim Stanley Robinson. The project directors are **Bethany Schultz Hurst and Susan Goslee**.



Photos of Idaho Peace Corps volunteers will be on display in an exhibit at the Idaho State Historical Museum, commemorating 50 years of the Peace Corps.

**Idaho Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (Garden City)** was awarded **\$5,000** to support the development of an exhibit about the history of the Peace Corps using artifacts and testimony from Idaho Peace Corps volunteers to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Peace Corps. The exhibit, “Idaho Commemorates 50 Years of Peace Corps Service” will be on display at the Idaho State Historical Museum in Boise from March 1 through May 1, 2011, and will be accompanied by lectures in March and April featuring Peace Corps members sharing their experiences. More than 1,350 Idahoans have volunteered with the Corps since 1961, and the IRPCV has 421 returned volunteers. The project director is **Heather Jasper**.

**Sustainable Community Connections (Boise)** received **\$5,000** for an innovative year-long exploration of the culture of Idaho-grown foods through a website and social networking. “2011: The Year of Idaho Grown Food” will have three parts, including development of a website for sharing of stories about the statewide project, a day when everyone will be encouraged to eat an Idaho food and share an online story about it, and a monthly theme-based program focusing on Idaho food culture. The project directors are **Janie Burns and Amy Hutchinson**.



**Gooding County Historical Society (Gooding)** received **\$2,000** to purchase 101 rolls of microfilm from the Idaho State Historical Society containing all newspapers published in Gooding County from 1908 to 2008 (*The Gooding County Leader* ceased publication in 2008). They will hold a public workshop to demonstrate how to use the microfilm reader and the newspaper resources in research. The project director is **Sharon Cheney**.

**Ketchum Sun Valley Ski and Heritage Museum (Ketchum)** received **\$1,775** to host an exhibit of artifacts loaned from the Museum at St. Gertrude in Cottonwood pertaining to the life of Idaho loner Sylvan Hart (1906-1980), better known as “Buckskin Bill,” a modern day mountain man who lived off the land and made his home along the Salmon River. The project director is **Megan Murphy Lengyel**.

**RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS:**

**Lisa McClain, History Department, Boise State University (Boise)**, received **\$3,500** to complete a book exploring the relationship between religious conflicts and changing gender roles in England during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. She believes the framework of her research will be beneficial in studying gender and religion in various faiths, cultures, and time periods.

**Patricia S. Hart, Department of Journalism, University of Idaho (Moscow)**, received **\$3,500** to conduct archival research related to work programs on Idaho’s national forest lands, from the 1930s

by the Civilian Conservation Corps to the current projects made possible by recent economic stimulus funds. She contends that Idaho, with 39 percent of its land managed as national forest, provides a unique perspective to explore the social and economic history of federal works programs. Hart plans to make her research available online, and to eventually produce an illustrated narrative history.

**Rochelle Johnson, English Department, The College of Idaho (Caldwell)**, was awarded **\$3,500** to complete a biography of 19th century environmental writer Susan Fennimore Cooper. Johnson will explore Cooper’s legacy as a preservationist of the natural world, honoring Native American history in her time (noting that these were not typical values of single women in 19<sup>th</sup> century America). Johnson believes Cooper’s biography will contribute to scholarship in literary domesticity, literary history, environmental thought, and American literary Romanticism.



**David Sigler, English Department, University of Idaho (Moscow)**, received **\$3,500** to complete a book exploring British Romantic literature, specifically related to gender issues between 1757 and 1824. He will explore the works of Mary Wollstonecraft, Edmund Burke, Jane Austen, William Wordsworth, and Joanna Southcott, and chart how literary Romanticism served as a precursor of psychoanalysis.



**TEACHER INCENTIVE GRANTS:**

The IHC awards grants of up to \$1,000 twice a year to K-12 teachers and educational organizations to enhance teaching of the humanities in the classroom. These grants were supported by IHC’s Endowment for Humanities Education.

**Edie Lustig, Grangeville Centennial Library (Grangeville)**, was awarded **\$1,000** to help develop a summer reading program for young people. The library would combine the reading program with crafts, music, projects, and guest speakers. The program brings students into the library with three sessions each week for six weeks, each session accommodating up to 50 children. The 2011 program will highlight cultures and traditions of the Nez Perce tribe, settlers, ranchers, and miners.

**Madelaine Love, Skyline High School (Idaho Falls)**, was awarded **\$500** to support an alternative senior high English class, incorporating environmental literature and nature writing. Students share their work with parents and participate in a Museum of Idaho contest.

**Sandra L. Gray, Washington Elementary School (Pocatello)**, received **\$1,000** to bring children’s book author Sharlee Glenn to the school for several presentations during a one-day visit. Glenn will present at an all-school assembly and then conduct reading and writing workshops to each class. Similar author visits in the past have been successful in inspiring and encouraging students to read and write.

**Anna Whipple, Kootenai School District #274 (Harrison)** was awarded **\$1,000** to support a world cultures course where students will learn about different cultures through the musical instruments of each culture. Among the many programs planned, a Native American drummer will present to the school and a program for the community.



**RATIFIED PLANNING GRANTS:**

The **Idaho Lincoln Film Festival (Boise)** received **\$800** to support planning for an Abraham Lincoln Film Festival, planned for spring of 2011. The festival may include films, videos, and possible webinar. The project director is **Tom Williamson**.

**The Basque Museum and Cultural Center (Boise)** was awarded **\$1,000** to assist the board and consultants to refine strategic planning for the museum collections and future exhibits over the next decade. The project director is **Patty Miller**.

The **Museum of Winchester History (Winchester)** received **\$1,000** to support development of a model for locating, researching, and accurately identifying the multiple locations of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Winchester and to scientifically document early lumbering sites and the human context of economic activity in this timbered area of north central Idaho. The project director is **Deloris Jungert Davisson**.

**Kessler-Keener Lectures, Inc. (Boise)** received **\$1,000** to support planning for a project promoting cross-cultural education, understanding, and healing between Indians and non-Indians in Idaho. The project director is **Ed Keener**.

**Austin Reedy, (Austin, Texas)** was awarded **\$1,000** to support travel to Idaho to conduct interviews for a documentary about Idaho musician and folk music legend Pinto Bennett. The project director is **Austin Reedy**.

**Catherine Allen (Boise)** was awarded **\$1,000** to develop a plan for a touring show and lecture presentation centered on an exhibit of early 20<sup>th</sup> century Idaho panoramic photographs. The project director is **Catherine Allen**.

**University of Idaho (Moscow)** received **\$618** to develop a humanities-based interdisciplinary workshop for high school students on the history of rape and violence against women, employing ancient Greek and Roman literary texts. The project directors are **Michelle Leavitt and Rosanna Lauriola**. ♦

**The Next Deadline for IHC Grants:**

The next deadline for Idaho Humanities Council grant proposals is **September 15, 2011**. IHC strongly recommends that prospective applicants contact staff to discuss their project ideas before writing their proposals. Applicants also are strongly encouraged to submit a rough draft of their proposal for staff critique several weeks prior to the deadline. Grant guidelines and application forms, as well as information about IHC grants and activities, are available on IHC’s website at [www.idahohumanities.org](http://www.idahohumanities.org), or by calling 208-345-5346.

**News & Opportunities**

**American Library Association announces deadlines for two opportunities**

The ALA Public Programs Office, in partnership with the National Constitution Center (NCC) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), is pleased to announce a large-scale tour for the traveling exhibition “Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War.” Online applications will be accepted through May 5 at [www.ala.org/civilwarprograms](http://www.ala.org/civilwarprograms). Funding for the exhibition and tour is provided by a major grant from NEH.

Two hundred sites will be selected to host the 1,000 square foot exhibition for a period of six weeks each from September 2011 through May 2015. Each site will receive a \$750 grant to support expenses related to exhibition programming. Participating institutions are expected to present at least two free public programs featuring a lecture or discussion by a qualified scholar on exhibition themes. All showings of the exhibition must be free and open to the public. Eligible institutions include but are not limited to public, research and special libraries; historical societies; museums; civic, community and heritage organizations; and institutes of higher learning.

Using the U.S. Constitution as its cohesive thread, “Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War” offers a fresh and innovative perspective on the Civil War

(See NEWS, Page 6)

# National Book Award winner Timothy Egan to speak in Idaho Falls, April 14

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and National Book Award winner Timothy Egan will present the IHC's 4th Annual Eastern Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture on Thursday, April 14, 2011, at University Place in Idaho Falls. The event includes dinner, lecture, and a book signing. Egan's books will be available for sale at the event. Egan is the author of six books including his most recent, *The Big Burn: Teddy Roosevelt and the Fire that Saved America*, which explores the story of the great 1910 fire that devastated forests in northern Idaho and will be the subject of his talk.

Tickets are available now for purchase online at [www.idahohumanities.org](http://www.idahohumanities.org) under "IHC Events," or by calling the IHC at 888-345-5346. General tickets are \$35. Benefactor tickets are \$70, offering an invitation to a pre-dinner reception with Egan in a private home and close-up seating at the dinner and lecture. IHC always recommends reserving tickets early as the event usually sells out. The event will begin with a no-host reception at 6:00 p.m. at the Bennion Student Union in Idaho Falls. Dinner will begin at 7 p.m., with Egan's talk to follow.

Egan's book *The Worst Hard Time*, a story about survivors of the dustbowl of the 1930s, won the 2006 National Book Award for nonfiction, considered one of the nation's highest literary honors. He also shares a Pulitzer Prize, from 2001, as part of a team of *New York Times* reporters for their series, "How Race Is Lived in America."



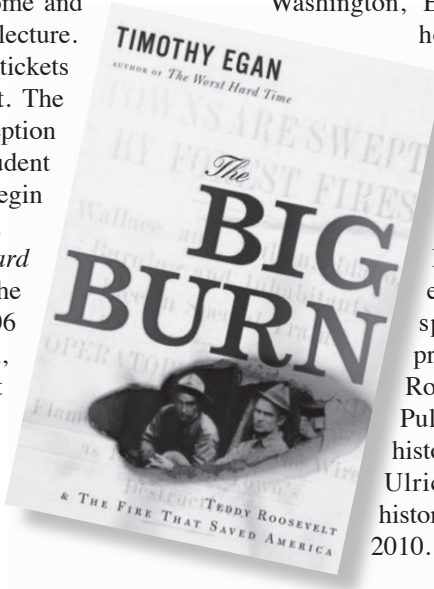
Egan is an online, op-ed columnist for the *New York Times*, writing his "Outposts" opinion feature once a week – with a Western perspective.

For 18 years, Egan worked as a reporter for the *Times*, based in Seattle and roaming the West. He has covered everything from the Exxon Valdez oil spill, to the O.J. Simpson trial to the collapse of small town America in the Great Plains.

Egan is a regular contributor to BBC Radio, doing a series of vignettes on American life.

A graduate of the University of Washington, Egan also holds an honorary doctorate of letters from Whitman College.

Since 2008, the IHC has brought top historians and authors to Idaho Falls for the annual event. Previous speakers include presidential biographer Robert Dallek (2008), Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Laurel Thatcher Ulrich (2009) and historian Elliott West in 2010. ♦



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IDAHO PUBLIC TELEVISION

IHC's Eastern Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture & Dinner with Tim Egan 7:00 p.m., Thursday, April 14, 2011, University Center Bennion Student Union

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
# \_\_\_\_\_ Benefactor Tickets @ \$70/ person  
\_\_\_\_\_ Benefactor Tables for 7 @ \$490  
# \_\_\_\_\_ General Tickets @ \$35/person  
\_\_\_\_\_ General Tables for 7 @ \$245  
# \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Meals (include name of guest)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Donation for student scholarship tickets

Paying \$ \_\_\_\_\_ by check. Make checks payable to: Idaho Humanities Council  
Charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my credit card:  
☐ Visa  
☐ Mastercard  
☐ American Express  
Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print name as it appears on the card \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am unable to attend, but enclosed is my donation to the IHC \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
If purchasing a table, please attach a sheet with names of guests. Otherwise, their tickets will be held under your name at the door.

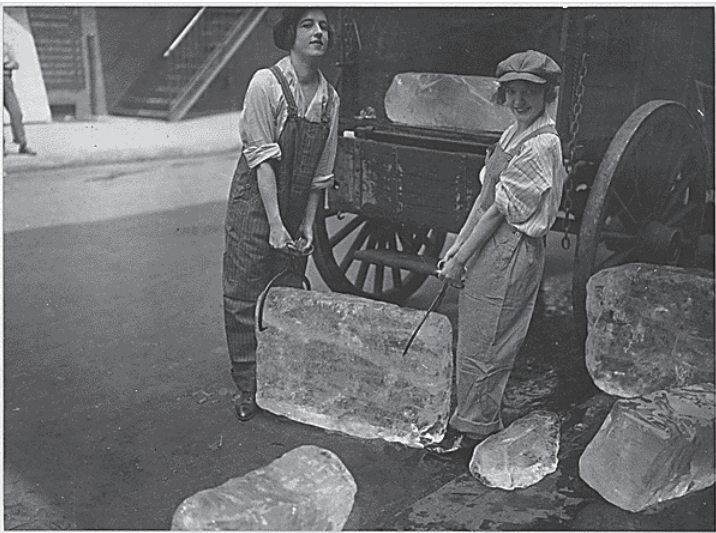
If paying by credit card, you may use this form and fax it to (208) 345-5347. Reservations will be made upon receipt of payment. All reservations will be confirmed by letter. Tickets will not be sent, and table designations will be available at the door. If you are supporting student scholarships to attend, you will receive a special acknowledgement letter and recognition from IHC at the dinner. Idaho civics teachers are working with the IHC to identify scholarship recipients. For more information, call (888) 345-5346.

Please clip and complete this form and return it to:  
Idaho Humanities Council  
217 W. State St., Boise, ID 83702

## Smithsonian exhibit on Work to tour Idaho in 2011-2012

The IHC will bring a unique Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit to six Idaho communities in 2011 and 2012 titled *The Way We Worked*. The exhibit, adapted from an original exhibition developed by the National Archives, explores how work became such a central element in American culture by tracing the many changes that affected the workforce and work environments over the past 150 years. The exhibition draws from the Archives' rich collections to tell this compelling story.

The exhibit will visit the **Beardmore Block (Priest River)**, the **McCall Art and Commerce Center (McCall)**, the **Coeur d'Alene Public Library (Coeur d'Alene)**, the **Burley Public Library (Burley)**, the **Magic Valley Arts Council (Twin Falls)** and the **Boundary County Historical Society (Bonners Ferry)** between September 2011 and June 2012.



Photos from the National Archives will highlight a traveling Smithsonian exhibit on the story of work in America, visiting six sites in Idaho.

*The Way We Worked* focuses on why we work and the needs that our jobs fulfill. Our work takes place everywhere – on the land, on the streets of our communities, in offices and factories, in our homes, and even in space. An exploration of the tools and technologies that enabled and assisted workers also reveals how workers sometimes found themselves with better tools, but also with faster, more complex and often more stressful work environments. The diversity of the American workforce is one of its strengths, providing an opportunity to explore how people of all races and

The exhibit will be on display for six weeks in each of the six Idaho communities. While on display, each community will develop around the exhibit its own local programming, ranging from school projects, to lectures, films, local displays, and other activities limited only by the imagination.

ethnicities identified commonalities and worked to knock down barriers in the professional world. And, finally, the exhibition shows how we identify with work – as individuals and as communities. Whether you live in "Steel Town, USA" or wear a uniform each day, work assigns cultural meanings and puts us and our communities in a larger context.

The exhibition will offer multiple interpretive opportunities for visitors through large graphics, along with relevant objects and work clothing. Through audio components, hear from workers their own stories about with changes in their industries and confronting workplace challenges. Follow workers into their workplaces through films of various industries. Interactive components will introduce visitors to the experiences of multiple generations of families involved in the same work. A companion website will invite host communities to create online exhibitions on their local work history and for visitors to share their own work experiences.

*The Way We Worked* is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and state humanities councils nationwide. Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the United States Congress.

*The Way We Worked* has been made possible in Idaho by the Idaho Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities "We the People" Program. ♦

### NEWS

(Continued from Page 5)

that brings into focus the constitutional crises at the heart of this great conflict. The exhibition identifies these crises—the secession of the Southern states, slavery and wartime civil liberties—and explores how Lincoln sought to meet these political and constitutional challenges.

"Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War" is supported by NEH's We the People initiative, which aims to stimulate and enhance the teaching, study

and understanding of American history and culture. For more information, including project guidelines, programming resources and the online application, visit [www.ala.org/civilwarprograms](http://www.ala.org/civilwarprograms).

The ALA, in cooperation with the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), also is accepting applications for "Let's Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War," a reading and discussion program in America's libraries. Public libraries are invited to apply online through April 19 by visiting [www.ala.org/civilwarprograms](http://www.ala.org/civilwarprograms).

Just in time to commemorate the Civil War sesquicentennial, "Let's Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War" follows the popular Let's Talk About It model, which engages participants in discussion of a set of common texts selected by a nationally known scholar for their relevance to a larger, overarching theme. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from NEH to the ALA Public Programs Office.

In June, 50 public libraries will be selected to

(See NEWS, Page 8)

# Hundreds hear best-selling author Sara Paretsky in Coeur d'Alene

Best selling author Sara Paretsky gave the 7th Annual Northern Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture in mid-October at the Coeur d'Alene Resort to an audience of over 250. Paretsky spoke about "Writing in an Age of Silence," based on the title essay of her 2007 best-selling collection of essays of the same title, about being a writer in America after the Patriot Act. Paretsky explored the history of freedom of speech in America and the traditions of political and literary dissent that have informed her life and work.

Earlier in the day, Paretsky also spoke to 350 students at Lake City High School. Prior to speaking at the Resort, Paretsky greeted more than 100 Benefactors at the beautiful home of **Denny Davis and Kathy Canfield-Davis**, sponsored in part by the **Hagadone Corporation**.

Enormous thanks goes to longtime supporter Marc Brinkmeyer and the **Idaho Forest Group** and to **North Idaho Title** for generously sponsoring the event. IHC thanks media sponsors **Idaho Public Television** and the **Coeur d'Alene Press** for promoting the event, and **Hastings** for facilitating books sales (with a portion of the sales going to support IHC programming).

The IHC is grateful to Benefactors for their added generosity, including the following firms and individuals that purchased Benefactors Tables: Idaho ForestGroup, North Idaho Title, Hagadone Corporation,

Intermax Networks, Coeur d'Alene Press, Idaho Public Television, and the Margaret Reed Foundation.

Thank you also to George and Juli Ives, Mindy Cameron and Bill Berg, and Geraldine Robideaux for the student scholarship donations.

We thank IHC's northern Idaho board members, **Kathy Canfield Davis, Mindy Cameron, and Kathy Aiken and Fran Bahr**, and the planning committee: **Virginia Johnson, Cindy Haagenson, Nancy Flagan, Fay Sweney, Katie Sayler and JoAnn Nelson**, whose dedication to the humanities in their community made this evening possible. Lastly, tremendous thanks to **Karen Yother** for her instrumental assistance in helping to arrange, plan, and coordinate this event. ❖



- (1) Novelist Sara Paretsky spoke about writing in America after the Patriot Act.
- (2) L to R: Reception host Kathy Canfield Davis, Sara Paretsky, and IHC Director Rick Ardinger pose for a photo in Kathy's beautiful home.
- (3) Sara Paretsky signed many books for fans.

# More than 600 attend lecture by historian Douglas Brinkley in Boise

Douglas Brinkley, distinguished professor of history at Rice University, and author of more than two dozen books exploring American history gave the 14th Annual Distinguished Humanities Lecture in late-October in Boise to more than 600 people. Brinkley's talk, focused on his book *The Wilderness Warrior: Theodore Roosevelt and the Crusade for America*, was well received by a loyal following of IHC supporters.

Earlier in the day Brinkley was interviewed for Idaho Public Television's *Dialogue* program and attended a Benefactors Reception at the beautiful Boise foothills home of **Alan and Laura Shealy**.

The IHC thanks its underwriters for helping make a very successful evening. Thank you to the **OfficeMax Boise Community Fund** for generously sponsoring the evening. In addition, IHC's media sponsors **The Idaho Statesman, Boise State Public Radio** and **Idaho Public Television** were invaluable partners. **Hotel 43** also generously donated a gorgeous suite for Mr. Brinkley.

**Alan and Laura Shealy** opened their lovely home to 200 Benefactors for a pre-dinner reception. The reception was generously supported by the **Boise Co-op and Jim Wisner**. An additional thank you goes to Barnes & Noble for facilitating book sales, with part of the proceeds going to support IHC programming.

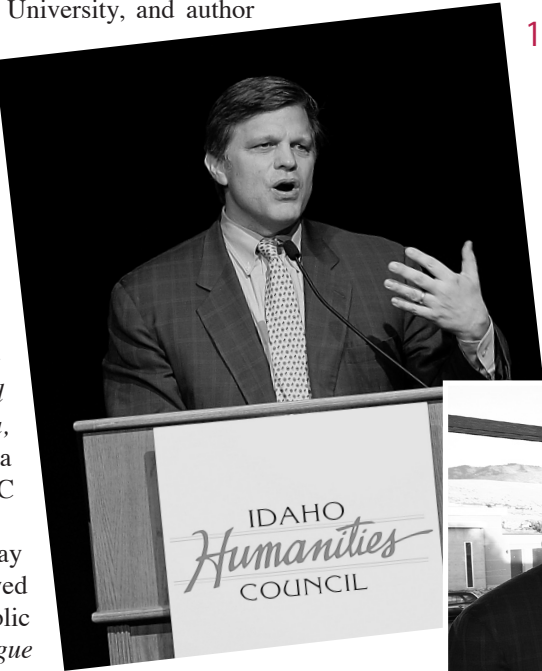
The IHC also is grateful to the following firms and individuals that purchased Benefactor Tables: Holland and Hart, Stoel Rives, the Boise Heights group, the College of Idaho, Gallatin Public Affairs, Futura Corporation, Jim and Louise McClure, Fred and Betty Bagley, The Idaho Statesman, Northwest Nazarene University, Idaho Public Television, Calista and Bob

Pitts, and Steve and Carol Trott.

Thank you to some very generous individuals and organizations who helped share the evening with area students through their donations to the student scholarship fund:

US Bank, Northwest Nazarene University, Judy Bloom, William and Judith Collins, Sarah Churchill, Michael Faison, Lisa Brady and David Walker, Gene and Mary Arner, Kevin Marsh, Chuck Guilford, Otha and Helen Watts, Carol MacGregor and Gayle Allen and Rory and Sisti O'Connor.

Finally, tremendous thanks to the event volunteers including Kate Riley, Mark and Julie Baltes, Spence Holley, Phyllis Ward, Mindi Paulson and Linda Perkins. ❖



- (1) Historian Douglas Brinkley spoke about Theodore Roosevelt's conservation legacy.
- (2) IHC Chair Jeff Fox thanks Douglas Brinkley for coming to Boise.
- (3) Douglas Brinkley poses with reception hosts Laura and Alan Shealy.
- (4) Idaho Public Television General Manager Peter Morrill (center) poses at the reception with Idaho State Historical Society Director Jan Gallimore (right) and her husband Bill Barron.

# The Historical Museum at St. Gertrude receives Elsensohn Award

The Historical Museum at St. Gertrude in Cottonwood is the 2010 recipient of the “Sister Alfreda Elsensohn Award,” a \$10,000 award of pooled resources of the Idaho Humanities Council, the Idaho State Historical Society, and the Idaho Heritage Trust annually recognizing outstanding work of an Idaho museum. Representatives of all three organizations met in Cottonwood in December to present the award to retiring Museum Director Lyle Wirtanen.

The award is in recognition of outstanding service by an Idaho museum in the preservation and interpretation of local history.

The award is named after Sister Alfreda Elsensohn, who founded the Historical Museum at St. Gertrude in the 1930’s, so it is particularly appropriate that the award “come home” to the Museum at St. Gertrude this year.

Sister Alfreda sought to collect, preserve, and interpret artifacts from Idaho County and the surrounding area to better educate the general public. It was her vision of Idaho museums as exciting, interactive, interpretive, and educational institutions that the Award seeks to recognize by honoring one



Retiring Museum Director Lyle Wirtanen (left), is presented the 2010 Sister Alfreda Elsensohn Award by Idaho Heritage Trust Director Gaetha Pace, Idaho State Historical Society Trustee Earl Bennett, and IHC Board Member Chris Riggs in December at the Museum at St. Gertrude.

outstanding Idaho museum each year.

Recipients of the award are leaders in the field of Idaho museums that will be able to use the \$10,000 award to move to a higher level of professionalism.

“The Museum at St. Gertrude exists as an exemplary model to other museums in Idaho in the way it preserves and presents history to the people of Idaho,” said Idaho Humanities Council board member Chris Riggs, Lewiston, at the award ceremony.

The 2008 award went to the Bonner County Historical Museum in Sandpoint, and in 2009 to the South Bannock County Historical Center in Lava Hot Springs. ❖

## IHC Calls for Outstanding Humanities Teacher Nominations

The IHC invites nominations for its “Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Awards.” The Council will honor one elementary and one secondary teacher of literature, history, government, art or music history, foreign languages, or other humanities disciplines. **Two awards of \$2,000 each will be selected in April. Each teacher will receive \$1,000 for themselves and \$1,000 for his/her school to enhance the teaching of the humanities. The deadline for nominations is April 8, 2011.**

Any student, parent, fellow teacher, school administrator, or member of the public may nominate one full-time teacher of the humanities in Idaho. Nominations may be in the form of a letter sent via email to [Jennifer@idahohumanities.org](mailto:Jennifer@idahohumanities.org). Instructors of the performing or visual arts are ineligible for this award unless such subjects are components of

an interdisciplinary humanities course or program. Self-nominations are not encouraged. Awards will be presented to the recipients in May.

IHC presented the biennial awards for the first time in 1999. Previous recipients include Lois Treat of Kuna Middle School, Eric Gala of Coeur d’Alene High School, Denise Hamrich of St. Stanislaus Tri-Parish School in Lewiston, Ken Mecham of Carey High School, Barbara Olic-Hamilton of Boise High School, Amy Woods of Kamiah Middle School, Jeanette Jackson of Caldwell High School, Michelle Sharples of Couer d’Alene’s Bryan High School, Dennis Ohrtman of Lewiston High School, and Gail Chumbley of Eagle High School.

For selection criteria, see IHC’s website at [www.idahohumanities.org](http://www.idahohumanities.org) under “Teacher Programs,” or call IHC at (888) 345-5346. ❖

## NEWS (Continued from Page 6)

host the reading and discussion series and receive support materials from NEH and ALA. Participating libraries each will receive a \$2,500 grant, 25 sets of texts, promotional materials, and training at a national workshop.

“Let’s Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War” is supported by NEH’s We the People initiative, which aims to stimulate and enhance the teaching, study and understanding of American history and culture. More information including project guidelines and the online application are available at [www.ala.org/civilwarprograms](http://www.ala.org/civilwarprograms).

### College of Idaho receives major NEH grant for Judaic Studies Chair

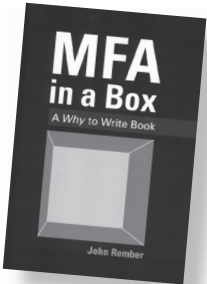
Congratulations to the College of Idaho for receiving a \$500,000 Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to establish an endowed chair in Judaic studies. C of I must match the grant by raising \$1.5 million in matching funds over the course of four years.

The endowed chair, which will be the first of its kind in the Intermountain West, is the dream of C of I Professor Howard Berger, a 28-year veteran of the college, to promote greater understanding of Jewish traditions, culture, philosophy, and religion.

“We’re very grateful to the NEH for helping us in our humanities programming efforts,” said Marv Hanberg, president of C of I, and former board member and chair of the Idaho Humanities Council. “The strength of Judaic studies chair lies in its ability to reach beyond Caldwell and educate the entire state about the Jewish experience.”

### New book on writing by John Rember

Sawtooth Valley writer John Rember has a new book on writing from Dream of Things Press in Illinois. *MFA in a Box: A Why to Write Book* explores the relationship between the writer and love, grief, place, family, race, and violence. The book teaches writers or want-to-be writers how to deeply analyze their own work and learn from the best and worst writers. This is a book for those “who’ve thought they don’t need no stinking MFA... who’ve been banned from their writing groups...who’ve got a story to tell and it’s going to kill them if they don’t tell it.” Rember is a writer for many magazines, including *Travel & Leisure*, *The Huffington Post*, and *Wildlife Conservation*, and the author of two collections of short stories, and the memoir *Traplines: Coming Home to Sawtooth Valley* (Vintage, 2004). He’s taught for the College of Idaho, and most recently in the Pacific University MFA program. *MFA in a Box* is available for \$16.95 at [www.dreamofthings.com](http://www.dreamofthings.com). ❖



## IHC offers books and music with an Idaho flair

### Borne on Air A Collection of Essays by Idaho Writers

Nineteen essays and a poem by some of Idaho’s best writers (Kim Barnes, William Johnson, Joy Passanante, Brandon Schrand, William Studebaker, and more) explore the theme of “air” from many different perspectives, from daydreams of watching a hawk in flight to stories about asthma, “getting air” on the ski slopes, observing fog on the Clearwater, and a tale of near drowning.

### Dishrag Soup & Poverty Cake

#### An Idaho Potluck of Essays on Food

This “potluck” explores recipes and more through the secret ingredients of community, friendship, family and memory. Forty-three contributors from Coeur d’Alene to Pocatello offer culinary tales and recipes worth sharing.

### The Idaho Songbag

#### A CD Sampler of Songs about People, Places, and Historical Events

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**exhibits to Idaho, bring scholars to present talks in towns large and small, and generally support activities for lifelong learners that promote civil discourse on pressing issues of the day.**

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Please support the Idaho Humanities Council's mission to "deepen understanding of human experience by connecting people with ideas."

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- Support Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibits to Idaho;
- Help museums, libraries, civic clubs, and other organizations preserve local history and bring people together to discuss the future of their communities;
- Support statewide broadcast of television programs about American history and history and bring people together to discuss the future of their communities;
- Support state-wide artists, writers, and leaders;
- Give K-12 teachers added support they need to teach the humanities in the classroom; and
- Support humanities conferences, film festivals, special lectures and publications, scholarship, and other projects and programs limited only by the imagination...

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**In Memoriam**

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**In honor of Robert C. Sims**  
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**In honor of Lindy High**  
Marilyn Howard



## Thank you, Mary Inman

The IHC lost a friend last October, Mary Inman of Twin Falls. Mary was a long time member of the IHC’s Speakers Bureau and enjoyed talking in character as a 19<sup>th</sup> century pioneer about the struggles of migrating west and life on the Oregon Trail. Mary loved history and writing and was interested in nature and conservancy. Mary was active in the Twin Falls community, organized walking tours of the original Twin Falls Village and wrote the book *Twin Falls Centurybook, 1904-2004*. Mary also believed in the work of the IHC. We are deeply thankful to Mary for remembering the IHC in her will with a planned gift. She was humble, she did not want an obituary or a service, but she will be remembered for leaving a legacy of support to the IHC. Thank you for thinking of us, Mary.



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**GREAT FEAR**  
*(Continued from Page 4)*

who challenged segregation found an unlikely ally in the State Department. In its battle with the forces of communism to win the hearts of people throughout the world, premised on America’s commitment to freedom and liberty, the State Department recognized that it was handcuffed by laws and practices that permitted segregation. Accordingly, it filed an *amicus curiae* brief with the Court, urging it to declare unconstitutional the insidious policy of segregation.

The implications of the Cold War for American law, politics and history are far-ranging. In response to its perception of the Soviet threat, U.S. officials fell prey to what the founders regarded as an axiom: External strife, they recognized, is apt to lead to repression at home. The question—“Are you now, or have you been . . . a member of the Communist Party?” represents unbridled repression and the abuse of power. It is a question that resonates in our time. We hear its words in other ways and forms, in other situations and contexts, in the voices of those in office and positions of power who would dare to define for the nation the meaning of loyalty and patriotism and Americanism. We hear it in the absolutist tendencies of those who would resort to threats, intimidation



As the Senate prepared to consider censuring Sen. Joe McCarthy in 1954, he posed with an assistant, proud to be denounced by the leftist newspaper *The Daily Worker*.

and coercion to establish orthodoxy in matters of politics and nationalism and religion. It is, tragically, an old and familiar voice. Governmental determination of politically correct views, values and opinions, it must be acknowledged, is the road to Auschwitz and Buchenwald, Stalinism and totalitarianism. As Justice Jackson observed, “We avoid these ends by avoiding these beginnings.” ♦

*David Gray Adler is director of the James A. & Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research at the University of Idaho, and author of many articles and a half-dozen books on the U.S. Constitution and the American presidency, including The Steel Seizure Case and Presidential Power, forthcoming from the University Press of Kansas, 2011. As a member of the Idaho Humanities Council Speakers Bureau, he lectures frequently on the Constitution, the presidency, and civility in American politics.*

**What Are You Reading?**

In each issue of *Idaho Humanities*, several readers tell us what they've been reading and what they recommend.

**Reader:** Tim Berry  
**Occupation:** Corporate Accounts Manager, BizPrint, Boise  
**Book:** *The Rise of Silas Lapham* by William Dean Howells



America has always revered our rags-to-riches stories. An opportunist strikes it rich and is the envy of the populace. With enormous financial success come expectations that expose flaws in both the American system

and in human character.

Silas Lapham, after making his fortune in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, attempts to drag his family up Boston’s social ladder. His ascendancy brings the Laphams in social contact with the Brahmin Corey family. Comical and embarrassing incidents ensue, exposing the chasm between the *nouveau riche* and the well bred.

Silas’ success is fleeting, as the marketplace combined with failed ventures is his undoing. He has business opportunities to save both his pride and fortune but his moral fiber prevents him from taking advantage.

This book could have been written last year and had the same social relevance.

**Reader:** Priscilla Wegars  
**Occupation:** Author, editor, and historical archaeologist; volunteer curator of the University of Idaho’s Asian American Comparative Collection, Moscow  
**Book:** *The Intermediary: William Craig among the Nez Perces* by Lin Tull Cannell



Although mountain man William Craig’s name is associated with various Idaho landmarks (the town of Craigmont is but one), this is the first biography of him. Intrigued by the proliferation of memorializations,

but thwarted by the scarcity of available information about him, Idaho native Lin Tull Cannell, and her research partner, Gloria Manning, Craig’s great-great-great granddaughter, spent parts of more than 15 years investigating Craig’s life and times in over 25 repositories in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

Cannell details Craig’s relationships with, and intermediation between, the Caucasian and Native American “movers and shakers” of his time in the West (1840-1869). She also tells us much about Craig’s Nez Perce wife, Pahtissah (Isabel), and her father, Thunder’s Eye, and provides the Nez Perce perspective throughout. Interviews by Manning with other Craig descendants help make this account special by completing the picture of the complex individual who was their ancestor.

**Reader:** Kevin Marsh  
**Occupation:** Chair, Department of History, Idaho State University, Pocatello, and editor of *Idaho Yesterdays*  
**Book:** *Home* by Marilynne Robinson



Challenging the adage that one can never go home again, Glory Boughton returns to the family house in Gilead, Iowa, to care for her aging father in Marilyn Robinson’s most recent novel, *Home*. Robinson’s narrator recalls, “It

was a good house, her father said, meaning it had a gracious heart however awkward its appearance.” The Boughton family in general could be seen in a similar light, awkward in their relations yet with elements of grace beating at the core.

Rather than a sequel to Robinson’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *Gilead*, *Home* is more of a companion piece, focusing on the youngest daughter of Reverend Boughton, who played a major role in the earlier book. The return of the prodigal son Jack, Glory’s older brother, provides the main narrative thread. Although I did not find it as consistently riveting as *Gilead*, it is haunting in its honest portrayal of a family’s struggles to balance righteous judgment with unconditional love. And certainly one of the joys of this book is absorbing the prose offered by Robinson, an Idaho native; it is breathtaking.