

feature

THE STORY OF THE IDAHO STATE MUSEUM

By Janet Gallimore

The following is excerpted from remarks given by Janet Gallimore, Executive Director of the Idaho State Historical Society, upon her recognition by the Idaho Humanities Council as the 2019 Outstanding Achievement in the Humanities Awardee on February 27, 2019 in a ceremony at the Idaho State Museum in Boise.

Our interpretation of the Idaho story in the newly reopened Idaho State Museum is multi-disciplined. It provides an experience integrating history, anthropology, art, literature, science and nature, and more. Our aim is a more holistic understanding of our past, connecting to the contemporary issues of today, and providing perspective for decision making that shapes our future. If we strive toward moments of experience, we witness and engage, we are awestruck, and we are changed forever. This is our hope for Idaho State Museum visitors.

TRANSITIONS AND NEW DIRECTIONS

In 2007, I was invited to lead the Idaho State Historical Society. Our agency needed to promote its services and demonstrate its relevance and value to its government and stakeholders. We held tremendous collections, resources and a commitment to history; our capacity for engagement and intentionality was ripe for development.

We set a course that allowed us to build on the shoulders of those who came before us, yet also adopt more accessible



IHC Chair Murray Feldman awarding the coveted Outstanding Achievement in the Humanities Award to Janet Gallimore, Executive Director of the Idaho State Historical Society.

and meaningful ways to interpret history; a more entrepreneurial and audience-focused program development approach; and a comprehensive promotion and engagement system.

THE BEGINNING AND THE VISION

On May 20, 2011, the Idaho State Historical Society Board of Trustees approved the concept design for a new state museum. This started seven years of detailed community engagement, visioning, planning, fundraising, architectural design and construction, and exhibition design and fabrication. The country's newest state museum reopened 68 years after the first Julia Davis Park facility greeted visitors in 1950.

Our vision was a new state museum that would be a fun, interactive learning experience where people of all ages and

backgrounds could explore the story of Idaho. Our goals included modernizing the museum's building; increasing public access; and creating an entirely new exhibition experience.

We had ongoing consultations with Idaho's Native American tribes to create authentic and respectful content, a commitment that was recognized nationally by the National Endowment for the Humanities. We received one of 10 national Public Humanities Project Grants in 2018 for the scholarship and engagement demonstrated through our close tribal partnerships.

Our staff selected, conserved, and prepared artifacts and photographs; developed a broad education program plan, connecting Idaho curriculum priorities to the museum experience; and created an outreach strategy to connect the museum to Idaho and the world.

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Janet Gallimore, Governor and Mrs. Little enjoying the evening presentations.

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MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Idaho Humanities Council is to deepen understanding of human experience by connecting people with ideas.

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

from the Chair MURRAY FELDMAN

In mid-June, the entire Idaho Humanities Council board and staff retreated for a day-and-a-half planning and learning session—affectionately dubbed Camp Humanities—in Driggs, Idaho. Camp Humanities has become a 20-year tradition for the Council. Its origins trace to the suggestion of a past board member to spend time as a board apart from the workaday world, facilitating increased board and staff interactions in a small group setting. In this way, the Council can better work together supporting and promoting public humanities programming in Idaho.



That original purpose has grown. Camp H is now a productive planning, brainstorming, program development, professional growth, and listening and learning session for the IHC board and staff each summer. In Driggs we began a new three-year strategic planning effort to guide the Council's programming, grant review and awards, and fundraising. We discussed ways to enhance the diversity of both the Council's board membership and its programming support. We learned from our own Camp-based reading-and-conversation session focused on the book of poems *How to Love a Country* by Richard Blanco, our upcoming distinguished speaker in Boise this September. Margaret Johnson, IHC board member and ISU English professor, led that session. We had local history presentations from board member Trent Clark, who grew up in the Teton Valley, and regional author Jim Hardee, who shared with us the area's history from the early trapping days as chronicled in his book *Pierre's Hole!*. And we met with local supporters of the humanities and learned about local recipients of IHC grants, such as the Valley of the Teton library.

Each summer Camp Humanities allows the IHC board and staff to visit and experience a different region of the state, to see how the public humanities contribute to the communities in that area, and hear from local constituencies, historians, authors, and more. As with any summer camp experience, the Council leaves Camp H refreshed, rested, and enthused to further the cause of the public humanities in the Gem State. We encourage your support in that effort, and hope that you'll join us at one of the many IHC supported or direct programs statewide this summer or fall, including the Teachers Institute in Boise July 15-20, and the fall dinners and lectures in Coeur d'Alene and Boise.

from the Director DAVID PETTYJOHN

I love maps. Ever since I was a child, I have been fascinated by them and how they provide guidance on a trip and a glimpse into unknown locations. The road atlas tucked in the seat pocket of my parents' car was my trusty companion on road trips and I often poured over the maps of each state in my spare time.

As I was planning my move to the Gem State, a friend gave me a wonderful gift—an official Idaho road map and a packet of colored dots. She knew of my tradition of marking my first visit to a location on account of work with a dot on a map. My Oklahoma map was covered with red circles and I was excited to continue that tradition in my new home. A year and half later, that map hangs on my office wall and currently has nineteen dots. I look forward to adding more over the years as I travel the state visiting with Idahoans about how IHC can assist their communities.



Just like maps, the humanities provide guidance to our journey along the road of life. By learning from our shared past and taking advantage of the vast pool of knowledge of those who walked the earth before us, our path becomes clearer. Here at IHC, we are proud to offer these opportunities to all Idahoans and we hope you join us on that journey. We recently revised our website to better provide information on IHC events, access to previous newsletters, and updates on our programs.

I hope to see you at one of our events or on my travels!

TRIVIA NIGHT



08.02.19

*Grab your thinking caps, some friends,
and join us for Smarties in August!*

Join us on Friday, August 2nd at the Linen Building in Boise for an adults-only night of trivia, food, beverages, and fun! Doors open at 6 p.m. with trivia starting at 7 p.m. sharp! Enjoy music, prizes and a raffle while you ponder art, sports, history, philosophy, literature, and the humanities. You and your friends will form teams to beat other teams in wits and smarts.

fundraiser for:



Tickets are available by visiting www.idahohumanities.org or by calling the IHC at **208-345-5346**. Tickets are \$40 each or two for \$75. You can create teams from 2 to 8 people. Your ticket includes heavy appetizers and one drink coupon. A no-host bar will be available throughout the evening. Smarties awards and trophies will be given out at the end of the night!

We established outcomes that would guide the project's development, including:

- Deepening Idahoans' connection to their state and build a statewide sense of community;
- Creating an essential resource for education and lifelong learning; and
- Contributing to the economic vitality of our state.

To shape relevant exhibition content, we created an inclusive system of community engagement, including focus groups, electronic surveys, workshops, and small group meetings. We collaborated with 70 university academics and local scholars across Idaho. Wherever possible, we connected stories from Idaho's past to the present, providing vital context to the interpretation. And we reflected Idaho's diversity throughout the exhibition experience.

THE RESULT

Today, visitors experience
36 distinct exhibitions, enjoy
over 46 multimedia programs,
view nearly 900 photos, and
discover over 500 artifacts.

The project employed more than 100 designers, artisans, and craftspeople, as well as more than 31 Idaho-owned businesses and suppliers.

The Idaho State Historical Society and the Idaho State Museum have welcomed the opportunity to lead a nationwide effort to inspire people to value history for its relevance to modern life, and to use historical thinking skills to address contemporary issues. We believe history is essential to individuals because it nurtures personal and collective identity in a diverse world and builds critical thinking skills, including analysis of evidence and the ability to interpret and communicate complex ideas clearly.

History is also an essential component of vibrant communities. A place becomes a community once wrapped in human memory. Communities with heritage institutions and strong historical character attract talent, increase tourism revenues, and enhance business development.



(L-R) IHC Chair Murray Feldman, ISHS Executive Director Janet Gallimore, and IHC Executive Director David Pettyjohn at the Idaho State Museum in Boise.

And history is essential for our future. We build engaged citizens when individuals convene to express opinions, listen to others, and take action. Weaving history into discussions about contemporary issues clarifies differing perspectives, introduces new ideas, and leads to greater understanding. Historical knowledge is crucial to advancing democracy. By preserving authentic and meaningful documents, artifacts, images, stories, and places, we create a foundation upon which future generations can understand what it means to be a member of the civic community.

If we are blessed, we can create synergy by assembling the right people and talent at the right place, and at the right time, and with the right circumstances, to leverage an opportunity and create a legacy for the future.

That is what we have tried to do at the new Idaho State Museum. Our goal was to create an essential resource for education and lifelong learning, an economic asset, and a place of inspiration. I hope you all have the opportunity to experience it, learn from it, and be inspired by it.



SOUTH CUSTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY RECEIVES \$10,000 SISTER ALFREDA ELSENSOHN AWARD

The South Custer County Historical Society/Lost River Museum received the 2019 Sister Alfreda Elsensohn Award for outstanding museum interpretation and historical preservation at a special award ceremony on Saturday, May 25, at Lost River Museum in Mackay.



Members of the Idaho State Historical Society and IHC present the South Custer County Historical Society with a \$10,000 check in Mackay.

Given annually by the Idaho Humanities Council and the Idaho State Historical Society, the Sister Alfreda Elsensohn Award carries a \$10,000 prize to be used by a chosen museum, historical society, or interpretive center to continue its educational efforts. The Sister Alfreda Elsensohn award is the

highest honor currently awarded to a museum in the state. Mackay's Lost River Museum, operated by the South Custer County Historical Society, opened May 2017 on Main Street. The Museum houses a collection of historical artifacts and unique items donated by Mackay community and Lost River Valley residents. Its large display area is visitor friendly, well lighted, and handicapped accessible. Display artifacts are close at hand, easily viewed, and well interpreted. Features include a fully restored sheep wagon, a large, visitor interactive hard-rock mining exhibit, an extensive gallery of historic photos, and a large local newspaper and print shop exhibit.

David Pettyjohn, IHC Executive Director, says that "the Lost River Museum is a testament to the hard work, determination, and dedication of Mackay citizens. The South Custer County Historical Society has created a welcoming, informative, and important museum to share the Lost River Valley's story with locals and visitors alike."

THE SMITHSONIAN RETURNS TO IDAHO

A new Smithsonian traveling exhibit titled *Crossroads: Change in Rural America* will visit six Idaho communities from August 2019 - June 2020 for six weeks at a time.

While on display, each community will develop around the exhibit its own local programming, ranging from local exhibits and school displays, to lectures, films, panel discussions, and other activities.



Crossroads uses large-scale images, audio/video recordings, interactives and artifacts to explore the

history and meaning of rural American society across regions and over time. Centered on issues of identity, land, community, persistence and managing change, *Crossroads* explores how small towns have changed over the past century and considers how to reshape and re-envision the future.

Americans rely on rural crossroads—where people gather to exchange goods, services and culture, to engage in political and community matters. The US needs vibrant, sustainable rural places because the country relies on the productivity of rural residents. Small towns embrace the

notion that their people and uniqueness are critical assets despite the ripple effects of demographic changes, social problems and the exploitation of natural resources and human capital.

Crossroads offers multiple instances for visitors to connect to what resonates personally about rural life—what they cherish, and what they don't. The exhibit and discussions can also launch a local project that probes provocative, new perspectives of rural challenges and opportunities, such as putting community assets to work, sustaining our place and retaining our people, navigating a postindustrial economy, or giving voice to all residents and expanding the range of what they *do* cherish.

If you have any questions or would like more information about *Crossroads*, please contact David Pettyjohn at 208-345-5346 or david@idahohumanities.org.

Crossroads is presented in Idaho by Idaho Humanities Council.

Crossroads: Change in Rural America is part of Museum on Main Street, a partnership with the Smithsonian Institution that provides small and rural communities access to Smithsonian traveling exhibitions. Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the United States Congress. To learn more, visit museumonmainstreet.org.

CROSSROADS SCHEDULE:

August 23 – October 4, 2019

Host: Latah County Historical Society
Exhibit Venue: Moscow Chamber of Commerce
411 S. Main St. | Moscow, ID

October 12 – November 19, 2019

Burley Public Library
1300 Miller Ave. | Burley, ID

November 29, 2019 – January 10, 2020

Lemhi County Historical Society
204 Main Street | Salmon, ID

January 17 – February 28, 2020

LCSC Center for Arts and History
415 Main Street | Lewiston, ID

March 6 – April 17, 2020

Museum of Rexburg
35 N 1st E | Rexburg, ID

April 24 – June 5, 2020

Nampa Public Library
215 12th Ave. South | Nampa, ID



Smithsonian
Institution

IDAHO HUMANITIES COUNCIL AWARDS \$60,255 IN GRANTS

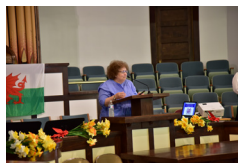
IHC recently awarded \$60,255 in grants to organizations and individuals. Thirty-four awards include fourteen major grants for public humanities programs, one planning grant, twelve Opportunity Grants, six Teacher Incentive Grants, and one other funded program. The grants were supported in part by funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Idaho Humanities Council's Endowment for Humanities Education.

MAJOR GRANTS:

National Old Time Fiddlers, Inc., Weiser, was awarded \$1,000 to transcribe the oral histories collected in the 2018 National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest. The festival attracts thousands of contestants and fans of American music. A roundtable with several "old timers" was part of the 2019 festival. The project director is **Sandra Cooper**.



Malad Valley Welsh Foundation, Malad City, was awarded \$1500 to help support presentations at the 15th annual Malad Valley Welsh Festival. Speakers will talk about Welsh culture, history, and traditions. The project director is **Gloria Jean Thomas**.



Hipeexnu kii u nuun wisiix, Lapwai, was awarded \$5,000 to help develop and present an immersion class to preserve the Sahaptin Nimiiipuutimt (NPL) dialect. The daily children's class will be supplemented with a weekly parent's class. Some portions will be videotaped and included online. The project director is **Bessie Walker**.

Basque Museum & Cultural Center, Boise, was awarded \$4,000 to create an exhibit catalog to accompany the photographic exhibit, "Inner Strength: Portraits of Basque Women" and will include photos representing both immigrant women and first-generation women. The photographs, by artist Peter Oberlindacher, will be accompanied by personal narratives in four languages - Euskara (the Basque language), Spanish, French and English. The project director is **Patty Miller**.

Community Library Network, Hayden ID, was awarded \$2,855 to support its annual North Idaho Reads community reading program in Spring 2019. Gregg Olsen, author of *The Deep Dark*, made presentations at public libraries in Hayden, Post Falls, and Coeur d'Alene and the Wallace Railroad Depot Museum. The project director is **Twylla Rehder**.



Confluence Press, Clarkston, was awarded \$3,000 for Everybody Reads, an annual One Book program, now in its 19th year. This year the community will read *The House of Broken Angels* by Luis Alberto Urrea. Events featuring the author will take place at the Latah County Library, Nezperce Community Library, and the Lewiston City Library. The project director is **Jennifer Ashby**.



Death Rattle Writers Festival, Nampa, was awarded \$1,000 to help fund the 6th annual event in October 2019 in downtown Nampa. Each day of the Festival features events celebrating different mediums of literary expression, including poetry, flash fiction, playwriting, graphic novels, hip-hop, true live stories and more. The project director is **Diana Forgione**.

Music Conservatory of Sandpoint, Idaho, was awarded \$2,000 to help support a summer student exchange program that promotes cultural appreciation and understanding through music. The El Sistema program

includes regular classes during the school year, followed by the summer exchange. Students from Mexico and Europe come to Idaho while Sandpoint students leave Idaho to study abroad. This year's theme is "Music in Nature," and includes collaboration with the Kaniksu Land Trust. The summer exchange program includes a series of free public events. The project director is **Katherine Greenland**.

Hispanic Cultural Center of Idaho, Nampa, was awarded \$5,000 to support the scripting phase of a documentary film focusing on the Farm Worker Movement. This phase will feature lectures by Humberto Fuentes and tours at the HCCI, and gathering of historical photographs (many from the collection of Claudio Beagrie), historical data, and stories. These materials will be displayed in a permanent exhibit at the HCCI. The project director is **Corrine Fisher**.

Trailing of the Sheep Cultural Heritage Center, Inc., Hailey, was awarded \$2,000 for a story-telling evening during the annual Trailing of the Sheep Festival in Hailey. The storytelling evening will focus on food as culture with Mark Kurlansky, a well-known author, as the main presenter. Among his over 30 published books are *Salt: A World History* and *Cod: A Biography of the Fish that Changed the World*. A local chef will be recruited to present with him. The project director is **Laura Drake**.



Monastery of St. Gertrude, Cottonwood, was awarded \$2,190 for the creation of two exhibits in the gallery "The Camas Prairie to the Rivers." The first will focus on mining, the immigration of Chinese and the Chinese Massacre, and the second will feature the Nez Perce War of 1877. The project director is **Mary Schmidt**.

Middleton Public Library, Middleton, was awarded \$3,650 to help support cultural events in October 2019, including a community Dia De Los Muertos celebration and a keynote address at the Idaho Library Association Conference to help librarians learn how to create programming that will build knowledge and insight, while being sensitive to all cultures. Both presentations will be led by Pat Mora, a renowned Latina author writing multi-cultural literature for children and teens. The project director is **Katherine Lovan**.



John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, Boston, was awarded \$3,500 to extend the reach of the massive collection of Hemingway's manuscripts, photographs, correspondence, and other documents. The collection was donated in 1964 to the Kennedy Presidential Library by Hemingway's widow. The library proposes a digital interactive biography that will allow readers to view these primary sources as they explore Hemingway's life and works. The site will be designed for educators and students as well as the general public. The project director is **Hilary Justice**.

University of Idaho Women's Center, Moscow, was awarded \$2,000 to support the 2019 Women's History Month keynote speaker, Franchesca Ramsey, a vlogger, actress, writer, producer, and director. She will examine social media as a forum for social activism, social justice, and social responsibility. Ramsey will participate in classroom discussion sessions as well. The project director is **Lysa Salisbury**.



PLANNING GRANT:

Boise State University, Boise, was awarded \$630 to convene a multidisciplinary group of stakeholders to discuss and define shared goals and next steps for an innovative museum design to showcase lives of

diaspora groups, including Native Americans, refugees, and immigrants. The project director was **Nicholas Miller**.

OPPORTUNITY GRANTS:

Post Falls Historical Society, Inc., Post Falls, was awarded \$990 to help support graduate students to inventory, sort, catalog, and digitize a collection of donated photographs. The project director is **Kimberly Brown**.

White Spring Ranch Museum/Archive Library, Genesee, was awarded \$1,000 for a public history event in September focusing on early Idaho settlement, Native American history, and early pioneer music. The project director is **Diane Conroy**.

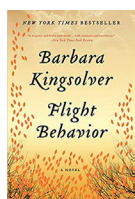
College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls, was awarded \$1,000 for a reading/discussion series related to the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI. The project director is **Russ Tremayne**.

Boise Art Museum, Boise, was awarded \$1,000 for a public lecture by Wendy Red Star in conjunction with an art exhibit including some of her work. Her art focuses on the historical and contemporary intersection of Native American ideologies. The project director is **Melanie Fales**.

Boise State University, Boise, was awarded \$1,000 to support a lecture in "The Idea of Nature" series, promoting intellectual inquiry about the environment and encouraging public dialogue. The lecture by Peter S. Onuf, University of Virginia Emeritus, was titled "Thomas Jefferson's Nature." The project director was **Samantha Harvey**.

Idaho State University, Pocatello, was awarded \$975 for a talk by John Carlos Rowe, University of Southern California, about Sara Winnemucca's life among the Paiutes and its relevance to the history of Native Americans in Idaho and Nevada. The project director was **Harold Hellwig**.

Valley of the Tetons Library, Driggs, was awarded \$505 for a presentation by musicians Michael Hurwitz and Jerry Linn. They presented songs about everyday life and events about the people who settled in Idaho. They included stories about the origins of the melodies, the history of the songs, and contemporary music. The project director was **Sue Austin**.



University of Idaho, Moscow, was awarded \$994 for a pilot project for an interdisciplinary collaboration focusing on environmental issues in Idaho. The pilot focused on Barbara Kingsolver's novel *Flight Behavior* as the catalyst for a discussion with two scholars - one from a humanities discipline and one from the social and/or natural sciences. The project director is **Jennifer Ladino**.

Museum of North Idaho, Coeur d'Alene, was awarded \$500 to support a talk by Jack Nesbit based on his most recent work, tracing the life of John and Carrie Leiberg. They homesteaded on Lake Pend Oreille in 1885 where John prospected and surveyed the Coeur d'Alene Basin, and Carrie was a licensed physician. The project director is **Dorothy Dahlgren**.

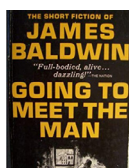
Lemhi County Historical Society, Salmon, was awarded \$971 to help fund talks during history month in June focusing on the history of the Shoshone and Bannock tribes and the interaction of LDS missions with the tribes and their role in the settlement of Idaho. On June 13, 2019, Cleve Davis presented a talk about the preservation of cultural practices and the impact of environmental change on traditional lifestyles. On June 22, 2019, the audience was led by Andrea Radke-Moss on a tour and lecture of the Salmon River Mission. The project director is **Hope Benedict**.

Lewis-Clark State College Center for Arts & History, Lewiston, was awarded \$1,000 to help support programs in conjunction with the presentation of an exhibit developed through the Joseph Center for Arts &

culture. Public presenters include Bobbie Connor, Silas Whitman, Jaime Pinkham, Lora Tennant, Brian Simmons, and other Nez Perce Tribal elders. The exhibit offers background on the dams on the Columbia and the Snake and stories about dams, fish, and tribal culture. The project director is **Debi Fitzgerald**.

Preservation Idaho, Meridian, was awarded \$530 to help fund the program that illustrates historic preservation work around Idaho, educates the methods of saving places, and celebrates efforts to promote Idaho's history. The program also highlights historic losses in communities through demolition, improper renovation, or poor policy development. The project director is **Gaby Thomason**.

TEACHER INCENTIVE GRANTS:



Joshua Tuggle, Borah High School, Boise, was awarded \$1,000 to help purchase additional books by James Baldwin for six classes to participate in The Cabin's pilot reading program, Authors in Focus. Students read Baldwin's short-story collection, "Going to Meet the Man." The project director is **Joshua Tuggle**.

Heather Osterhout, Declo Elementary, Declo, was awarded \$915 to help bring in a Shakespeare experience team from the Idaho Shakespeare Festival to provide a training workshop and teacher guides, programs, and costumes for a production by her students. The project director is **Heather Osterhout**.

Jan Green, Holy Spirit Catholic School, Pocatello, was awarded \$1,000 to support a teacher's class on children's literature, offering credit through NNU. Teachers meet monthly to read and discuss selections that will enhance their teaching of literature and emphasizing social responsibility themes. The project director is **Jan Green**.

Michelle Montoya, Hillsdale Elementary School, Meridian, was awarded \$750 to help bring "Wagons Ho" to her school for an interactive field trip emphasizing Idaho History. The program includes interactive stations exploring the life of pioneers, fur trappers, miners, and immigrants who settled Idaho. The project director is **Michelle Montoya**.

Shirley Ewing, Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology, Boise, was awarded \$800 to help support the hands-on opportunity for families to visit the museum and experience activity stations designed to learn about Idaho's mining history. The activities include geology hikes, activity stations, and tours of the museum. The project director is **Shirley Ewing**.

Patty Bolinger, William Thomas Middle School, American Falls, was awarded \$1,000 for a field trip to Boise for 8th grade students. The trip will include visits to the state capitol, the Wassmuth Center for Human Rights, and Boise State University. They will study about state and federal government and human rights prior to the trip. The project director is **Patty Bolinger**.

OTHER PROGRAMS:

Idaho Public Television, Boise, was awarded \$5,000 for support of the Ken Burns' documentary *Country Music*, airing in September on Idaho Public Television statewide. The documentary chronicles the history of this uniquely American art form, tracing its origins, and highlighting biographies of some of its creators. The project director is **Teri McColly**.

AUTHOR HAMPTON SIDES CAPTIVATED TWIN FALLS CROWD

RECAP OF TWIN FALLS EVENT

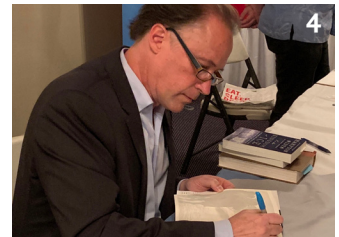
Author and journalist Hampton Sides delivered the Idaho Humanities Council's 5th Annual Magic Valley Distinguished Humanities Lecture in April in Twin Falls. Sides's topic was "Putting the 'Story' Back in History: Why We Need Narratives to Understand Our Past."

Earlier in the day Sides visited the College of Southern Idaho and was interviewed by Professor Russ Tremayne for the Honors class.

The event at the Turf Club was supported in part by the **College of Southern Idaho, Idaho Public Television, and Magic Valley Media.**

Sides is best-known for his gripping non-fiction adventure stories set in war or depicting epic expeditions of discovery and exploration. Sides' latest book, *On Desperate Ground*, is a chronicle of the extraordinary feats of heroism by Marines called on to do the impossible during the greatest battle of the Korean War. He is also the author of the bestselling histories *Ghost Soldiers*, *Blood and Thunder*, *Hellhound on His Trail*, and *In the Kingdom of Ice*.

Thank you to Murray and Nancy Feldman, David Pettyjohn and Geoffrey Parks, Kenneth and Sarah Harris, and Jenny Emery Davidson and Mark Davidson for sharing the evening with local college students through their donations to the student scholarship fund.



1. Honors students at the College of Southern Idaho enjoy a visit by author Hampton Sides.
2. Hampton Sides discussing how journalists make great history investigators.
3. Audience members at the Turf Club savoring Hampton Sides' research stories.
4. Hampton Sides signing books for guests after his evening lecture.



HUNDREDS ATTENDED LECTURE BY BEST-SELLING HISTORIAN DOUGLAS BRINKLEY IN IDAHO FALLS

RECAP OF IDAHO FALLS EVENT



Historian Douglas Brinkley delivered the Idaho Humanities Council's 12th Annual Eastern Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture in April in Idaho Falls. His topic was the title of his latest book, *American Moonshot: John F. Kennedy and the Great Space Race*.

Before the event Brinkley was welcomed at the downtown offices of the **Bank of Idaho** for the Benefactor reception. Congressman Mike Simpson was also in attendance and pleased to introduce Brinkley at the lecture.

IHC thanks its underwriters for helping make a very successful evening. Thank you to the **William J. and Shirley A. Maeck Family Foundation, Bank of Idaho, the Post Register, Idaho Public Television, KISU Radio, Teton Toyota and Volkswagen, and the City Club of Idaho Falls.**

Thank you to the following very generous individuals who helped share the evening with local high school students through their donations to the student scholarship fund: Anne Voillequé and Louise Nelson, Christine and Mark Ankeny, Anne Marie and Harold Jones, Margaret Johnson, Jenny Emery Davidson and Mark Davidson, David Pettyjohn and Geoffrey Parks, Lise and Jeff Pinkham, Honoré and Kevin Storms, Lynda Brighton, Murray and Nancy Feldman, Robin Piet, Patricia Lyn Scott, Roger and Pamela Mayes.



1. (L-R) Douglas Brinkley, IHC Board Member Tim Hopkins, Kathy and Congressman Mike Simpson enjoying a conversation at the Benefactor reception at Bank of Idaho.
2. Douglas Brinkley telling the story of NASA's space program in Idaho Falls.
3. A guest at the lecture getting her book signed and greeting Douglas Brinkley at the Barnes and Noble table.
4. Some guests posing with Douglas Brinkley (R) at the Benefactor Reception.
5. Congressman Mike Simpson welcoming guests to event and introducing Douglas Brinkley.

Photos by Bill Schaefer

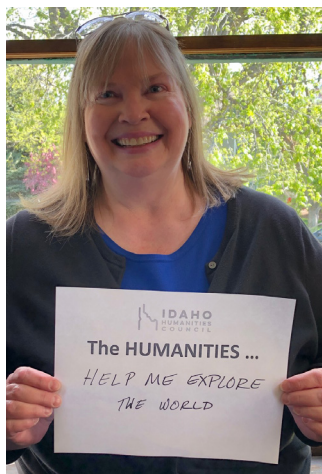
*William J. and Shirley A.
Maeck Family Foundation*





IDAHO HUMANITIES COUNCIL SEEKS AN ACADEMIC AND A PUBLIC BOARD MEMBER

The Idaho Humanities Council seeks applications to fill **a public position from Southeast Idaho and an academic position from Southwest Idaho** on its volunteer board of directors. An academic member currently is defined by the Council as either a scholar in the humanities or an administrator of an educational or cultural institution.



Margaret Johnson, IHC Board Member and Professor of English from Pocatello.

Southeast Idaho is defined by the Council as the region from Twin Falls County to the Wyoming border and from the Utah border to the Montana border. Southwest Idaho is geographically defined by the Council as the region from the Oregon border to the western border of Twin Falls County, and from the Nevada border to Riggins.

The IHC's 19-member board is comprised of academic members and public members from all regions of the state. In addition to fair regional representation and gender balance, the Council especially encourages applicants that reflect the state's ethnic, racial, and cultural diversity.

Board members serve three-year terms, with the possibility of renewal for a second three-year term. The board meets three times each year in February, June, and October to award grants and conduct other business. The IHC covers travel expenses for board members to attend meetings.

The IHC awards grant funds to organizations and individuals throughout the state to support public programs in history, literature, philosophy, cultural anthropology, law, and other humanities disciplines. The IHC also supports a number of its own council-conducted programs, such as regional Distinguished Humanities Lectures, weeklong summer institutes in the humanities for Idaho K-12 teachers, a Humanities Speakers Bureau, statewide tours of Smithsonian traveling exhibits, and other programs and activities. IHC receives funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and donations from foundations, corporations and individuals.

Information about the Council and applications for board membership are available online at www.idahohumanities.org, under "About Us."

The deadline for applications is September 1, 2019. The board will review applications and elect the new members at the Council's October meeting.

For more information about the IHC's mission and board member responsibilities, prospective applicants are invited to call IHC Executive Director David Pettyjohn at (888) 345-5346, email david@idahohumanities.org, or write to the Idaho Humanities Council, 217 W. State Street, Boise, Idaho 83702.

IHC FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

IHC invites grant applications supporting projects involving Idaho citizens that focus on literature, history, philosophy, art history, archaeology and other humanities disciplines. On the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and the struggle for women's suffrage, we are especially interested in projects that explore the personalities and contributions of women who influenced Idaho in ways large and small.

The Council further invites applications that encourage participation from all of Idaho's diverse populations and reach out to under-served audiences.

All applications are submitted online. Notice of decisions for Major and Research applications are emailed after November 1 or March 1.

IHC Funding Opportunities Include:

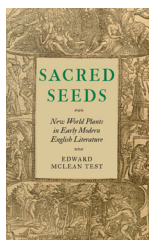
MAJOR GRANTS (OVER \$1,000) – Initial applications are due **August 15 or December 15** with final applications due **September 15 or January 15**.

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP GRANTS (due September 15 ONLY): This grant category is offered to scholars to provide funds for time and expenses related to humanities research. A maximum of four fellowships of up to \$3,500 are awarded each year.

OPPORTUNITY GRANTS (\$1,000 OR LESS) – An opportunity grant application must be submitted **at least 40 days** before the planned program. Allow two weeks for a decision.

TEACHER INCENTIVE GRANTS (\$1,000 OR LESS) – These applications for curriculum improvement in the humanities must be submitted **at least 40 days** before the planned program. Allow two weeks for a decision.

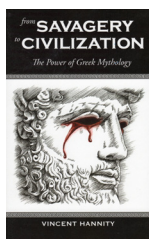
NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE HUMANITIES BY IDAHO SCHOLARS



BSU Professor Examines the Impact of 'New World'

Sacred Seeds by Edward "Mac" Test examines how New World plants—tobacco, amaranth, guaiacum, and the prickly pear cactus—and their associated Native myths

impacted English literature and European culture. Test explores the contributions of indigenous peoples to European society, charting an alternative cultural history. This book is the culmination of much research, some supported by an IHC Research Fellowship. Available via online booksellers or www.nebraskapress.unl.edu.



Former IHC Chair Publishes New Book on Greek Mythology

From Savagery to Civilization: The Power of Greek Mythology by former IHC Chair Vince Hannity offers a new perspective and an engaging overview

of classical mythology for neophyte and experienced readers. He describes the complexity, vitality, and drama of the ancient Greek gods with an entertaining and informative narrative that is accessible to almost any reader. Available through Amazon.com or Boise's Rediscovered Books.



Mary Clearman Blew Publishes New Novel

Ruby Dreams of Janis Joplin tells the story of a teenage high school dropout in rural Montana who joins a rock and roll band called the Idaho Rivermen, dreaming of fame and

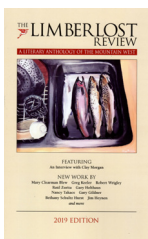
fortune, only to return sometime later to her hometown emotionally bruised and disillusioned. The novel explores how women deal with the isolation of small towns, the damage done when a community turns against itself, the lasting effects of abuse on the vulnerable, and a capacity to confront the past and heal. The novel is available via online booksellers or www.nebraskapress.unl.edu.



New Biography of New Deal-Era Senator B.K. Wheeler

Political Hell-Raiser by former IHC Chair Marc C. Johnson is the first book to tell the full story of Senator Burton K. Wheeler, a genuine political maverick

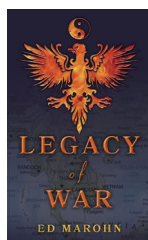
from Montana in the first half of the 20th century. Wheeler (1882-1975) may have been the most powerful politician Montana ever produced, and he was one of the most influential—and controversial—members of the United States Senate during three of the most eventful decades in American history. A New Deal Democrat, Wheeler consistently acted with a righteous personal and political independence that has all but disappeared from politics. The book is available via online booksellers or www.oupress.com.



Ardinger Revives Literary Journal

The Limberlost Review: A Literary Anthology of the Mountain West is a 280-page literary anthology edited and published by former IHC Director Rick Ardinger and his wife

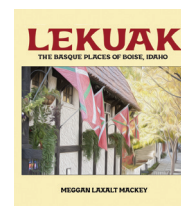
Rosemary of Boise, featuring poetry, fiction, essays, memoir, interviews, translations, artwork, and reflections on books we come back to again and again. The anthology features new work by contemporary writers and artists from the Rocky Mountain West and beyond. This 2019 Edition revives *The Limberlost Review* as a literary journal of the 1970s and 1980s in a new and colorful way. "The convenor in us thinks it's just time to bring the literary journal back," Ardinger writes in the Introduction. "There are fewer and fewer print venues for writers in the Mountain West, and we miss the creative stir that comes from creating the mix." *The Limberlost Review* can be found in bookstores and through www.limberlostpress.com.



Idaho Vietnam War Veteran Publishes Novel

Author and former IHC Board Member Ed Marohn was a captain in the US Army, serving with the 25th Infantry Division and the 101st Airborne (Airmobile) Division in the Vietnam

War, where he commanded a combat unit of 110 men. Awarded three Bronze Stars, one Air Medal, two Army Commendation Medals and several other commendations, Marohn recently channeled his past experience into a novel entitled *Legacy of War*. *The Booklife Prize Review* noted that "Fans of the military thriller genre will find a lot to enjoy in these pages . . . The novel is not a caricature of history, but rather looks back at the Vietnam War to show how it affected personal lives and culture at large." *Legacy of War* was a semi-finalist for the 2013 Amazon breakthrough novel contest, and is available through Amazon.com.

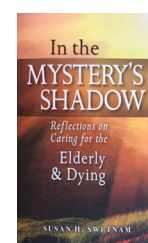


New Book Explores Basque Places of Boise

Lekuak: The Basque Places of Boise, Idaho is a cultural journey from unique perspectives. The book explores

the impact Basque

immigrants from the Basque Country, and their descendants, have had on the City of Boise. This journey is not only through the city's landscape, but also through the generations past, present, and future. Today, the Basque places of Boise still remarkably represent Old World values that the first generation of immigrants from the Basque Country brought with them. The book is available via online booksellers, <https://basquebooks.com> or from the Basque Museum and Cultural Center in Boise.



New Book Explores Massage Therapy for the Elderly, Sick, and Dying

In her new book *In the Mystery's Shadow*, ISU English Professor Emerita and former IHC Chair Susan Swetnam draws on her experience serving

thousands of ill and dying clients, often in hospice programs, as a certified massage therapist—and also on her experience of caring for her own husband, who died young of cancer. She explains how this sometimes difficult work offers not just the fulfillment of giving comfort to people who need it, but also moments of breathtaking wonder, moments that hint at the untold complexity of being human and affirm our sacred connections with each other. Available via Amazon.com and other online retailers.

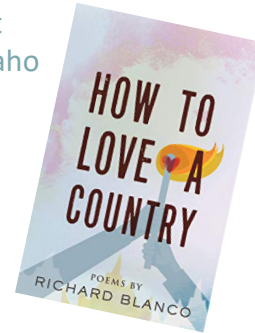


SAVE THE DATE!

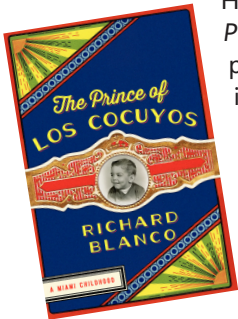
PRIZE-WINNING POET RICHARD BLANCO
TO SPEAK IN BOISE IN SEPTEMBER



Historic presidential inaugural poet Richard Blanco will deliver the Idaho Humanities Council's 23rd Annual Distinguished Humanities Lecture on **Thursday, September 19, 7 p.m., at Boise Centre West.** Blanco is one of the most beloved and influential poets and storytellers writing today.



Selected by President Obama as the fifth inaugural poet in U.S. History, Richard Blanco is the youngest and the first Latino, immigrant, and gay person to serve in such a role. Born in Madrid to Cuban exile parents and raised in Miami, the negotiation of cultural identity characterizes his three collections of poetry: *City of a Hundred Fires*, which received the Agnes Starrett Poetry Prize from the University of Pittsburgh Press; *Directions to the Beach of the Dead*, recipient of the Beyond Margins Award from the PEN American Center; and *Looking for the Gulf Motel*, recipient of the Paterson Poetry Prize and the Thom Gunn Award.



He has authored the memoirs *For All of Us, One Today: An Inaugural Poet's Journey* and the *Prince of Los Cocuyos: A Miami Childhood*, winner of the Lambda Literary Award. His inaugural poem "One Today" was published as a children's book, in collaboration with renowned illustrator Dav Pilkey.

Blanco's latest book of poems, *How to Love a Country*, both interrogates the American narrative, past and present, and celebrates the still unkept promise of its ideals. In this new collection of poems, his first in over seven years, Blanco continues to invite a conversation with all Americans. Through an oracular yet intimate and accessible voice, he addresses the complexities and contradictions of our nationhood and the unresolved sociopolitical matters that affect us all.

He is a Woodrow Wilson Fellow and has received numerous honorary doctorates. He has taught at Georgetown University, American University, and Wesleyan University. He serves as the first Education Ambassador for The Academy of American Poets.



TICKETS are available by visiting www.idahohumanities.org or by calling 208-345-5346. General tickets are \$65 and Benefactor tickets are \$130. Benefactors are invited to a private pre-event reception with Blanco at 5 p.m. The evening will begin with a no-host reception and silent auction at 6 p.m. at Boise Centre West. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m., with Blanco's talk to follow. Blanco's books will be available from Rediscovered Books for signing afterwards.



SAVE THE DATE!

PRIZE-WINNING WRITER VIET THANH
NGUYEN TO SPEAK IN COEUR D'ALENE



Pulitzer Prize winning writer, Viet Thanh Nguyen, will deliver the IHC's 16th Annual North Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture on **Friday, October 25, 7 p.m., at the Coeur d'Alene Resort.**

Viet Thanh Nguyen's writing is bold, elegant, and fiercely honest. His remarkable debut novel, *The Sympathizer*, won the Pulitzer Prize, was a Dayton Literary Peace Prize winner, and made the finalist list for the PEN/Faulkner award. The Pulitzer Prize citation reads, "[*The Sympathizer*] is a layered immigrant tale told in the wry, confessional voice of a 'man of two minds'—and two countries, Vietnam and the United States."

Viet and his family came to the United States as refugees during the Vietnam War in 1975. As he grew up in America, he began to notice that most movies and books about the war focused on Americans while the Vietnamese were silenced and erased. He was inspired by this lack of representation to write about the war from a Vietnamese perspective, globally reimagining what we thought we knew about the conflict. *The New York Times* says that his novel, *The Sympathizer*, "fills a void...giving voice to the previously voiceless while it compels the rest of us to look at the events of forty years ago in a new light." His voice is refreshing and powerful as he urges readers to examine the legacy of that tumultuous time and its aftermath from a new perspective.



The audacious novel has also been described by *The Guardian* as having a "Whitman-like multiplicity" as it "reads like the absolute opposite of Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried*." Viet's book *Nothing Ever Dies: Vietnam and the Memory of War* was a finalist for the National Book Award. Author Ari Kelman praises *Nothing Ever Dies* saying it, "provides the fullest and best explanation of how the Vietnam War has become so deeply inscribed into national memory." His newest work, a collection of short stories titled *The Refugees*, explores questions of immigration, identity, love, and family.



TICKETS are available by visiting www.idahohumanities.org or by calling the IHC at 208-345-5346. General tickets are \$65 and Benefactor tickets are \$130. Benefactors are invited to a private pre-event reception with Nguyen at 5 p.m. The evening will begin with a no-host reception and silent auction at 6 p.m. at the Resort. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m., with Nguyen's talk to follow. Nguyen's books will be available from the Well-Read Moose for signing afterwards.

IDAHO HUMANITIES COUNCIL DONORS – THANK YOU!

Many donors make multiple gifts throughout the year. Donors are listed at the level of their cumulative giving for the fiscal year – gifts received between November 1, 2018 and June 20, 2019.

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Russ and Marcie Tremayne
Cindy and Mark Wang
Carrie Warr



Visit IHC's new updated website

Earlier this year the staff and board worked to refresh the IHC's website, www.idahohumanities.org. It contains easy to navigate buttons for IHC program information, grant instructions, and ways to donate or contact the staff. There are also images from actual programs and some of the beautiful wilderness photos are posted with permission from photographer Ed Cannady.

Our board members are listed as well as an archive of past newsletters. Lastly, there is an easy-to-navigate event calendar of IHC events or grant funded programs. Please take a moment to look through it and let us know your thoughts!

We'll be changing up and creating new programs so you might want to bookmark IHC's website in your browser!

IN MEMORIAM

In memory of Bill Studebaker

Rick and Rosemary Ardinger
Jim and Cyndie Woods

In memory of Margo Aragon Herrington

Jennifer Holley
Rick and Rosemary Ardinger

In memory of Jean Keisling

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In honor of Sheila Gary's 75th Birthday

Cary Miller

In honor of Arthur and Novella Hart

Margaret Schiff

In honor of Rick Ardinger

Michael and Glenda Green

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what are
you reading?

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



READER: Grove Koger

OCCUPATION: Assistant Editor, *Art Patron Magazine* and *Deus Loci: The Lawrence Durrell Journal*, Boise

BOOK: *Suspended Sentences: Three Novellas*, by Patrick Modiano

To a child, events are inexplicable. Things simply happen, and the explanations that parents and other adults attach to them have no meaning. It's a period of ambiguity in which the very words "cause" and "effect" are mysterious and more than a little frightening.

Patrick Modiano has never been able to free himself from that ambiguity.

Modiano was born in Paris shortly after the city's liberation from the Germans, but the Occupation casts long shadows across these novellas. Parents are frequently absent (as were Modiano's own). Neighborhoods are half-deserted. Strangers come and go late at night under puzzling circumstances. Whatever *really* happens, happens offstage, and we hear about it only in whispers. Not even memory itself can be trusted. Like Proust, Modiano is searching for lost time, but his books are short and his style is simple. In one of the Swedish Academy's happier choices, it awarded him the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2014.



READER: Linda Hatzenbuehler

OCCUPATION: Board-Certified Forensic Psychologist; retired Vice-Provost for Health Professions, Idaho State University, Pocatello

BOOK: *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng

Having lived as a child at the edge of Shaker Heights, Ohio, attended St. Dominic's Elementary School there, and enjoyed riding the rapid-transit train into downtown Cleveland, I thought I would like reading Celeste Ng's novel, *Little Fires Everywhere*. I was not disappointed.

The story revolves around the Richardson family—Elena, Bill and their four children—who rent a house they own in Shaker Heights to Mia and Pearl, mother and daughter. The novel addresses multiple themes—motherhood, race and ethnicity, class, artistic sensibility, and coming of age, to name only a few. Interestingly, the early chapters are short, but they become longer as the characters and themes intertwine. In the process, Shaker Heights' façade of orderliness and utopian gentility devolves into little fires everywhere.

THE NEXT DEADLINE FOR IHC GRANTS:

The next deadline for Idaho Humanities Council major grant proposals is **August 15, 2019 for the initial application** and **September 15, 2019 for the final submission**. IHC strongly recommends that prospective applicants contact staff to discuss their project ideas before completing proposals. Grant guidelines and application instructions are available on IHC's website at www.idahohumanities.org, or by calling 208-345-5346.