

IDAHO HUMANITIES

The Newsletter of the Idaho Humanities Council | Fall 2021

features



OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN THE HUMANITIES



EDITOR'S NOTE: *This year the Idaho Humanities Council honored Dr. Mary Reed, Moscow, and Dr. Hope Benedict, Salmon, as the recipients of the 2020 Outstanding Achievement in the Humanities Award. We enjoyed the acceptance speeches of these friends and colleagues so much in person, we asked to reprint their reflections on their storied careers here.*

Photo: Drs. Mary Reed (left) and Hope Benedict (right) celebrate at Dr. Benedict's award reception in Salmon.

REFLECTIONS ON ROUNDING THE CORNER

Remarks at IHC Award Presentation, July 8, 2021

MARY REED

Last March as I was checking my emails I found one from a David Pettyjohn. Not recognizing the name I deliberated whether to delete or open it. Fortunately my husband identified him as the director of the Idaho Humanities Council. Reading the message, I was overwhelmed to read that the IHC had selected me for the annual IHC Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Humanities. I am extremely honored and still very much overwhelmed with this award. Last month I went to my grandson's graduation. After the ceremony when family and friends had gathered, he looked around the room and said: I can't believe that everyone is here because of me. That is how I feel seeing all of you. But I am very glad you came. Thank you.

A special part of this award is that I am sharing it with my friend and colleague, Hope Benedict. I also want to extend this honor to those who work with Idaho's small museums. They face many, often extreme challenges: small often volunteer staffs; maintaining old buildings; lack of funds and financial support. Despite all, they are

Reed feature continued on page 4

REFLECTIONS ON HISTORY & COMMUNITY

Remarks at IHC Award Presentation, August 5, 2021

HOPE BENEDICT

Thank you for coming this evening. It is such an honor—and surprise—to receive this recognition from the Idaho Humanities Council and to have all of you here to share it with me. And thank you to Tom Blanchard for the nomination and the IHC for selecting me. It is also a privilege to have been chosen along with historian, museum wizard, and exhibit consultant, Dr. Mary Reed, who is not only a colleague of long-standing but also my dear friend. I won't bore you with all the rather mortifying details, but there was some confusion on my part about what award I was receiving. IHC Executive Director David Pettyjohn was explaining and congratulating me, but my cell connection cut out at the just the wrong moment, and I was too embarrassed to say, "What?—What Award?" When I checked out the council's website and saw the one award listed—with no new recipients named, yet, I thought "No. It can't be that one." Thankfully, Dr. Reed and her husband, retired Idaho State Historian, Keith Petersen, called to congratulate me a week or so later and share Mary's news, which kept me from having to call David back for

Benedict feature continued on page 6

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MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the IHC 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 MARGARET JOHNSON

During the summer of 2021, David Pettyjohn and I traveled to Moscow and Salmon, Idaho, to celebrate the accomplishments of two remarkable Idahoans. Mary Reed, former executive director of the Latah County Historical Society, and Hope Benedict, president of the Lemhi County Historical Society and Museum, were recognized as co-recipients of the 2020 Outstanding Achievement in the Humanities Award for their remarkable contributions to the rich history of Idaho. Talking with guests at these events, we learned about the ways that Mary and Hope have helped their communities develop and respond to the unique histories of their regions, and how they have played instrumental parts in telling stories of people and place that go back centuries.

History also played a major part in the 2021 Summer Teacher Institute that was held at the beautiful College of Idaho campus in July. A group of teachers from around the state came together for a week of lectures, presentations, performances, and conversations that focused on literary and music history and interpretation. Among the talented presenters and instructors for the week were IHC board member Jan Johnson, who provided a history of Native American contributions to American jazz and rock music, and former board member Carolyn Gonzalez, who presented a discussion of Latinx literature, discussing the themes and figures central to literary history.

As we begin to see a change in weather and travel becomes more difficult, I encourage IHC supporters to learn more about other topics of historical importance. You can revisit recordings of past Connected Conversations programs to learn more about "Boise's Industrial Past," "Minidoka: An American Concentration Camp," and "LGBTQIA + History in Boise," among other subjects. And when you find yourselves pining for outdoor experience, you can rewatch "The History of Idaho State Parks" and prepare to bring your knowledge of the past into your traveling present.

from the Director DAVID PETTYJOHN



My humanities journey began on the bottom shelf of a simple wooden bookcase located in the hallway of my childhood home. Located there was a complete encyclopedia set. I vividly remember the smell of the pages as I opened up random volumes and started to read the knowledge found between the leather covers. I was introduced to other countries, other states, and individuals that existed well before me. That set sparked a lifelong journey of exploration where I continued to learn other ideas and perspectives. Most importantly, it connected me with my fellow

humans and helped me realize that I was not alone.

Today the opportunities to learn have expanded to the digital realm. Online exhibits, lectures, and conversations connect us with people across the globe. Access exists on our phones, tablets, and laptops.

From in-person programming to online conversations, the IHC is proud to offer opportunities to learn no matter where you are on your journey. As we look toward the new year, I encourage you to visit our website to learn more about these programs. We will also be announcing our revised speaker's bureau program, titled Inquiring Idaho and the new Human Ties conversation program.



Follow our socials to share our digital programming with others in your circle.

IHC WELCOMES TWO NEW STAFF MEMBERS

The Idaho Humanities Council is pleased to welcome Johanna Bringhurst as the organization's second full-time Program Officer and Jessica Evett as IHC's Development and Communications Officer. Evett and Bringhurst bring a depth of experience, and the creation of two new roles will bolster IHC's organizational capacity to continue signature programs as well as launch new initiatives in 2022 and beyond. The restructuring follows the departure of longtime Director of Programs and Development, Jennifer Holley, who leaves a rich legacy that will be reflected in IHC's programming and community connections for years to come.

In her new role, Bringhurst will coordinate IHC's signature events, including the annual Summer Teacher Institute and the Distinguished Humanities Lecture series. The position will also be central in the development and coordination of IHC's Human Ties conversation program. Stepping into the newly created role of Development and Communications Officer, Evett will play a central role in the creation of IHC's development and communications plan, as well as maintaining strong relations with IHC's dedicated donor base.

These two newly created roles join Doug Exton, Program Officer, Cindy Wang, Director of Operations and Debra Schlechte, Office Manager, and David Pettyjohn, Executive Director.

Wang will continue to oversee IHC's financial management and human resources while working part-time from her new home in Oregon. Doug Exton will continue to serve as Program Officer for Grants, Museum on Main Street, and Connected Conversations. Office Manager Debra Schlechte will be the lead staff member for programs including Inquiring Idaho (formerly Speaker's Bureau) and Recipe Roundup in addition to providing a smoothly functioning office environment.



JOHANNA BRINGHURST

Johanna has a BS in Political Science from Utah State University. Previously, she was the State Coordinator for National History Day in Idaho where she helped to teach, prepare and inspire Idaho students for college, career, and citizenship. Johanna resides in Boise with her charming husband, three joyfully energetic sons, and a poodle named Maple. Johanna can be reached at johanna@idahohumanities.org



JESSICA EVETT

Born and raised in Boise, Jessica holds a B.A. degree in Psychology and Creative Writing from the College of Idaho, and an M.A. degree in Mass Communications/Public Relations from the University of Denver. Previously, Jessica spent six years serving as General Manager of Radio Boise (KRBX 89.9/93.5FM), a nonprofit community radio station serving the Treasure Valley and parts of Eastern Oregon. Prior to that, Jessica spent 16 years in Montana and Colorado (1999-2015), with a career spanning natural resource work, communications, fundraising, and management at several outdoor stewardship organizations. Jessica can be reached at jessica@idahohumanities.org

responsible for gathering, conserving, and sharing the history of their community – all invaluable services. However, during my 23 years working at the Latah County Historical Society I was fortunate in enjoying strong support from the county and city of Moscow.



Margaret Johnson (right), IHC Chair, presents Mary Reed (left) a gift in honor of her Outstanding Achievement in the Humanities Award

Museum work is interesting and even mysterious as many people have no idea what we do and don't understand the effort and care that is part of the job. Take for example my father and aunt. I remember describing with much enthusiasm what was going on in my job: oral histories, exhibits, public programs. My dad looked at me quizzically and said: "Do they pay you for that?" And my dear Aunt Laura after years of exposure to my work at LCHS always maintained that I was in fact a librarian.

I began as director after a couple of years being involved in the historical society. My venue was the 1886 dark and drafty Victorian House, fondly called the McConnell Mansion and owned by Latah County. But my new job description didn't quite cover what lay ahead. If I thought I would be at the door greeting and chatting to visitors who came to events, I had a lot to learn.

First on my list were events and celebrations. I entered a period of

intense activity. In the first three months we hosted four events. But first I had to quickly learn the importance of refreshments and chairs: how to cut up cheese and spread out crackers on a plate, make gallons of coffee and punch, and be sure there were enough plates and cups to go around. The chairs were tricky: old folding metal ones that had been donated. It took strength and finesse to unfold and then collapse them which meant giving a strong kick to the rear bar. First event was to launch our endowment with an unplanned visit from the Idaho Lieutenant Governor. Next came a book signing that launched our guide to Latah County followed by a Veteran's day event. Our first Christmas celebration, hastily organized, was a small group in the dining room, eating cookies and drinking punch while listening to a musician playing carols on a recorder.

Next on the list: develop and lead school field trips. I thought, "How hard can this be? I like children – I even have four of my own." I was mistaken. There were few things as intimidating as hearing the thunder of little feet outside the front door, excitedly waiting to enter. And in they came. What to do!!! I began with telling them that the house was 100 years old which was of course of little interest to them. But it prompted a chant as they pointed to various objects in the parlor shouting "is that 100 years old, is that 100 years old?"

Fortunately the teachers came to my rescue and calmed the group. Now it was time to go upstairs to see the exhibits. I thought this would go better. Between two rooms of what had been bedrooms was a small space where we stored manikins. A few boys who left the group to explore the rooms discovered the manikins and ran back, exuberantly announcing to their classmates: "Come see the naked

ladies!!" A moment of panic. "I threw myself against the door, loudly telling them, "Get back!"

I soon learned a few tricks of crowd control, including having the kids sit down when they entered - after all I was much bigger than them - and speaking in a soft voice so they would be have to be quiet to hear me.

My program greatly improved when I assumed the role of the hired girl living in 1917. As I reasoned, children love make believe and this old house was the perfect setting. Indeed they did, and the program was a success. Except for Frank who was in sitting the front row. As I went through my spiel about it being the year 1917, Frank fixed me with a steely glare. Finally he couldn't stand it any longer and spouted: "It's 1992! Get with it!"

Next on the list was to develop educational programs. I had developed a program on Carol Ryrie Brink, Moscow's famous author which I gave to schools around the state. One group in Coeur d'Alene contacted me to ask if I could give a program to their

As I went through my spiel about it being the year 1917, Frank fixed me with a steely glare. Finally he couldn't stand it any longer and spouted: "It's 1992! Get with it!"

members in the evening and in the afternoon to a smaller group. When I arrived and began talking about Carol Brink, it dawned on me that the group had come expecting me to give them a talk on creative writing. Only one person left in disgust after learning I was not a writing instructor.

Twin Falls invited me to give a program to a class of fourth graders.

*What I learned and have profited from
is the knowledge that history includes
everyone; everyone has a history;
everyone is included, no exceptions.
History connects us all.*

And to my surprise when I entered the room I faced not one classroom but an all school assembly of grades from first to sixth. This was another lesson in quickly learning how to improvise.

Another time in Southern Idaho, I encountered another surprise: It was a lovely spring day after weeks of rain. The audience consisted of only one person (possibly inebriated) who had come in the dark room to take a nap and two staff members. Before the program a woman rushed up to me gushing that she was so happy to meet the author who wrote Biblical stories for Golden Books. She was quite disappointed to learn who I really was.

An important part of the job description was the care and upkeep of the McConnell Mansion which was built in 1886. Fortunately the county commissioners who owned the house were dedicated caretakers. They helped with three floods from broken pipes. At the last disaster, I stood in the dining room with an umbrella as the water rained down.

This was the era of centennials, and my task was to develop programs activities to reach the whole community. There were five celebrations: the McConnell Mansion, Latah County, the city of Moscow, University of Idaho, and the state. They included four parades, two with horses; a hot air balloon; and many activities and programs for children. Not far behind was the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial

Commemoration. As chair of the county committee I worked with many towns and groups, developing a new network through Deena Heath who was director of the Moscow Arts Commission. Funds from the state organization allowed us to extensively renovate the Mansion's interior and undertake many new projects.

In 2004, after decades of ice cream socials, harvest dinners, and school field trips, I decided it was time to move on. Things were going well. A member had donated a brick building across the street and the McConnell Mansion was refurbished. The Idaho Heritage Trust funded a new project of working with staff and boards of museums throughout the state to create new exhibits and plan for the future. Later, as a volunteer consultant I travelled with my husband, State Historian Keith Petersen to all corners of the state. Most recently I have volunteered at St. Gertrude's Museum redoing exhibits and developing programs for children.

At the end of this journey there comes a period of reflection on my career. What I learned and have profited from is the knowledge that history includes everyone; everyone has a history; everyone is included, no exceptions. History connects us all. Also, during these years I became an integral part of the Moscow and Latah County community, its schools, and residents who came into the historical society with questions and important pieces of

the county's history and to volunteer. I also enjoyed being an integral part of Idaho's museum community through the Idaho Association of Museums. I have learned much on my journey and believe I have made a difference.

Many helped me along the way: the Idaho Humanities Council, the Idaho Heritage Trust, the Idaho Association of Museums, the Idaho State Historical Society, Latah County and Moscow, and the Latah County Historical Society: past, present and future staff and trustees, members and supporters. I am glad to report that LCHS is in good hands with Dulce Kersting-Lark and her staff and volunteers who are making impressive strides in expanding its mission and audiences. But the most important person throughout these years has been my husband, Keith Petersen, a fellow historian. He has been my travelling companion, best friend, mentor, and source of encouragement, advice, and many times comfort.

When I learned of the award I first thought of it as the culmination of a long career. But now I've reconsidered. I think I am just rounding a curve on my journey, and wondering what lies ahead.

clarification. I am overwhelmed—and slightly incredulous—to be in the company of so many excellent humanities scholars, including Dr. Reed, Keith Petersen, Janet Gallimore, the late William Studebaker, and my college professor and advisor, the late Dr. Robert C. Sims—all people I admire, whom I am proud to call friends, and whose contributions to the humanities have benefited so many.

Throughout the multiple decades that I attended college, my plan was to teach at the university level—with nary a thought of museums or public history, but I began to experience twinges of doubt and outright panic when one of my professors at the University of Oregon said sternly, “Hope, you will take the first job offered to you—no matter where it is. Then you will have the security to look elsewhere if you want.” The year I finished, there was one job advertised in my field—or more specifically, only one that could be manipulated to fit my checkered career as a graduate

at this point that I reevaluated. I have tried all my life, and quite successfully I might add, not to get too far away from my parents. England might be fun for a few weeks but a few years? To put this in perspective, my Dad had to come stay with me for over a month to keep me from dropping out of school in Eugene. I was homesick. Thus, I changed my course of study. My Ph.D. is in US History with a specialty in the American West—and my dissertation was written about Lemhi County. I came home to live with Mom and Dad to do my research. **Perfect.** So, when I saw the position for a US historian who could teach history of the American West and the occasional religious history course posted by a private religious college in Missouri, I thought, “Hmmm—way too far from Lemhi County.” Instead, I taught courses at Boise State and then at Idaho State as both an assistant professor and an adjunct. When Stewart decided to retire and made the brave suggestion that he might be interested in moving to Salmon, I rejoiced. Moving home gave me the opportunity to be an historian both inside and outside the classroom.

We arrived in Salmon just as the position of president of the Lemhi County Historical Society and Museum opened. Having spent months going through the museum’s archives and loving it, I decided I would seek election. That was twenty-two years ago. And, except for the two years that Bob Russell stepped in as president in a gracious effort to save my book project, I have, despite many a contentious and expensive campaign, managed to keep a tenuous hold on my office—clearly, we have no term limits.

But what to do at a museum? I had no training in museology; no experience in grant-writing; no background in

exhibit design. Luckily, my election coincided with year two of the Governor’s Lewis and Clark Trail Committee’s museum’s initiative. This came with training and idea-exchange meetings with other museums and many welcome dollars in assistance. The funds were to be used to enhance the visitors’ experience. Realizing that there would be no experience without existing collections, we allocated some of the money to make our artifacts and

History is the discipline we all can and should use to understand our culture, our community, and our place; it provides the tools—the knowledge—to inform our decision-making, cultural interaction, governance, and policy development.

archives safer—with an air filtration system, protective glass and lighting, and a heat pump for temperature control. One year, we had new cases made (Ray Herbst). Keith and Mary, on a reconnaissance of the trail museums, prepared guidelines for exhibits that tell a story. Rather than having cases full of stuff, we needed to use the artifacts to educate not only visitors but also community members about this region. I talked Clair Wiley into coming out of retirement and employing her artistry and local historical knowledge to help me.

Dr. Sims had always impressed upon me the fact that history affects every part of our lives and that as an historian, I have a responsibility to make history accessible to everyone. He believed and instilled in me the understanding that history should



Margaret Johnson (right), IHC Chair, presents Hope Benedict (left) the Outstanding Achievement in the Humanities Award.

student. My master’s degree is in 16th and 17th century English history and the English Reformation. When I decided to pursue a Ph.D., I understood that to become an acceptable/hirable historian of England, I would need to study in the United Kingdom. It was

not be written just for other like-minded historians. History is the discipline we all can and should use to understand our culture, our community, and our place; it provides the tools—the knowledge—to inform our decision-making, cultural interaction, governance, and policy development. While not all history is of earth-shattering importance, historical knowledge can establish stronger connections to and respect for our environment and our collective population. Thus, we implemented a series of educational lectures on state, regional, and local topics; we brought in scholars and called on local historians. We used our photo collection to make calendars and then publish a book; we installed photo exhibits at the courthouse, the innovation center, and in area businesses. It is an important part of our mission to introduce or reacquaint people with their history and its relevance in their lives.

It remains a challenge for small community museums to generate continuing support and interest; so, we strive to connect residents to their history by having luncheons at a museum facility—the Salmon Grange, and by offering history tours.

We established joint programming with the Sacajawea Center several years ago, producing the opportunity for greater outreach. Several people suggested we might want to include the importance of rivers to our community—a critical aspect of our cultural and economic development. When the library offered to sell us 204 Main in 2017, we were able to address this embarrassing oversight by bringing in speakers and creating new and evolving exhibits—opening fresh

avenues to explore and bringing us many more fine partners, new members, and wider visitation. We have begun working more closely with the schools because we have more space; we were able to bring in a Smithsonian traveling exhibit (“Crossroads: Change in Rural America”)—made possible through the Idaho Humanities Council; and another (“In Good Faith”) focusing on treaty issues of the Agaidika.

Having had the good fortune to serve on the Idaho State Historical Society Board of Trustees for 12 years and participating with historians, exhibit designers, and Idahoans from all around the state in the creation of the new state museum exposed me to so many creative ways to make history appealing to more people and to demonstrate its importance in our lives. The professionalism of the State Historical Society staff and their willingness to share their expertise with museums across the state have made a tremendous

museums throughout Idaho, and Lemhi County has been fortunate to have been the recipient of much assistance from them.

However, it is one thing to have ideas; it is another to realize them. But this community has made it possible. We still have much to do—in other words, I don’t plan to retire to my own exhibit case just yet—we are currently raising money for a new roof to keep our history safe and to build new exhibits. In fact, Carla Munning is happily selling raffle tickets—this very evening—for a river trip for two donated by Breann and Matt Green of River of No Return Wilderness Outfitters.

How wonderful it is to be able to study and present my favorite history in my favorite place with my favorite community. Thank you, everyone, for enabling me to earn this award.

The IHC is an asset for museums throughout Idaho, and Lemhi County has been fortunate to have been the recipient of much assistance from them.

difference in the way I see the role of museums in communities. Following their lead can only make us better at what we do.

The Idaho Humanities Council’s grants, programs, and speakers’ bureau have allowed the Lemhi County Historical Society to offer educational and fun programs that would otherwise be impossible for a small museum in a remote community. The IHC is an asset for

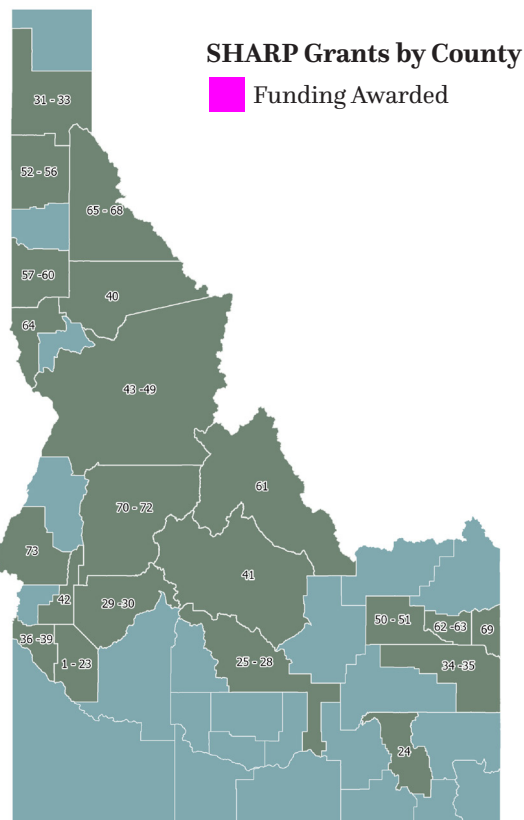
IHC PROVIDED SHARP FUNDS TO IDAHO CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Idaho Humanities Council received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities as part of the American Rescue Plan. The primary purpose of SHARP (Sustaining the Humanities Through the American Rescue Plan) funding was to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from the coronavirus. These funds were also used to assist Idaho's humanities-based organizations in restoring and sustaining their core functions. Funds were used for general operating support and costs for specific programs grounded in the humanities. **To date, IHC has provided \$538,859 to 58 different organizations.**

Several organizations received both general operating and program support through the SHARP program.

1. Idaho State Historical Society, Boise:	\$25,000
2. The Cabin, Boise:	\$15,000
3. Basque Museum & Cultural Center, Boise:	\$15,000
4. Boise State University, Boise:	\$13,350
5. City Club of Boise, Boise:	\$10,000
6. Boise State University, Boise:	\$10,000
7. The Frank Church Institute, Boise:	\$10,000
8. Boise State University, Boise:	\$10,000
9. Foundation for Idaho History, Boise:	\$10,000
10. Basque Museum & Cultural Center, Boise:	\$10,000
11. City Club of Boise, Boise:	\$7,500
12. Ada Community Library, Boise:	\$6,000
13. Wassmuth Center for Human Rights, Boise:	\$5,000
14. Preservation Idaho, Boise	\$5,000
15. Dry Creek Historical Society, Boise	\$5,000
16. Preservation Idaho, Boise	\$5,000
17. Boise State Public Radio, Boise	\$5,000
18. Indonesian Idaho Incorporated, Boise	\$5,000
19. Boise Art Museum, Boise	\$5,000
20. Boise Columbian Club, Boise	\$5,000
21. City Club of Boise, Boise:	\$2,000
22. Meridian Library District, Meridian:	\$15,430
23. Meridian Library District, Meridian:	\$5,096
24. Connor Academy, Chubbuck:	\$1,257
25. Trailing of the Sheep Cultural Heritage Center, Inc., Hailey:	\$10,000
26. Blaine County Historical Museum, Hailey:	\$7,500
27. The Community Library, Ketchum:	\$25,000
28. Sun Valley Museum of Art, Ketchum:	\$15,000
29. Idaho City Historical Foundation, Idaho City:	\$6,000.00
30. Idaho City Historical Foundation, Idaho City:	\$5,000
31. Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, Sandpoint:	\$7,989
32. The Idaho Mythweaver, Inc., Sandpoint:	\$7,000
33. The Idaho Mythweaver, Inc., Sandpoint:	\$5,000
34. Museum of Idaho, Idaho Falls:	\$10,000
35. Alturas Institute, Idaho Falls:	\$10,000
36. The College of Idaho, Caldwell:	\$6,000
37. Caldwell Public Library, Caldwell:	\$4,650
38. Historical Society of Middleton, Middleton:	\$1,000
39. Hispanic Cultural Center of Idaho, Nampa:	\$10,000
40. Elk River Free Library District, Elk River:	\$10,000
41. Sawtooth Interpretive & Historical Association, Stanley:	\$9,546
42. Gem County Historical Society Museum, Emmett:	\$5,000
43. Coeur d'Alene Public Library Foundation, Coeur D'Alene:	\$5,000
44. Emmett Public Library, Emmett:	\$10,000
45. The City Club of Idaho Falls, Idaho Falls:	\$5,000
46. Appaloosa Museum, Moscow:	\$6,880
47. Panida Theater, Sandpoint:	\$1,466
48. Historic Wallace Chamber of Commerce, Wallace:	\$9,675
49. Historic Wallace Chamber of Commerce, Wallace:	\$5,000
50. Jefferson County Historical Society, Rigby:	\$5,000
51. Jefferson County Historical Society, Rigby:	\$1,800
52. Museum of North Idaho, Coeur D' Alene:	\$10,000
53. Human Rights Education Institute, Coeur D'Alene:	\$10,000

54. Human Rights Education Institute, Coeur D'Alene:	\$10,000
55. Post Falls Historical Society, Inc., Post Falls:	\$5,000
56. Rathdrum/Westwood Historical Society, Rathdrum:	\$5,000
57. White Spring Ranch Museum/Archive Library, Genesee:	\$3,000
58. Appaloosa Museum, Moscow:	\$5,000
59. Heart of the Arts, Inc., Moscow:	\$5,000
60. Latah County Historical Society, Moscow:	\$1,400
61. Lemhi County Historical Society, Salmon:	\$5,000
62. City of Rexburg, Rexburg:	\$3,000
63. City of Rexburg, Rexburg:	\$2,500
64. Wisteqneemit, Lapwai:	\$10,000
65. Historic Wallace Chamber of Commerce, Wallace:	\$9,820
66. Greater Wallace Community Development Corporation, Wallace:	\$9,000
67. Wallace District Mining Museum, Wallace:	\$5,000
68. Barnard Stockbridge Museum, Wallace:	\$5,000
69. City of Teton, Teton:	\$5,000
70. Cascade Public Library, Cascade:	\$7,500
71. Cascade Cultural Arts Center, Cascade:	\$5,000
72. McCall Arts & Humanities Council, McCall:	\$5,000
73. Co-Opportunities, Inc., Weiser:	\$2,500



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

Funding for these grants has been provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the American Rescue Plan.

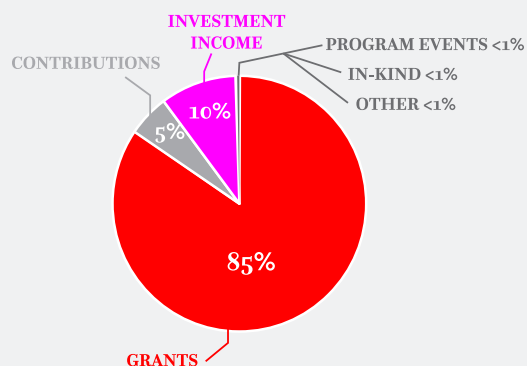
2020 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

IHC STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING NOVEMBER 1, 2019 AND ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2020

For 48 years, the Idaho Humanities Council has actively nurtured the role of the humanities in the intellectual and cultural life of Idaho. As a non-profit, independent partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Council works with Idaho cultural institutions such as libraries, historical sites, museums, arts councils, colleges and universities, and community centers to bring innovative, thought-provoking programs to thousands of Idahoans annually.

Throughout 2020, many of the Council's traditional activities shifted dramatically due to impacts from COVID-19. IHC was empowered to significantly boost its grantmaking activities from historic levels due to CARES funding, and was fortunate to end FY2020 in a strong financial position thanks to the generous support of our donors and sponsors.

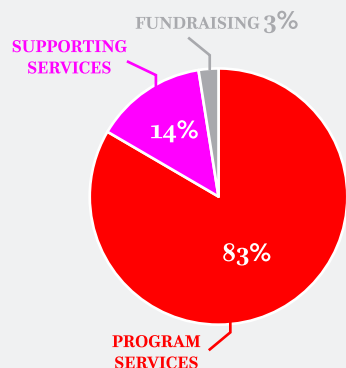
REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT



Grants (Includes National Endowment for the Humanities and other Corporate and Foundation Program Sponsors)	\$1,079,394
Foundation and Private Contributions (Unrestricted donations)	\$67,838
Investment Income, Net	\$123,882
Program Event Income	\$1,275
In-kind Revenue (Donated Media Services)	\$1,580
Other Income	\$3,442

Total Revenues and Other Support **\$1,277,411**

EXPENSES



Program Services (Includes \$593,882 in grant awards to Idaho organizations)	\$1,014,775
Supporting Services (Management & Administration)	\$171,100
Fundraising	\$30,261

Total Expenses **\$1,216,136**

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS **\$ 61,275**

NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR **\$1,960,769**

NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR **\$ 2,022,044**

*Annual audit conducted by Harris CPAs
Detailed audit reports available from IHC upon request*

2021 SUMMER TEACHER INSTITUTE: 'GET UP, STAND UP': RESISTANCE THROUGH POPULAR MUSIC AND POETRY

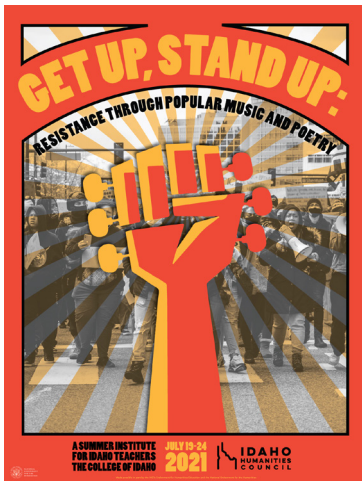
RECAP OF TEACHER INSTITUTE

The Idaho Humanities Council's 2021 weeklong summer institute, titled **'Get Up, Stand Up': Resistance Through Popular Music and Poetry**, was held July 19-24, 2021, on the campus of the College of Idaho in Caldwell. Twenty-nine teachers from around the state participated.

During this extraordinary time in U.S. history, institute participants examined protest poetry and music as scholars focused on an exploration of historical and contemporary protest expressions around the country. Participants joined in lectures and discussions, watched films, attended workshops, and collaborated with one another and the leading scholars to immerse themselves for the week, sharing ways of teaching this subject.



Scholar presenters leading the daily discussions included **Carolyn González**, California State University Monterey Bay; **Major Jackson**, Vanderbilt University; **Jan Johnson**, University of Idaho; **Margaret Johnson**, Idaho State University; and **Bob Santelli**, Director, Grammy Museum.



The week offered historical content and context of poetry and song, and workshops on creating and teaching poetry. Evening presentations on the topic were free and open to the public. Evening presenters included the keynote by **Major Jackson**, Vanderbilt University: *Poetry is the Message, The Message is Love*, a virtual presentation. Remaining presentations were in person, including

Alexandra Teague, University of Idaho: *Feminist Poetry of Resistance: Redefining Ourselves*; **Sienna Reuben**, University of Idaho graduate: *Guiding Resiliency Through Poetry*; **Kurt Ikeda**, Minidoka National Historic Site: *Minidoka: Art During the WWII Incarceration of Japanese Americans*; and **Izzy**, Nez Perce/Afro-American Rapper: *Scribes of a Prophet* – a Rap Presentation and Discussion, moderated by Bob Santelli.

Participants received institute texts and an electronic compilation of other pertinent primary and secondary readings. The institute texts were: *How to Love a Country* by Richard Blanco; *Songs of America: Patriotism, Protest, and the Music that Made a Nation* by Jon Meacham and Tim McGraw; *The Hill We Climb: An Inaugural Poem for the Country* by Amanda Gorman; and *Of Poetry and Protest: From Emmett Till to Treyvon Martin* by Philip Cushman and Michael Warr.

”

This institute was a highlight of my summer and the last five years of my teaching career! I have not attended a more applicable and enjoyable conference where I have left educated, enriched, and excited to share the learned knowledge in a long time. My teacher's heart needed to hear the messages as well as an opportunity to make connections with other educators.

2022 SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR TEACHERS

The annual Summer Teacher Institute will begin accepting applications this winter. The theme for 2022 will be centered on the general theme of “A More Perfect Union,” and the institute will explore the history of America's struggle to form a more just and inclusive society. The value of an educated citizenry with a knowledge of the systems of government and a recognition of the importance of their participation in civic life will be emphasized while providing resources to teachers to help them teach critical thinking skills to their students as they prepare them to fully participate as engaged citizens. The institute will include opportunities to examine racial justice, gender equality, experiences of Native Americans and other under-represented citizens through a careful consideration of ways these topics have been addressed both in laws and practice.

IHC WELCOMES THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The IHC board of directors elected two new members at their fall meeting and the Executive Committee appointed an at-large member. These new members will serve three-year terms and attend their first meeting in February 2022.



KENTON BIRD

Kenton Bird is the director of General Education for the University of Idaho. He previously served as director of the School of Journalism and Mass Media from 2003 until 2015. He holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Idaho, where he was editor of the student newspaper, *The Argonaut*. He attended University College, Cardiff, Wales, on a Rotary fellowship, earning a master's degree in journalism history, and Washington State University, earning a doctorate in American Studies. His dissertation was a study of the political career of Thomas Foley, former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1989, he was chosen as a congressional fellow of the American Political Science Association, working as a congressional staff member in Washington, D.C.



MONIQUE MICHEL

Monique Michel is the Director and Owner of Ballet Folklórico México Lindo Idaho, a Mexican dance company in Nampa. She is also a Spanish instructor at the Foothills School of Arts & Sciences in Boise. Michel is the former Director of Education for Caldwell Fine Arts and has served on numerous boards and commissions including the Nampa Arts Commission, Nampa Department of Arts & Historical Preservation, Caldwell Fine Arts and the Nampa Civic Foundation. She is a current board member of Ballet Idaho and the Morrison Center's Community Resource Foundation and a member of the National Association of Latino Arts and Culture, Danzantes Unidos and the Human Rights Campaign.



RANDY'L TETON

Randy'L Teton is born and raised in southeastern Idaho and a member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation. She serves as the Public Affairs Manager for the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and is the point of contact for all external media, public relations and cultural tourism in partnership with regional, tribal, state, and federal agencies. Teton's educational background includes U.S. history, Native American history, Museum Studies (conservation and exhibition planning) and Public Speaking. She has a degree in Museum Studies from Institute of American Indian Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art History from the University of New Mexico.

The IHC board meets three times a year to review council-conducted humanities projects and programs. They also award grants to organizations throughout Idaho to promote greater public awareness, appreciation, and understanding of literature, history, cultural anthropology, law, and other humanities disciplines.

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.



Are you passionate and knowledgeable about a specific topic?

Do you love getting to know various communities and create connections?

After a hiatus during 2020 and 2021, we are proud to unveil the new IHC Speakers Bureau, titled Inquiring Idaho.

For those interested in serving as conversation starters within their communities, applications for Inquiring Idaho will be available on our website on December 1st. A list of former topics and speakers through the IHC Speakers Bureau is still accessible on our website for inspiration, and potential speakers are asked to review the program guidelines for more information prior to applying online.

Once our featured speakers are selected, the application to bring these topics to your communities will open late Spring of 2022. IHC will announce when applications are available on the website through our e-newsletter and social media channels.

**For current Speakers Bureau speakers: Please note you will need to reapply for Inquiring Idaho regardless of your status within the IHC.*

For questions, please contact Debra Schlechte, IHC Office Manager, at debra@idahohumanities.org.

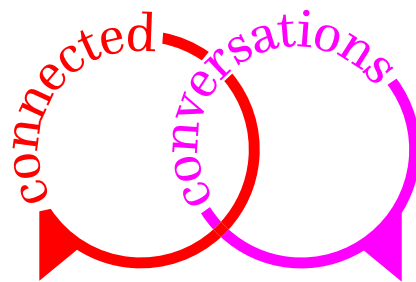
**LOOK OUT FOR OUR NEW PROGRAM,
Human Ties: Conversations That Matter,
COMING IN 2022!**



Look out for our new program, Human Ties: Conversations That Matter, coming in 2022 thanks to the generous support from the family of Robert & Klara Hansberger and the William J. and Shirley A. Maeck Family Foundation. This program will bring opportunities for communities to come together and have respectful and civil conversations about challenging topics that are meaningful to all Idahoans. The conversations will be centered around a humanities-based text and moderated by a trained facilitator. Check out our website for updates!

For questions, please contact Johanna Bringhurst, Program Officer, at johanna@idahohumanities.org.

CONNECTED CONVERSATIONS & A MORE PERFECT UNION



Everyone's favorite web series is back! Connected Conversations will return mid-January on a bi-weekly schedule. The program will remain Tuesday from Noon to 1pm MT, and all installments will be recorded and available online for free viewing on the IHC website and YouTube channel.

We will be exploring the theme of "A More Perfect Union" for the beginning portion of the year. "A More Perfect Union" is an initiative supported by the NEH to explore, reflect on, and tell the stories of our quest for a more just, inclusive, and sustainable society throughout our history. This includes the evolution of the American landscape, America's place in the world, and more!

Stay tuned to our monthly e-newsletter to keep up to date on the upcoming schedule of events. If you would like to receive the monthly e-newsletter, please reach out to Jessica Evett (jessica@idahohumanities.org).

Remember to send back that envelope ...

When you opened this issue of *Idaho Humanities* you saw the donation envelope – please don't throw it away. Show your support for the work of the Idaho Humanities Council today by sending it back with your tax-deductible gift enclosed. The IHC is dependent on donations from our readers, program attendees, civic leaders, community activists, and others who believe that lifelong learning in the humanities helps build a an intellectually inquisitive Idaho citizenry.

The IHC will put your gift to good use funding innovative programming, sparking thought provoking conversations, seeking out eye-opening cultural experiences, and generating new ideas to bring people together around the state.

Return your envelope or make your donation securely online at www.idahohumanities.org, and help IHC further the humanities in your community today!



IHC BOARD MEMBER, MATTHEW LEVAY, RECEIVES FULBRIGHT AWARD



Earlier this year the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board and the U.S. Department of State announced that Dr. Matthew Levay, Associate Professor of English at Idaho State University received a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program award to Poland. In Spring 2022, Levay will serve as the Distinguished Chair in Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Warsaw's American Studies Center. In that capacity, he will teach upper-level and graduate courses in American popular culture, including crime fiction, comics, and film, while also mentoring graduate students, delivering public lectures, and participating in the intellectual community of the American Studies Center.

As a Fulbright Scholar, Levay will share knowledge and foster meaningful connections across communities in the United States and Poland. Fulbrighters engage in cutting-edge research and expand their professional networks, often continuing research collaborations started abroad and laying the groundwork for forging future partnerships between institutions. Upon returning to their institutions, labs, and classrooms, in the United States, they share their stories and often become active supporters of international exchange, inviting foreign scholars to campus and encouraging colleagues and students to go abroad. As Fulbright Scholar alumni, their careers are enriched by joining a network of thousands of esteemed scholars, many of whom are leaders in their fields. Fulbright alumni include 60 Nobel Prize laureates, 88 Pulitzer Prize recipients, and 39 who have served as a head of state or government.

Since 1946, the Fulbright Program has provided more than 400,000 participants from over 160 countries the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas, and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns. The primary source of funding for the Fulbright program is an annual appropriation by the U.S. Congress to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Participating governments and host institutions, corporations and foundations in foreign countries and in the United States also provide direct and indirect support.



IHC MAJOR GRANT ROUND IS NOW OPEN

Do you have a humanities project or program you need additional funding for? Apply for an IHC Major Grant! A draft application is required, which will be due December 15th. Once staff feedback is given, a final application must be submitted by January 15th. You will receive a decision early March. Please reach out to Doug Exton (doug@idahohumanities.org) to discuss any ideas or have any questions answered!

The IHC has funded projects ranging from multiple lecture series, exhibits, and festivals. Do not be afraid to apply if you have never received an IHC grant in the past, nor if your idea is not a "traditional" program format. **Please visit www.idahohumanities.org for more details.**

Please note: No upper level of funding has been fixed; however, few awards exceed \$10,000.



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES



SAVE THE DATE... AGAIN!

PBS NEWSHOUR HOST JEFFREY BROWN
TO SPEAK IN BOISE IN APRIL



Jeffrey Brown, Chief Correspondent for Arts, Culture, and Society for PBS NewsHour, will deliver the Idaho Humanities Council's 23rd Annual Distinguished Humanities Lecture on **Friday, April 8th, 7 p.m., at Boise Centre West. The title of Brown's talk is "The Public Good": A Defense.**

The event is supported in part by **Holland & Hart, Idaho Public Television, and Boise State Public Radio.** Brown's lecture is part of the "Democracy and the Informed Citizen" initiative supported in part by a grant from the **Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.**

NewsHour is public television's prestigious nightly news program viewed by millions. During Brown's career with *NewsHour* he has served as co-anchor, studio moderator, and field reporter on a wide range of national and international issues.

The topic of this lecture is Brown's observation that the notion of "public good" is under stress in many areas of our culture and politics. He reflects on his own experience attending public schools and university, as well as his own work in public broadcasting – and looks at what it means that institutions such as these are all under threat at federal, state and local levels.

In a career spanning more than thirty years at the *NewsHour*, Brown has interviewed numerous leading American and international newsmakers, moderated studio discussions on a vast array of topics, and reported from across the United States and other regions of the globe. As arts correspondent, he has profiled many of the world's leading writers, musicians and other artists. As senior producer for national affairs for more than a decade, he helped shape the program's coverage of the economy, healthcare, social policy, culture, and other areas. In addition, he leads the *NewsHour*'s extensive coverage of arts and culture "Canvas." He also hosts the monthly book club, "Now Read This," a collaboration with *The New York Times*.

TICKETS are available by visiting www.idahohumanities.org or by calling **208-345-5346**. General tickets are \$65 and Benefactor tickets are \$130. Tables of 10 are available. Benefactors receive admission to a private pre-event reception with Brown (offsite) at 5 p.m and close-in seating at the dinner. The main event evening will begin with a no-host reception at 6 p.m. at Boise Centre West. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m., with Brown's talk to follow.



Please save the date (again) for the return of our signature events in 2022, and we appreciate your continued patience as we hope to gather together again in person safely.

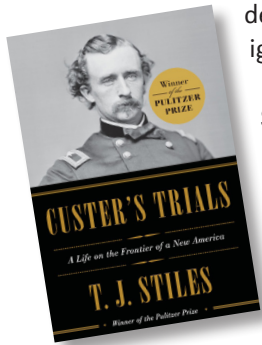


SAVE THE DATE... AGAIN!
TWO-TIME WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE, TJ STILES, TO SPEAK IN IDAHO FALLS IN APRIL



T.J. Stiles, two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize and winner of the National Book Award will deliver the 13th Annual Eastern Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture on **Thursday, April 21st, 7 p.m., at the Snake River Event Center in Idaho Falls.**

The event is supported in part by the **William J. and Shirley A. Maeck Family Foundation, Bank of Idaho, Idaho National Laboratory, East Idaho News, Idaho Public Television, and KISU Radio.**



T.J. Stiles's latest book, *Custer's Trials*, paints a portrait of Gen. George Armstrong Custer both deeply personal and sweeping in scope, proving how much of Custer's legacy has been ignored. The book was awarded the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for History.

Stiles previously won the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Biography and the 2009 National Book Award for Nonfiction for his critically acclaimed book *The First Tycoon: The Epic Life of Cornelius Vanderbilt*. Stiles became interested in Vanderbilt while researching and writing his historical account of another legendary figure, *Jesse James: Last Rebel of the Civil War*. James and Vanderbilt, he finds, led more significant and more dramatic lives than we have realized. With both subjects, Stiles combines compelling storytelling and personal detail with thoughtful explorations of their role in the making of modern America, and the lasting impact of their lives and legends.

Stiles served as historical adviser and on-screen expert for *Jesse James and Grand Central*, two films in the PBS documentary series *American Experience*. He has written for *The New York Times Book Review*, *Smithsonian*, *Salon*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and other publications. A native of Benton County, Minnesota, Stiles studied history at Carleton College and Columbia University.

TICKETS are available by visiting www.idahohumanities.org or by calling **888-345-5346**. General tickets are \$50 and Benefactor tickets are \$75. Tables of 8 are available. Benefactors receive admission to a private pre-event reception with Stiles (offsite) at 5 p.m and close-in seating at the dinner. The main event evening will begin with a no-host reception and book sales at 6 p.m. at the Snake River Event Center. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m., with Stiles's talk to follow. Stiles will sign books after his talk.

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





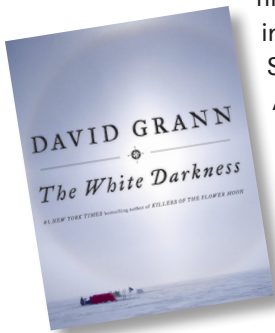
SAVE THE DATE... AGAIN!
BEST-SELLING AUTHOR DAVID GRANN TO
SPEAK IN COEUR D'ALENE IN MAY



David Grann is a #1 *New York Times* bestselling author and an award-winning staff writer at *The New Yorker* magazine. He will give the 17th Annual North Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture on **Friday, May 6th, 7 p.m. at the Coeur d'Alene Resort.** He will speak about his newest book *The White Darkness*.

The event is supported by major support from **Idaho Forest Group, Lewis-Clark State College, University of Idaho, North Idaho College, Idaho Public Television, and Coeur d'Alene Press.**

The White Darkness is a powerful true story of adventure and obsession in the Antarctic. The nineteenth-century polar explorer Ernest Shackleton is considered one of the greatest leaders in history. A century later, Henry Worsley, a retired British S.A.S. officer who worshiped Shackleton, set out to achieve what even his hero had failed to do: to walk alone across Antarctica. With photographs from Worsley and Shackleton's expeditions, Grann will examine the decisions these men made under extreme circumstances, and the lessons we all can learn about leadership and courage.



His previous book, *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*, documented one of the most sinister crimes and racial injustices in American history. Described by Dave Eggers in the *New York Times Book Review* as a "riveting" work that will "sear your soul," *Killers of the Flower Moon* was a finalist for the National Book Award.

Before joining *The New Yorker* in 2003, Grann was a senior editor at *The New Republic*, and, from 1995 until 1996, the executive editor of the newspaper *The Hill*. He holds master's degrees in international relations from the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy as well as in creative writing from Boston University.

TICKETS are available by visiting www.idahohumanities.org or by calling **888-345-5346**. General tickets are \$65 and Benefactor tickets are \$130. Tables of 8 are available. Benefactors receive admission to a private pre-event reception with Grann (offsite) at 5 p.m and close-in seating at the dinner. The main event evening will begin with a no-host reception and book sales at 6 p.m. at the Coeur d'Alene Resort. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m., with Grann's talk to follow. Grann will sign books after his talk.



Many donors make multiple gifts throughout the year. Donors are listed at the level of their cumulative giving for the following term – gifts received between November 1, 2020 and November 1, 2021. These donations support IHC statewide humanities programming.

POET (\$100,000)

This gift was made by the family of Robert & Klara Hansberger to commemorate their interest in and support of the Idaho Humanities Council

SCHOLAR (\$2,500 +)

Klara Hansberger
Regence Blue Shield of Idaho

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William Appleton
Rick and Rosemary Ardingier
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Nick and Shannon Crawford
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Michael Hummel and Suzi Boyle

Anne Marie and Harold Jones
Virginia Kelly
Arthur and Annelies Kull
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Sylvia and Jim Robison
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Tim Weill
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Forrest Geerken
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Norman and Gail Jensen
Elwyn and Dixie Johnson
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John and Betty Johnson
Richard Johnson and Mary Callan
John and Diane Peavey
Steven and Linda Kahn
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Marcia Kent
Dulce and Tonda Kersting-Lark
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Jim and Cyndie Woods
Teresa Yata

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Dennis and Lynn Baird
David Barber
Chris and Sue Baughn
Marilyn Bischoff
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Dry Creek Historical Society
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Terry Engebretsen
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 Patty Miller
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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: Debra Palmer, (she, her)

Occupation and Place: MFA Student,
Pacific University, Boise

Book: *Passing Through - The Later Poems
New and Selected* (1995) by Stanley
Kunitz

There are so many new books of poetry coming out by amazing poets and presses, but lately I've been turning to "heavy hitters" like Stanley Kunitz. Kunitz was my teacher's teacher and as a student myself I've come across his poems many times over the years. This was my first time reading an entire book of his and it will be one that I recommend to friends who want to read more poetry.

Kunitz was 90 when he won the National Book Award for *Passing Through - The Later Poems New and Selected*. This collection contains two of his well-known works: *The Round*, a poem about the act of writing a poem, and *Touch Me*, which I don't think anyone can read without tearing up at the end: "Darling, do you remember / the man you married? Touch me, / remind me who I am." It's a wonderful collection filled with the details of a long life lived by an intensely curious poet who loved people and places and the natural world.

Photo Credit: Lila Streicher (on IG as: @lilarays) and The Alexa Rose Foundation (IG: @alexarosefoundation).



Reader: Jen Schneider (she, her, hers)

Occupation and Place: Interim Associate
Dean, School of Public Service, Boise State
University, Boise

Book: *How to Do Nothing: Resisting the
Attention Economy* (2019) by Jenny Odell.

My personal addiction is Twitter. Maybe yours is Facebook, Reddit, or Candy Crush. You name it, there is a software engineer who designed your particular poison to be more addictive, to keep you scrolling (or crushing candy) for longer.

Yet our attention is a core resource, an essential component of what it means to be human. We can choose where we direct that attention, and focus it to improve our sense of well-being and connection with others.

This is the premise of Jenny Odell's *How to Do Nothing: Resisting the Attention Economy*. Odell is an artist and teacher in Silicon Valley who gets technology (she's not a luddite) but she also understands that we are trading away something valuable every time we unconsciously spend minutes—or hours—on our small screens.

The book is a meditation on sustained attention, with Odell drawing on everything from community gardens to classic literature to experimental photography to explore how we can engage our lives more deeply. It is neither a scolding nor self-help, and can be enjoyed a few pages at a time. If you're curious about how we might be together better, especially while living with social media, pick this one up.