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The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities believes in the people of Louisiana. The family that gathers at a local library to read books and give their children a head start in education. The scholar who plunges into the archive in search of new truths about our complex history. The photographer who captures the beauty of our land and the graceful genius of our musicians, our athletes, and our folk artists. These people create opportunities for the next generation of Louisianans to enjoy our greatest natural resource: our culture. Since 1971, the board and staff of the LEH have seen again and again the power of Louisiana’s people to overcome, to innovate, and to ascend. As we look back on 2015, we see more reasons than ever to hold fast to this belief in our fellow citizens. We hope this year’s annual report inspires you to join us as we work to preserve and elevate the tireless efforts of Louisiana people. Lastly, we thank you for your faith in the LEH and our mission: to provide all citizens access to our priceless cultural heritage.

Miranda Restovic  
President/Executive Director

Michael Bernstein  
Chair
We’re making two significant changes to how we report financial information in our annual report: first, we are moving to report actual expenditures instead of budgeted amounts as we feel that provides a more accurate view of our activities and, second, we are establishing the buckets we intend to use for years to come: Administration & Fundraising, Education-Programming, Content-Programming, Content-Regrants, and Louisiana Humanities Center. You can find a list of the specific programs under each heading on this page and more details on these programs and activities throughout the report. Our aim is to provide you current and useful financial data so you can know and connect with our varied and critical work.

- **Administration & Fundraising** includes Executive Staff, Fundraising, Finance, Human Resources, IT, Office Management and general office expenses.
- **Education-Programming** includes delivery of PRIME TIME Preschool, PRIME TIME Family Reading Time, PRIME TIME HomeRoom, and PRIME TIME Plus programs.
- **Content-Programming** includes publication and events of *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* magazine, KnowLouisiana.org, and Louisiana Governors Project.
- **Content-Regrants** includes Strategic Partnership Grants, Institutional Support Grants and CreateLouisiana Filmmakers Grant.
- **Louisiana Humanities Center** includes the revenue-generating costs associated with owning and leasing use of a historic building in downtown New Orleans.

In 2015, our public programs and grants initiatives reached 28 Louisiana parishes.
The work of the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities is made possible by individuals, corporations, foundations, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. We thank these supporters for their gifts in fiscal year 2014-15.

LEH Donors for Fiscal Year 2014-15

Please Note: the donations and clubs listed herein are for fiscal year 2014-2015, as per the terms of the LEH 2014-15 Annual Fund appeal. The LEH’s fiscal year runs from November 1st through October 31st. Donations received after October 31, 2015 will be credited in our 2016 annual report. Please contact Jan Clifford, LEH Manager of Institutional Advancement, with any corrections: clifford@leh.org or (504) 620-2627.

We thank all of our friends for their support!

MAJOR GIFTS, IN-KIND, AND OTHER PROJECT-SPECIFIC DONATIONS

$339,290 BHP Billiton Petroleum
$200,000 Shell Oil Company and Foundation
$40,055 Pugh Family Foundation
$40,000 Entergy Charitable Foundation
$37,500 Carolyn W. and Charles T. Beaird Family Foundation
$29,988 Zapp’s Potato Chips/UTZ Quality Foods (Cash and In-Kind)
$25,400 The Grayson Foundation
$25,000 Boh Brothers Construction Company
$25,000 New Orleans Kids Partnership
$21,249 Baptist Community Ministries
$15,000 RosaMary Foundation
$12,450 Loews New Orleans Hotel (In-Kind)
$10,000 Kevin Kelly
$10,000 CITGO-Lake Charles
$10,000 Helis Foundation
$10,000 IBERIABANK
$5,000 Capital One Bank
$5,000 Ruth U. Fertel Foundation
$5,000 Follett Publications
$5,000 Jones Walker Law Firm
$7,500 Target Corporation
$2,000 Union Pacific Railroad Foundation
$2,500 McKeithen Family Trust
$2,000 AOS Corporation
$2,000 Central Louisiana Community Foundation
$1,080 Abita Brewing Company
$1,000 Stirling Properties
$1,000 Michael Olivier, and the Economic Development Committee of 100
2014-2015 ANNUAL FUND DONORS

HUMANIST ($10,000+)
Community Foundation of North Louisiana
Stephen & Kitty Sherrill
Barbara Williamson

ALTRUIST ($5,000 - $9,999)
Goldring Family Foundation
Gumbo Foundation
Gustaf Westfeldt McIlhenny Family Foundation
Haynie Family Foundation
Catherine Kuhlman
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Michael Boyle
Glenny Lee Buquet
Cahn Family Foundation
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Glenda & Neil Erwin
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Richard Sanderson II
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Madro Bandaries
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Henry Bethard, III
Charles Boliann
Oneil Boudreaux
E. John Bullard

LEH MEMBERSHIP ($50 - $99)
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Claudia Alexander
Beth Anders

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Priscilla & Edward Ashworth
Eva Semien Baham
Robert Bailey
Barry Baker
Robert Barham
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Ann Marie Barrios
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Shirley Buckel
Paul Buras
Harold Burns
Elizabeth Burns
Mary Ellen Burns
Sandra Burshell
David Buttross Jr.
Ralph Cadow
Richard Cahn
Thomas Camp
Terence Casey
The Division of Education supports access to high quality humanities-based education experiences for all Louisianans.

**PRIME TIME FAMILY**

Literacy is the bedrock of academic success. Founded in 1991, PRIME TIME Family Reading Time partners with schools, libraries, community centers, and after-school programs to engage vulnerable families in interactive storytelling and group discussion to promote academic inquiry and critical thinking.

Each program includes weekly 90-minute sessions for 6 weeks. Up to 25 parents/caregivers and their 3- to 10-year-old children receive practice with story-sharing and discussion strategies that transfer to home-based activities and bonding.

These strategies also enhance key academic skills that are critical to long-term success in school and life.

During 2015, 50 programs took place and 2,709 individuals participated throughout the state of Louisiana.

Nationally, 6,545 individuals participated in 119 programs across 10 states via PRIME TIME’s affiliate network.

**PRIME TIME PRESCHOOL**

Launched in 2012, PRIME TIME Preschool partners with school-based preschool programs, Head Start centers, and childcare centers to engage vulnerable families in age-appropriate storytelling and literary exploration via center-based play to promote school-readiness.

Each program includes up to 15 parents and caregivers and their 3- to 5-year-old children, who receive practice with strategies that encourage meaningful at-home reading behavior between parents/caregivers.

PRIME TIME Preschool establishes early reading skills that form the foundation for strong reading abilities.

During 2015, 88 programs took place and 3,765 individuals participated throughout the state of Louisiana.

Nationally, 495 individuals participated in 9 programs that took place in Nebraska and Georgia.

“It made me realize I need to pay more attention to how much we read as a family.”

— PRIME TIME parent

Major Partners

- BHP Billiton
- Baptist Community Ministries
- Shell Oil Company
- Target Collaborative with STAIR, Louisiana Children’s Museum, and Clarence Barney Urban League Head Start
PRIME TIME Homeroom brings PRIME TIME’s nationally-recognized methodologies to the classroom through humanities-based teacher professional development for Louisiana’s public school districts and charter management organizations. The program teaches educators how to teach by “asking rather than telling” across core subjects using multi-level questioning to lead and manage class discussion. Educators learn to use tools to that bring dialogue, debate and discovery into classroom to enhance subject comprehension and build critical thinking abilities among students.

During 2015, 3 workshops were conducted in Lafayette, New Orleans, and Shreveport with 136 educators participating.

PRIME TIME PLUS

Ever conscious of the prevailing research on issues and challenges that hinder the growth potential of our target audience, the Division of Education works to address the needs of participating families holistically. With the support of our partners at BHP Billiton, PRIME TIME piloted PRIME TIME Plus. The program combines family reading and learning with literature-based examinations of food culture and positive dietary choices, emphasizing affordable, healthy eating habits. Families engage in activities and receive resources and information that make healthy eating more accessible.

During 2015, 125 individuals participated in 5 programs throughout the state of Louisiana.

Key Outcomes for PRIME TIME Families

- 66% participant retention rate
- 54% of families reported an increase in positive reading behaviors
- 58% of families reported an increase in their child’s positive health behaviors
- 60% of participated families reported an increase in healthy eating behaviors
- 68% of families reporting an increase in family bonding

“It allows for family time together that you would otherwise feel you didn’t have.”

— PRIME TIME parent
The Division of Content combines the scholarship of *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* magazine and KnowLouisiana.org, the Digital Encyclopedia of Louisiana, with the work of our grantees and the public programs developed by the LEH to generate sustained impact around the state.

*Louisiana Cultural Vistas* is the preeminent magazine for authentic stories about the people, history, and culture of Louisiana. Published by the LEH since 1990, the magazine delivers the very best writers and photographers in the state to subscribers, libraries, cultural organizations, and fans of Louisiana around the world. The Press Club of New Orleans has presented the magazine with 150 awards for excellence in 26 years.

Readers can enjoy the stories online at KnowLouisiana.org. *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* is available for free at more than 120 locations across the state, including in the businesses of our advertising partners. Visitors to KnowLouisiana.org can explore the stories from *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* alongside encyclopedia entries on Louisiana history, videos produced by LEH and its partners, and special online stories about cultural activities around the state.

**MAJOR PARTNERS**

- Bevolo Gas & Electric Lights
- Louisiana State Museum
- Houmas House Plantation and Gardens
- The National WWII Museum
- WWNO 89.9 FM

**In August 2015 the Press Club of New Orleans awarded these prizes for excellence to **Louisiana Cultural Vistas**:**

**1st Prize**

Feature Writing
“*The Cracker Jack: A Hoodoo Drugstore in the ‘Cradle of Jazz’*”
Carolyn Morrow Long
Spring 2014

**2nd Place**

Cover
Photographer Pableaux Johnson
Winter 2014

**3rd Place**

Layout and Design
“*Milliken’s Bend*”
Designer Toan Nguyen
Spring 2014
LEH PUBLIC PROGRAMS

LEH Public Programs reach audiences around the state through partnerships with local communities and organizations. At the LEH’s headquarters in New Orleans, the Louisiana Humanities Center hosts lectures, public forums, documentary film screenings, and book signings. Partner events in other parts of Louisiana include panel discussions, film screenings, and publication parties for Louisiana Cultural Vistas magazine.

Program Hosted
The LEH hosted 18 public programs in 10 parishes, reaching more than 3,000 people.

FY 2014-2015
Special Initiative:
The Louisiana Governors Project

Launched to coincide with the 2015 Louisiana gubernatorial election, the Louisiana Governors Project focused on delivering new insights and learning tools for public understanding of the role of leadership in shaping the state’s political history since 1964. Through an examination of the last seven administrations, the LEH partnered with local communities in each of the hometowns of the previous seven governors, during the two months preceding the October 24, 2015 gubernatorial primary. Moderated panels of scholars, journalists and former staffers explored the backgrounds of each governor, their political awakenings, campaigns and leadership styles, and the signal events and legislation that defined each administration.

The fall 2015 issue of Louisiana Cultural Vistas served as a companion to the project.

“No one has ever thought of doing a program like this. It’s not like you can open a book by Robert Penn Warren and hear these stories. They only exist within us.”

—Gus Weill, legendary campaign manager and a participant in the Louisiana Governors Project

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The LEH supports cultural efforts throughout Louisiana by awarding grants to local cultural organizations and institutions. Made possible by funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities and our private sector partners, these awards support large and small-scale humanities public programs—from university events to those sponsored by museums, libraries, cultural centers and historical societies—as well as appearances by Louisiana’s poet laureate. The LEH works with grantees to deliver these programs to audiences in Louisiana and across the nation.

In 2014-15 the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities offered Institutional Support Grants to support such projects, awarding $18,645 in grants to the following organizations:

**Sci-Port Discovery Center**
National Parks Adventure
Caddo Parish
Congressional District 4
$5000

**Old State Capitol Museum**
Angela Gregory’s Bienville Monument Exhibit
East Baton Rouge Parish
Congressional District 2
$4300

**Louisiana State Penitentiary Museum Foundation**
Angola Prison Music Symposium and Exhibit
West Feliciana Parish
Congressional District 5
$4130

**New Orleans Museum of Art**
Pierre Joseph Landry: Patriot, Planter, Sculptor
Orleans Parish
Congressional District 1
$2500

**Law Library of Louisiana**
Louisiana Lawyers at the Battle of New Orleans
Orleans Parish
Congressional District 1
$1600

**Rapides Parish Library**
A Confederacy of Dunces Reading Program
Rapides Parish
Congressional District 5
$1115

The LEH awarded 29 grants to organizations in 16 parishes, investing $122,645 to support projects that sustain Louisiana’s culture and preserve local history. These projects reached more than 504,000 residents.
The LEH awards **Strategic Partnership Grants** to organizations for projects that reach wide audiences and align with other LEH programs. In 2014-15, these organizations received Strategic Partnership Grants:

**Red River Radio**  
History Matters Radio Segments and Documentary  
Caddo Parish  
Congressional District 4  
$10,000

**Eve Abrams/WWNO**  
Radio Stories Co-Produced with *Louisiana Cultural Vistas*  
Orleans Parish  
Congressional District 1  
$3,600

**French Quarter Festivals**  
2015 Satchmo Summer Festival program and symposium  
Orleans Parish  
Congressional District 1  
$1,575

**Alexandria Museum of Art**  
Solomon Northup Trail/Purchased Lives Dual Exhibition  
Rapides Parish  
Congressional District 5  
$7,500

**Louisiana State Library Foundation**  
2015 Louisiana Book Festival  
East Baton Rouge Parish  
Congressional District 2  
$5,000

**Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival, Inc.**  
29th Annual Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival, Inc.  
Orleans Parish  
Congressional District 1  
$10,300

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**SPECIAL INITIATIVE: SUPPORTING LOUISIANA FILMMAKERS**

For more than 40 years, the LEH has served as a pivotal funder for documentary films about Louisiana. In 2015 a new chapter in this tradition began with the CreateLouisiana Filmmakers Grant, a partnership between the LEH, Deep South Studios, and the New Orleans Film Society to award a $50,000 to a Louisiana-based filmmaking team. Following a robust application period, the partners awarded the grant to “Plaquemines,” a film by director Nailah Jefferson and Jon Wood. The film will premiere at the 2016 New Orleans Film Festival.
The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities honored Louisiana native Cokie Roberts as its 2015 Humanist of the Year. The award is given annually as part of the LEH’s efforts to recognize the individuals and organizations making invaluable contributions to the culture of Louisiana. Born in New Orleans, Roberts is a political commentator for ABC News, providing analysis for all network news programming. Roberts also serves as Senior News Analyst for National Public Radio. Roberts’s books include the bestsellers We Are Our Mothers’ Daughters, Founding Mothers, and Ladies of Liberty. In 2008 the Library of Congress named her a “Living Legend,” one of the very few Americans to have attained that honor. She is the mother of two and grandmother of six.

The LEH honored BHP Billiton with the Chair’s Award for Institutional Support for its commitment of $540,000 over three years to support the LEH’s innovative PRIME TIME Preschool program. Champion of Culture Awardee Daryl Byrd of IBERIABANK has been a steady and visible supporter of the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities Awards, as well as a visionary community partner across Louisiana including New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe, New Iberia and Shreveport.

The LEH recognized two outstanding works of history as 2015 Books of the Year. Jerry Lee Lewis, by Rick Bragg, is the essential biography of a groundbreaking Louisiana musician. Up Stairs Lounge Arson, by Clayton Delery-Edwards, returns to a tragic moment to deliver new insights into the social history of New Orleans. Director Alexander John Glustrom received the Humanities Documentary Film Award for Big Charity, which follows the staff of the New Orleans hospital through Hurricane Katrina through the facility’s closing after the storm, and tracing the centuries of history and familial bonds established at Charity. The Michael P. Smith Memorial Award for Documentary Photography went to Deborah Luster, a New Orleans-based photographer whose work is included in the permanent collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art, the National Gallery of American Art, the Los Angeles County Museum, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Smithsonian Art Museum and many other museums. Given in partnership with the Louisiana Center for the Book in the State Library of Louisiana and the Library of Congress, the inaugural Light Up for Literacy Award goes to Ann Dobie, a retired English Professor who taught almost 40 years at University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and directed the Acadiana Writing Project. Lifetime Contribution to the Humanities awardee Dr. Susan Roach’s tireless work as a folklorist includes the documentation and presentation of Louisiana arts and crafts, music, ritual traditions, occupational lore, and foodways.

The 2015 Bright Lights Awards Dinner Presented by IBERIABANK took place at the Capitol Park Museum in Baton Rouge on Thursday, April 23, 2015. The LEH thanks IBERIABANK, the Louisiana State Museum, and our generous sponsors for making the evening a rousing success.
Turners’ Hall is our the LEH’s home base in New Orleans and the site of the Louisiana Humanities Center, where conferences, discussion groups, film screenings, lectures, history forums, special events, researchers, workshops and tenant nonprofits all come together to contribute to our mission of sustainably bringing the humanities to the public.

At Turners’ Hall, we preserve the legacy of those who have come before us. The building houses our signature collection of works by African American artist John T. Scott (1940–2007). Scott left a vibrant artistic legacy through his numerous and diverse works celebrating the music and culture of Louisiana. In partnership with the Helis Foundation, LEH has amassed the largest permanent collection of Scott’s art in existence. Scott touched countless lives as a student, artist and mentor, serving as instructor at Xavier University in New Orleans for more than 40 years.

We are located adjacent to New Orleans’ five-block South Market District, a complex of 350,000 square feet of new development including apartments, entertainment, parking, restaurants and shops slated to open in phases throughout 2015.
OUR MISSION

The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing educational opportunities to all Louisianans.

The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities’ mission is to provide all Louisianans with access to and an appreciation of their own rich, shared and diverse historical, literary and cultural heritage through grant-supported outreach programs, family literacy and adult reading initiatives, teacher professional development institutes, publications, film and radio documentaries, museum exhibitions, cultural tourism, public lectures, library projects, and other public humanities programming.

Please visit us on the web at
www.leh.org
www.primetimefamily.org
www.knowlouisiana.org

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