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The humanities bring us together. Parents share the love of great books with their children. Neighbors gather at the local museum to enjoy a new exhibition on the town’s history. In classrooms, teachers challenge students to consider the motivations, failures, and triumphs of our predecessors. Louisiana offers rich traditions and a fascinating past, fertile soil for the tools of the humanities. Since 1971, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities has partnered with scholars, institutions, and local communities to reach audiences in every parish. These partnerships provide access to our shared culture. In 2016 the board of directors and staff of the LEH embraced new directions, reinvigorated longstanding commitments, and continued to move forward in the belief that Louisiana’s people deserve the opportunity to explore, interpret, and enhance our understanding of our state. We’re grateful to you, our supporters, for sustaining these efforts on behalf of Louisiana.

Miranda Restovic
President/Executive Director

Brad Adams
Chair
As in our 2015 Annual Report, we are reporting actual costs using a new format. Our readers can now chart trends over the years simply by looking at the table and pie chart in each Annual Report. For example, from 2015 to 2016, we reduced our administrative and fundraising costs by over 5 percentage points (32.97% to 27.81%). We also added an entirely new division: our Head Start program in Ouachita Parish, which we expect to grow our organization significantly. As before, our readers can find a description of each division below and, as ever, our aim is to provide all of our stakeholders with current and useful financial data to help assess our full portfolio of projects.

- **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.
- **PRIME TIME Head Start** services in Ouachita Parish promote a humanities approach to school readiness of children under 5 from low-income families through education, health, social and other services.

In 2016, our programs and initiatives reached 36 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 2015-16.

**LEH Donors for Fiscal Year 2015-16**

**Please Note:** The donations and clubs listed herein are for fiscal year 2015-2016, as per the terms of the LEH 2015-16 Annual Fund appeal. The LEH’s fiscal year runs from November 1st through October 31st. Donations received after October 31, 2016 will be credited in our 2017 annual report. Please contact Jan Clifford, LEH Manager of Institutional Advancement, with corrections: clifford@leh.org or (504) 620-2479.

*We thank all of our friends for their support!*

**Major Gifts, In-Kind, and other Project-Specific Donations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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2015-2016 ANNUAL FUND DONORS

HUMANIST ($10,000)
G. Patrick & Sofia McGunagle
Miranda Restovic

ALTRUIST ($5,000 - $9,999)
Catherine Kirgis Kuhlman
Stephen & Kitty Sherrill

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Darnell Bludworth & Michael Boyle
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Deming Foundation
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Ginger Corley
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David Dahlquist
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Erica Dudas
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Casey Fletcher
Joshua & Mara Force
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Mark Gremlion
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Ronald Jenkins
Mary Ann Joseph
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Moon Landrieu
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Robert Levy
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Brian & Kristin Moore
Stella Nesanovich
Roger Ogden
Tom Pears
Alan Pizzato
Victoria Revels
Susan Roach
Jacqueline Robins
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Anthony Rotolo
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Edward & Priscilla Ashworth
Barry Baker
Sandra Bapte
J.P. Barr
Michel & Aimee Bell
Henry Bethard
Brad & Cindy Black
Charles Bolian
Al Bordelon
Oneil Boudreaux
Darrell Bourque
Maureen Brennan
Carolyn Bruder
Joyce Burland
Richard Cahn
Terence Casey
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A. Glenn Flournoy
Henry Folse
RobertForce
Richard Freeman
Antoine Garibaldi
Patricia Gay
Martha Green
Mack Gregorie
Holly & Kirk Groh
Rozelle Hahn
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Wilda Hand
Cherise Harrison-Nelson
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Nancy Hawkins
Emelie Heller-Rhys
Thomas Hightower
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Henley Hunter
Dolliann Hurtig
William Jemigan
Bennett Johnston
Brian Jones
Peter Jones
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Gene Kansas
E. Theodore Laborde
Philip & Nelda Laborde
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Denman Long
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Francis Madary
Renee Major
Brigitta Malm
Nancy Manuel
Edythe Manza
William McCall
Tracy McCarley
Margaret McKenzie
Deborah McKenzie
Janet Melancon
J. Neil Morein
Mary Morton
Nancy Murray  
Joel Myers  
Steven Nelson  
Sandra Norman  
Coleman Organ  
June Peay  
John Pecoul  
Glen Pitre  
David Plater  
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Patricia Prudhomme  
Mary Alma Riess  
Claes Ringqvist  
Caroline Roemer  
Mark Romig  
Don Ross  
Allan Ryan  
Gary Sanders  
Cary Saurage  
Charlotte Schaff  
Todd Schexnayder  
Mimi Schlesinger  
Jay Shames  
Elvin Shields  
Patricia Day & Joseph Simmons  
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Neari Warner  
Ronald Weems  
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Patricia Williamsen  
Beth Willinger  
David Wyckoff  
Martha Yancey  
Donald Faust  
Charles Field  
Nicholas Gagliano  
Elizabeth Gaennie  
Gedge Gayle  
Carol Anne Gayle  
Covert Geary  
Carol Gelderman  
George Gerhold  
Karín Giger  
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Lee Grue  
Wilfred Guerin  
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Kyle Hebert  
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Michael Hopping  
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Keith Katz  
Betty Kershaw  
David Kerstein  
Karen Kingsley  
Cassandra Knobloch  
Katherine Kolb  
Susan Kramer  
Leroy Landon  
Doretta Landry-Ancelet  
Oswald LaPorte  
G. J. Leglue  
Sterling LeJeune  
Richard Levich  
Tiffany Lin  
Winston Link  
Warren Lowe  
John Lowe  
Marie Lowman  
Gobel Lynn  
Barbara Mattingly  
Andrew Maverick  
Billy McCain  
Julie McCollam  
Patrick McCusker  
Martha McDonald  
Dennis McSeveney  
A.J. Meek  
Ted Methvin  
John Miller  
Robert Moffett  
Donna Mollere  
Nancy Moss  
Malcolm Murchison  
Jean Murlin  
Denis Murrell  
Sally Newhart  
Ruth Olivera  
Ann Patteson  
Robert S. Phillabaum  
Rose Marie Powell  
Harold Price  
Jane Randolph  
Erich & Alexis Rapp  
Christina Riquelmy  
Patricia Rodriguez  
Noland Roger  
Lavalle Salomon  
Gerard Scardino  
J. Craig Scherf  
Milton Seiler  
Edna-Marie Sevin  
Wade Shaddock  
J. Rahn Sherman  
Jan Shoemaker  
Jeffrey Simon  
Dan Smetherman  
Margaret Dean Smith  
Barbara Sprott  
Harry Stahel  
Dorothy Steinicke  
Carol Stubbs  
Mary Lee Sweat  
Henry Thiele  
Nell Tilton  
Patrick Tremie  
William Trotter  
William Tuggle  
Joseph Tusa  
John Uhler  
Daniel Usner  
Tony Vizard  
Alan Walker  
Martha Ward  
Chris Weaver  
Charlotte Webb  
Edwin Webster  
Geraldine West  
Ronald White  
Jean Wiggins  
William Wilbert  
Anne Wilbourne  
Luis Williams  
Paul Wilson  
Trudy Wondrick  
Sara Woodard

LEH MEMBERSHIP ($50 - $99)

Jerome Alesi  
Roy Alston  
Lawrence Anderson  
Eva Semien Baham  
Sharon Balfour  
Anne Marie Barrios  
Bayou Teche Museum  
Carolyn Becker  
Edward Blasi  
Stephen Braun  
Anne Breren  
Oval Broussard  
Sandra Burshell  
David Buttross  
William Campbell  
Maurice Carr  
Joe Cash  
Gwendolyn Toney Cason  
Miriam Childs  
Becky Collins  
Judy Cooper  
Louise Covillion  
William Cox  
Melissa Daggett  
Michael Davis  
Frank de Caro  
Carol DeGrav Harris  
J. Edwin DeJean  
Denny Dennison  
Rebecca Descant  
Susan Ebles  
Femi Euba  
Jann Facianes
The Division of Education supports access to high quality humanities-based education experiences for all Louisianans. During 2016, 10,207 individuals across 23 Louisiana parishes participated in 257 programs.

**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.

**A MORE PERFECT UNION**

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) awarded a $225,000 grant to the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities for “A More Perfect Union: Civic Education for American Families,” a project of the LEH’s PRIME TIME Family Reading initiative. This NEH award brought federal funding into Louisiana, bolstering the LEH’s efficacy across several sectors.

The grant enabled the LEH to present PRIME TIME Family Reading Time programs on the process of democracy and the U.S. Constitution for at-risk children and their families at sites across Louisiana in 2016.

“This support from the NEH validates what so many of us know to be true: the humanities are a vital force in our democracy,” said LEH Executive Director Miranda Restovic. “We look forward to working with families and partners around Louisiana to implement this project.”

“A More Perfect Union” sparked discussion and learning among Louisiana’s scholars, educators and families about the meaning of democratic citizenship, in response to the NEH-presented question: “How can the humanities deepen public understanding of the meaning of democratic citizenship in the twenty-first century in relationship to our founding principles and values, our political history, and our current circumstances?”

During 2016, 147 programs took place and 5,587 individuals participated throughout the state of Louisiana.

Nationally, 4,620 individuals participated in 110 programs across 10 states via PRIME TIME’s affiliate network.

During 2016, 33 programs took place and 1,683 individuals participated throughout the state of Louisiana.
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 2016, 7 workshops were conducted in Lafayette, New Orleans, and Shreveport with 299 educators participating.

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 2016, 252 individuals participated in 6 programs throughout the state of Louisiana.

Key Outcomes for PRIME TIME Families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>%</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>65%</td>
<td>participant retention rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>56%</td>
<td>of families reported an increase in positive reading behaviors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>of participated families reported an increase in critical thinking behaviors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76%</td>
<td>of families reported an increase in their families library use, reading behavior, critical thinking, discussion behavior, or reading attitude</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“It was fun for my son — an experience I will never forget!” — 81st St. Early Childhood Education Parent
In September 2016, PRIME TIME, Inc. was selected by the Federal Office of Head Start to administer a Head Start program in Ouachita Parish. The 5-year award totals $23,384,070 ($4,676,814 per year) with additional funds devoted to start-up work. With this award, PRIME TIME, Inc. is prepared to serve 555 Ouachita Parish students and their families.

Through partnerships and community-based collaborations, PRIME TIME intends to deliver a high-quality, comprehensive Head Start service model in several communities where the need is greatest. PRIME TIME Head Start will bring a relentless focus on positive child and family outcomes to close the achievement gap and build a better future for children, families, and communities served by its programming.

“Our Head Start program will bring a relentless focus on working in partnership with the community and parents to close the achievement gap for the most vulnerable and set the next generation of children on a path to lifelong success.”

— Miranda Restovic, President and Executive Director of PRIME TIME Inc.
DIVISION OF CONTENT

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.

**Progress in 2016**

*Louisiana Cultural Vistas* published four issues in 2016, and partnered on special editions for the Louisiana Book Festival, French Quarter Festival, and Satchmo Summerfest. The magazine reached 30,000 readers per issue, employed contributing writers, and published partner sections from the Louisiana State Museum, the Ogden Museum of Art, the New Orleans Museum of Art, and the Historic New Orleans Collection. The magazine partnered with the Pulitzer Prize Foundation, the American Library Association, Louisiana Seafood Promotion Board, French Quarter Festivals, Inc., the State Library of Louisiana, the New Orleans Convention & Visitors Bureau, and the Office of the Lt. Governor of Louisiana on special content and programming.

Readers: 30,000 per issue, plus an additional 240,000 visitors online, with stories from 35 parishes.

**SPECIAL INITIATIVE:**

**The Pulitzer Prize Centennial Campfire Initiative**

In 2015 the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities received a $34,000 grant through a partnership between the Federation of State Humanities Councils and the Pulitzer Prize Centennial Campfires Initiative to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Prizes in 2016. The funds supported articles in *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* and public programs around the state about Pulitzer winners with ties to Louisiana: Wynton Marsalis, Robert Penn Warren, John Kennedy Toole, and Tennessee Williams. The magazine commissioned articles by several eminent Louisiana writers: Pulitzer-nominated playwright Lisa D’Amour, Dr. Ibrahima Seck of the Whitney Plantation, New York Times contributor Nathaniel Rich, and acclaimed essayist and short story writer Maurice Carlos Ruffin. The LEH awarded grants to the Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival, the Louisiana Book Festival, Satchmo Summerfest Symposium to host panel discussions on the Pulitzer winners. At KnowLouisiana.org, visitors can use “An Ignatian Journey,” a mobile map and audio tour of Toole’s *A Confederacy of Dunces*.
Since 1971, the LEH Grants program has supported humanities projects in all 64 Louisiana parishes. LEH grantees generate new humanities scholarship, host public events in cities and rural communities, lead library reading programs, direct documentary films, develop websites, and stage literary festivals. These grants are essential to the LEH’s mission of providing all citizens with access to our shared history and culture. The LEH works with grantees to deliver these programs to audiences in Louisiana and across the nation.

The LEH awarded 43 grants to organizations in 20 parishes, investing $91,645 to support projects that sustain Louisiana’s culture and preserve local history. These projects reached more than 529,000 residents.

### Progress: “Purchased Lives” Traveling Exhibition

In 2016 the LEH partnered with The Historic New Orleans Collection, a respected archive, to produce “Purchased Lives: The American Slave Trade from 1808 to 1865,” a traveling panel exhibition exploring the history of the domestic slave trade. Curated by THNOC Historian Erin M. Greenwald, “Purchased Lives” examines the period between America’s 1808 abolishment of the international slave trade and the end of the Civil War, during which an estimated two million people were forcibly moved among the nation’s states and territories. Presented by Entergy Corporation with additional support from the National Park Service and the NEH, the exhibition will travel to 10 Louisiana communities in 2016-2018: Cane River Creole National Historical Park in Natchitoches, City Hall in Bunkie, the West Baton Rouge Museum, Jackson Parish Library in Jonesboro, Bossier Parish Library, the Bayou Teche Museum in New Iberia, Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Pointe Coupee Library in New Roads, St. Tammany Parish Library in Slidell, and Calcasieu Parish Public Library in Lake Charles.

### 2016 REBIRTH GRANTS

In 2016 the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities offered Rebirth Grants to support humanities projects in Louisiana, awarding $29,482 in grants to the following organizations:

- **Twin City Art Foundation**
  Variety at the Masur Museum
  Ouachita Parish
  $1,400

- **Louisiana’s Old State Capitol Foundation**
  Re-imagining the Field Trip: The Historic Architecture and Preservation of Louisiana’s Old State Capitol
  East Baton Rouge Parish
  $2,890

- **New Orleans Poetry Festival 2017**
  Orleans Parish
  $1,125

- **The Hilliard University Art Museum**
  Catalog for “Spiritual Journeys: Homemade Art from the Wyatt and Becky Collins Collection” Exhibition
  Lafayette Parish
  $1,500

- **People Program, Inc.**
  Poetry Reading and Writing Workshop
  Orleans Parish
  $500

- **University of Louisiana at Monroe Foundation**
  The Write to Word: ULM Storytelling Initiative
  Ouachita Parish
  $1,789

- **Banners at McNeese**
  Mystic Iran: The Unseen World
  Calcasieu Parish
  $2,150

- **Contemporary Arts Center**
  Cecilia Vicuña: About to Happen
  Orleans Parish
  $1,700

- **Ponderosa Stomp Foundation**
  A Closer Walk: A Mobile-Optimized Website about New Orleans’ Music History
  Orleans Parish
  $1,500

- **University of Louisiana at Monroe School of Humanities**
  Byway Blues: A Guide to Northeast Louisiana’s Blues History
  Ouachita Parish
  $2,738

- **Neighborhood Story Project, Macon Fry**
  They Called Us River Rats, Life on the Mississippi River Batture
  Orleans Parish
  $2,000

- **Louisiana Sea Grant, Monica Barra**
  Dispatches From the End of the World: Fieldnotes and Life Histories from the Lower East Bank of Plaquemines Parish
  East Baton Rouge Parish
  $2,000

- **CreativeSurge Louisiana**
  Sugarmill Music Festival
  Rapides Parish
  $3,000

- **West Baton Rouge Museum**
  Juke Joints in West Baton Rouge Oral History Project
  West Baton Rouge Parish
  $1,500

- **Press Street (DBA Antenna)**
  Antenna: Signals
  Orleans Parish
  $1,700

- **Midlo Center for New Orleans Studies, University of New Orleans**
  In the Steps of Henrietta Delille: Sisters of the Holy Family Oral History Project
  Orleans Parish
  $2,000
2016 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

LEH Strategic Partnership Grants are available to organizations seeking to collaborate with the LEH on projects that deliver the humanities to large audiences in Louisiana. The LEH awarded Strategic Partnership Grants to the following organizations in 2016:

The Arts Council of Southwest Louisiana
Roots Revival
Calcasieu Parish
$5,000

Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival
31st Annual Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival
Orleans
$5,000

Louisiana Library Foundation
2016 Louisiana Book Festival
East Baton Rouge
$5,000

Action Cadienne/Louisiana Public Broadcasting
Attakapas: History of the Cajun People performance and broadcast
Lafayette Parish
$5,000

2016 EMERGENCY GRANTS

In the aftermath of the August 2016 flooding, a Chairman’s Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities provided funds for the LEH to award organizations that were damaged. This money was used to buy drywall, pay clean up staff, and purchase new books at libraries. LEH awarded $1,000 grants to the following institutions:

Runnels School
East Baton Rouge Parish

Le Bayou Legendaire
Vermilion Parish

Louisiana Folk Roots, Inc.
Lafayette Parish

Vermilionville Cultural Museum/VLHMF
Lafayette Parish

Livingston Parish Library
Livingston Parish

Young Artists’ Academy
Livingston Parish

Acadian Heritage & Culture Foundation, Inc.
Vermilion Parish

Saddle Tramp Riders Club
Acadia Parish

Earthshare Gardens
Lafayette Parish

Central Community Theatre
East Baton Rouge Parish

NUNU Arts and Cultural Collective
St. Martin Parish

“We see LEH as the prestigious cultural organization in Louisiana, and we are proud to be funded by LEH in our endeavors.”

— Marianne Fisher-Giorlando, Louisiana State Penitentiary Museum at Angola
The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities honored Louisiana native Zachary Richard as its 2016 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 Scott, Richard is a world-renowned singer-songwriter, poet, documentary film producer, cultural activist, and environmentalist. In a career that has spanned more than four decades and has seen him write, perform, and record in both English and French, Richard has released more than twenty albums, including multiplatinum and gold records. He has authored four collections of poetry, in addition to a series of children’s books. Devoted to the preservation and promotion of Louisiana’s French-Acadian heritage and language, he directed the team that created a bilingual pair of middle-school-targeted history textbooks, *The History of the Acadians of Louisiana* and *Histoire des Acadiennes et Acadiens de la Louisiane*; produced two multi-part documentaries on the history of the Acadians; and is a founding member of Action Cadienne, a volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing and promoting French immersion education programs in Louisiana.

The LEH honored Baptist Community Ministries with the Chair’s Award for Institutional Support for its commitment to impacting Louisiana, including ongoing support for PRIME TIME. Champion of Culture Awardee David Kerstein of Helis Oil & Gas has led a deliberate, well thought-out and prolonged strategy for supporting public art with demonstrable success in New Orleans’ museums, streets, and institutions.

The LEH recognized two outstanding works of history as 2016 Books of the Year. *Beyond Freedom’s Reach*, by Adam Rothman is the extraordinary tale of an enslaved woman’s struggle to endure the consequences of the Civil War. *Poverty Point: Revealing the Forgotten City*, by Jenny Ellerbe and Diana M. Greenlee, sheds new light on Louisiana’s UNESCO World Heritage site. The 2016 Documentary Film of the Year was awarded to *Shape of Shreveport*, directed by Chris Charles Scott and produced by Jim and Will Broyles. The four-part documentary series explores fascinating episodes in the history of Shreveport, from plane crashes to Elvis Presley to Dr. Martin Luther King. The Michael P. Smith Memorial Award for Documentary Photography went to David Spielman, a New Orleans-based photographer whose published works include *Southern Writers* (1997); *Katrinaville Chronicles: Images and Observations from a New Orleans Photographer* (2007); *When Not Performing: New Orleans Musicians* (2012); and *The Katrina Decade: Images of an Altered City*. Given in partnership with the Louisiana Center for the Book in the State Library of Louisiana and the Library of Congress, the second annual Light Up for Literacy Award went to Herreast Harrison, Program Director of the Guardian Institute, a Ninth Ward community organization established in 1988 that promotes education and local cultural traditions. Lifetime Contribution to the Humanities awardee Beth Courtney has been president of Louisiana Public Broadcasting, a public television network with affiliates in Lake Charles, Alexandria, Shreveport, Monroe, and Lafayette, since 1985. Under her direction, LPB has produced award-winning documentaries, celebrated programs focused on Louisiana politics, and new digital initiatives to preserve Louisiana history.

Established within the LEH administrative structure in 2016, Strategic Initiatives are cross-division activities coordinated by executive-level leadership. The Strategic Initiatives team guides the formulation of organizational strategy and key goals, transforms strategic plan objectives and organizational goals into action, establishes and maintains relationships, and explores and initiates opportunities that increase impact and sustain the organization.

**Culture Up: Cultural Innovation Incubator**

Culture matters. In 2015, the LEH began developing and creating the foundation for Culture Up as a means for supporting individuals and groups for whom culture equals business. In many cases, these artists, scholars, and “creatives” lack the information, connections, and resources necessary to become cultural entrepreneurs. The Culture Up business incubator provides the material and educational foundation required to build professional and sustainable culture-focused businesses. In exchange for a monthly fee of $250, incubator members receive professional workspace with amenities within Turners’ Hall, access to hands-on business training and a network of expert mentors, enhanced potential for exposure, and access to loans and grants.

Currently, Culture Up has six members, with space for expansion. Details on members can be located at www.leh.org. The project continues to thrive via a successful partnership between the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities (LEH), the Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation (LCEF), Capital One Bank, Entergy New Orleans, Louisiana Economic Development, the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, and the New Orleans Downtown Development District. Additional support is provided by the Louisiana Division of the Arts, the Office of Cultural Development, and the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council.

**Businesses currently participating in Culture-Up include:**

- **Two Girls One Shuck**, a full amenities traveling oyster bar that proudly serves fresh Gulf Coast oysters.
- **Culturalyst**, an online platform that connects local artists with fans and those who want to see the creative sector thrive.
- **Cocoa & Cream**, a mobile food trailer and licensed catering service currently operating in greater New Orleans.
- **New TourLeans**, a sightseeing company that offers historical tours in an exclusive electric and solar-powered vehicle throughout the French Quarter.
- **Café Dauphine**, an authentic New Orleans restaurant with a goal of reviving the Ninth Ward dining experience.
- **Crescent City Media Group**, a community engagement and media production agency serving public interest and policy advocacy utilizing the arts to inform and influence action in communities of color across Louisiana.
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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