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**ABOUT THE COVER:**

*Angels of the City* by Krista Jurisich (mixed media, 33” x 33”) appeared in the Fall 2008 issue of *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* as part of a feature profile of the artist.
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INTRODUCTION

The year 2008 was an impressive year at the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, successful in every established program area. We continued to expand PRIME TIME nationally and advance towards the launch of a prototype of the LEH’s forthcoming Encyclopedia of Louisiana History and Culture, known as KnowLA. Our Capital Campaign to build our state-of-the-art education center in Turners’ Hall was extremely successful, thanks in great part to many of our effective and dedicated board members and the combined support of state government, foundations, corporations, and individuals throughout the state.

In 2008, the LEH — through its national award-winning programs, such as PRIME TIME Family Reading Time, Louisiana Cultural Vistas magazine, Teacher Institutes for Advanced Study, our Smithsonian-partnership Museums on Main Street, Readings in Literature and Culture (RELIC) library programs, the American Routes national radio series, the Tennessee Williams New Orleans Literary Festival and other grants awarded to communities across the state — remained the nation’s leading state humanities council. It continued to create greater public access to our shared heritage.

Since its inception, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities has invested more than $50 million to bring Louisiana's people, history, cultures, and stories to local, national, and international audiences. More than 19,000 Louisiana residents have participated in PRIME TIME programs; approximately 92,000 have attended RELIC programs; and more than 4,100 educators have enrolled in the LEH’s Teacher Institutes for Advanced Study. Millions more have attended LEH-funded programs throughout the state or have watched LEH-funded documentaries. The bulk of that investment was made possible through state and federal appropriations and grants the LEH received through competitive applications.

TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY GRANTS

In June 2008 the LEH organized and managed two series of TAH institutes for history teachers — three for Caddo Parish public schools and four for Calcasieu Parish public schools. In Caddo Parish, 81 public elementary, middle and high school teachers participated in and completed three American history institutes at LSU in Shreveport. This was the third and final year of the $1 million grant that enabled 210 teachers to obtain graduate credit in American history at the university. Also in June, 59 Calcasieu Parish public school elementary, middle and high school teachers participated in four American history institutes at McNeese State University in Lake Charles. This was the first year in that three-year grant period. In addition, the LEH also continued to act as the fiscal agent for Algiers Charter Schools Association’s TAH grant.

KNOWLA: DIGITAL ONLINE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF LOUISIANA HISTORY AND CULTURE

KnowLA, or KnowLouisiana, the first Internet-based encyclopedia encompassing the state’s people, history, art, culture, science, business, politics and geography, is proving to be one of the LEH’s most ambitious and challenging new initiatives. Set to debut in 2010, KnowLA will become the first point of reference for anyone interested in Louisiana, providing authoritative and accessible information for students, teachers, scholars, business and industry, tourists and public officials. The creators of KnowLA envision a Louisiana in which its residents are knowledgeable about the history of the state, in all its complexity and richness, and a world in which the state’s history and culture are available digitally.

KnowLA is a multi-year project of the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities. This project is unique in the Endowment’s 38-year history. No other project can compare in size, scope, complexity, cost and innovation. The LEH has a history of building partnerships with colleges, universities and organizations throughout Louisiana. KnowLA will be a collaborative effort, bringing together the resources, content, technology and institutions across the state to make a comprehensive online encyclopedia a reality. KnowLA’s digital nature adds an entirely new dimension to the work done by LEH. Begun in 2006, development has continued in 2008 with the hiring of a new managing editor, editor and digital media editor, and contracting with a software consultant experienced in large-scale database development.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Last year we wrote about the LEH’s Louisiana Humanities Education Center Capital Campaign, a nearly $4.5 million effort to bring the humanities to all Louisianians in dynamic formats that embrace the people and places, history and culture of Louisiana through heretofore unavailable technologies and accessibility. We are happy to report that as of December 31, 2008, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities fulfilled its target for the campaign, and did so years ahead of plans.

The Patrick F. Taylor Educational Auditorium hosts public humanities programs.
Today, the Center is complete and through the end of 2008 the facility hosted more than 100 different meetings and events for several dozen organizations, most of them non-profits. These organizations have utilized the Center’s 120-plus seat auditorium and its seminar/breakout rooms, all equipped with state-of-the-art technology, including web-conferencing that is connected throughout the Center.

As anticipated when we began the Campaign in 2004, several opportunities and challenges have materialized that offer exciting possibilities for the LEH’s future. On the fundraising side, several Capital Campaign donors and prospects have expressed their interest in making legacy or “planned gifts” to the LEH. Based on that interest, the LEH will soon be recruiting financial planning and legal volunteers to develop a comprehensive planned giving program. The LEH is developing a model for future growth — a plan for “Leveraged Philanthropy” where local foundations, corporations, and private donors can partner with the LEH to bring quality humanities-based programming to their communities.

LEH PROGRAMS

LEH programs — whether through the dramatic expansion of PRIME TIME Family Reading Time, receipt of a major Teaching American History grant, our Teacher Institutes for Advanced Study, RELIC, Louisiana Cultural Vistas magazine or our grants program — reached deep into communities throughout the state. We continued to excel in developing and supporting programs that are now national models.

Louisiana rarely has been the source of a solution to the problems of illiteracy. Too often, our state has been cited among its dismal examples. Yet, in 2008, our PRIME TIME completed programs in 24 parishes and reached approximately 1,500 at-risk children and their parents or guardians. In addition, the LEH, thanks to non-state funding, conducted 82 PRIME TIME programs in California, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

Since PRIME TIME began in 1991, it has reached 63 of the state’s 64 parishes as well as communities in 36 other states, plus the Virgin Islands. This is truly a Louisiana success story.

Now in its 26th year, RELIC is a blueprint for successful adult reading programs. In 2008, the LEH, working with local libraries, conducted programs in 26 parishes with 4,541 Louisiana residents signing up for the programs. Since its inception in 1983, RELIC programs have reached nearly 92,000 Louisiana residents in 62 of the state’s 64 parishes.

Our highly popular Teacher Institutes for Advanced Studies were successful again last year. In December 2008, the LEH provided grant funds for three institutes that will be held in the summer of 2009. Since 1985, the LEH has sponsored 214 summer seminars, including Teaching American History institutes, for about 4,120 Louisiana middle and high school teachers, who in turn teach approximately 500,000 students annually.

Louisiana Cultural Vistas continued to gain greater attention and acclaim and win professional commendations — adding six awards from the Press Club of New Orleans in 2008 to a grand total of 90 awards since 1992. With a readership exceeding 50,000, Louisiana Cultural Vistas is a lasting way for the LEH to promote and explore Louisiana’s rich cultural heritage. A digital version of the magazine was added to the LEH’s website in 2007, allowing online readers to browse current and past issues.

Two other major LEH-supported projects also are featured in this report. American Routes is a nationally acclaimed two-hour weekly radio program, featuring Louisiana roots music. In 2008, the show reached 447 stations in 236 radio markets, including XM Satellite Radio, and a weekly audience of over 500,000 listeners. The Tennessee Williams New Orleans Literary Festival, completing its 22nd year in 2008, continued to gain national recognition as one of the nation’s premier literary events.

GRANTS

This year’s Annual Report also describes grants projects funded in 2008 to community organizations, institutions, museums, scholars, writers and film producers. In 2008, the LEH awarded 68 grants totaling $545,140. Since 1971, the LEH has invested more than $50 million in humanities programs and projects that, together with funds invested by our collaborative partners, represents a total humanities investment of more than $95.7 million.

As you will see in the pages that follow, 2008 was a challenging but successful year, thanks to continued support from the State of Louisiana, the National Endowment for the Humanities, corporations and hundreds of private donors.

Michael Sartisky, PhD
President/Executive Director

M. Cleland Powell III
LEH Chair
PRIME TIME FAMILY READING TIME, a unique intergenerational six- or eight-week literacy program composed of readings, discussions and storytelling, reached approximately 1,500 participants in 2008 at Louisiana’s public libraries, schools, community centers and other public venues. The exemplary family-based model featured award-winning children’s books to stimulate discussion about themes and problems encountered in daily life.

The goals of this humanities project were to encourage parents and children to bond around the act of reading and learning together, thus reinforcing the role of the family, and to help children and parents learn how to select and share books, thereby inspiring a lifelong love of books and libraries.

Since the program began in 1991, 63 of Louisiana’s 64 parishes have implemented 466 programs graduating 19,000 participants.

Nationally, in that same period, PRIME TIME implemented 884 programs graduating 33,000 participants in 37 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This program is designed for families with low-literacy skills and targets parents with children ages 6 to 10. The format also includes a separate pre-literacy group activity for younger siblings.

To date three Graduate Institutes in PRIME TIME methodology have been conducted across Louisiana, graduating 60+ public school teachers. A fourth institute is planned in New Orleans in 2009. The Institutes introduce teachers to the maieutic methodology practiced by PRIME TIME programs, which includes open-ended questions and individual understanding of humanities-related issues. The Institutes are conducted in partnership with local universities and led by university professors with experience in the PRIME TIME methodology. Participating teachers receive 3 graduate level credits, 45 CLUs and stipends for successfully completing the Institute.

In recognition of the proven potential for replication, the American Library Association continued its supportive efforts through the office of Public Programs, and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) funded a grant for continued national expansion in 2007 and 2008. No state funds were used for out-of-state programs.

2008 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Completed 41 sites in Louisiana representing 24 parishes.
- Reached a statewide audience of approximately 1,500 with an average of 37 participants for each weekly session.
- Continued expansion as a national model for family reading programs in 14 other states at 82 sites, graduating more than 3,000 participants with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, grants from the Library Services and Technology Act, and affiliate funds.
- Affiliate states, illustrating their commitment to sustain and expand the program, were California, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, Nebraska, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Virginia.
- Three Graduate Institutes in PRIME TIME methodology conducted (2006-2008), graduating 60-plus public school teachers.
- In 2008, PRIME TIME was endorsed by United Way of Greater New Orleans, Urban League of Greater New Orleans, local Rotary Clubs, and Title I Schools.

“As each week passed, participants came earlier and earlier to browse the collections and check out additional material.”
—Allison Clark, PRIME TIME Program Coordinator

“Thank you for allowing West Baton Rouge the opportunity to offer this program at Chamberlin Elementary School. This program has encouraged me to continue to read to/with my family and it has increased my children’s reading skills!”
—participating parent
LOUISIANA CULTURAL VISTAS completed its 19th year of publication in 2008, maintaining its mission to document and interpret the state’s culture, literature, arts and history. The Press Club of New Orleans honored the magazine with six awards in 2008, adding to a total of 90 awards received in the past 16 years. The quarterly magazine ensures that grant projects that may have reached a select regional audience gain greater visibility on the printed page, circulated to more than 50,000 readers.

An on-line version of the magazine was launched with the Spring 2007 edition, allowing Internet access to each page of subsequent issues as well as select back issues. By logging on to www.leh.org, readers can now find Louisiana Cultural Vistas in its entirety in digital format. Using innovative new technology, readers can view two-page spreads and then “flip” through the publication, similar to a printed version. Every listing for a website in the print version is linked on-line to that site, be it for a cultural partner or an advertiser.

Highlights of 2008 included:
• The artworks of Jean Seidenberg, a New Orleans painter and sculptor renowned primarily for portraiture.
• A history of New Orleans East, a suburban district built in low-lying marshlands throughout the latter half of the 20th century that subsequently found itself inundated by Hurricane Katrina’s floodwaters.
• An interview with Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Yusef Komunyakaa by LEH Board Member Henry Lacey.
• A retrospective of paintings by George Rodrigue, a native of Acadiana widely known for his ubiquitous “Blue Dog” paintings.
• Profiles of New Orleans’ Faubourg Marigny and Shreveport’s Fairfield-Highland historic neighborhoods.
• A biography of General Benjamin Franklin Butler, the Union-occupationist Army officer nicknamed “Beast” due to his iron-fisted methods in maintaining law and order in post-Civil War New Orleans.
• Photo essays of Hurricane Katrina’s destruction in New Orleans by photographers Robert Polidori and Sandra Burshell.
• A chronology of maritime mishaps along the Mississippi River in the 19th century.
• An overview of “Prospect1.New Orleans,” the city’s first-ever arts biennial.
• An account of the tragic Colfax Massacre in 1873, a violent standoff in Reconstruction-era North Louisiana that pitted freedmen against white supremacists.

2008 PRESS CLUB AWARDS
Louisiana Cultural Vistas amassed six awards — including two first-place honors for LCV designer Toan Nguyen in the categories of Editorial Illustration and Layout and Design — at the 2008 Annual Press Club of New Orleans Awards Ceremony. The winning entries were Nguyen’s drawings accompanying the feature story “Chinatown New Orleans” and his layout of “Big Charity,” both appearing in the Fall 2007 issue. Other LCV winners included:
• Music columnist Ben Sandmel, First Place in the Critical Review category for his review of a Fats Domino tribute CD (Fall 2007).
• Richard Sexton, Second Place in the Photo Story category for “Terra Incognita” (Fall 2007).
• Cheryl Gerber, Third Place in the Photo Story category for her photographs of imposing doorways and private clubs accompanying the essay “New Orleans: An Autopsy” (Winter 2007-08).

Since 1992, Louisiana Cultural Vistas has garnered 90 awards from the Press Club of New Orleans, including seven first-place honors as Best Publication.
During 2008, the LEH continued the implementation of two $1 million TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY (TAH) grants from the U.S. Department of Education. In June the LEH managed two series of TAH institutes – three for history teachers in Caddo Parish public schools and four for Calcasieu Parish history teachers. In both cases, the LEH wrote and managed the grants for the partnering school districts.

CADDO

From June 2 to June 26, the LEH offered the three graduate-level institutes in American history at Louisiana State University in Shreveport for 81 Caddo Parish public elementary, middle and high school teachers. The institutes focused on Colonial American History, American History from Secession to the Gilded Age, and the U.S. Constitution: Origins and Development. In all three institutes, teachers engaged in group discussions, wrote lesson plans and worked with master teachers to discuss how to translate academic content to their classroom needs. They also participated in field trips and learned how to use historical documents and Internet resources to excite students about American history. This was the last year of the three-year grant that enabled 210 history teachers employed by Shreveport public schools to take graduate institutes at LSU in Shreveport. The university graciously waived tuition for the teachers.

On April 10, 2008, the LEH and Caddo Public School System, working with the Gilder Lehrman Institute, used TAH grant funds to conduct a one-day workshop for 42 elementary, middle and high school teachers. Dr. Ted Widmer, director of the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University, focused on the history of American presidential campaigns and elections, followed by a lecture from John McNamara, a Gilder Lehrman Institute master teacher and social studies supervisor for the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional District in Princeton Junction, New Jersey.

CALCASIEU

From June 2 to June 26, the LEH offered four institutes in American history at McNeese State University in Lake Charles for 59 Calcasieu Parish public elementary, middle and high school teachers. The institutes centered on Colonial Americans, the American Revolution through Reconstruction, Louisiana history, and U.S. history from the Gilded Age to the modern era. As in Caddo Parish, teachers engaged in group discussions, wrote lesson plans and worked with master teachers to discuss how to translate academic content to their classroom needs. They also participated in field trips and learned how to use historical documents and the Internet to engage students in the study of American history. McNeese waived tuition for all participating teachers.

On Sept. 17, the LEH and Calcasieu Public School System, working with the Gilder Lehrman Institute, conducted a one-day workshop on the history of American presidential campaigns and elections for 42 elementary, middle and high school teachers. University of Houston history professor Jeremy Bailey presented an overall historical perspective while Gilder Lehrman master teacher John McNamara presented the follow-up pedagogical section of the workshop.

ANNUAL AMERICAN HISTORY WORKSHOPS IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

On Sept. 24, the LEH staff accompanied nine teachers from Caddo Parish and 12 from Calcasieu Parish to Washington, D.C., for American history workshops at the Library of Congress, National Archives, and the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery and American Art Museum.

ALGIERS CHARTER SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

The LEH also assisted the Algiers Charter Schools Association in securing a new $1 million Teaching American History grant for a new round of American history institutes for New Orleans-area teachers. The LEH is the fiscal agent partner in this grant.
Since 1985, approximately 4,120 Louisiana teachers have attended 214 LEH-sponsored graduate-level institutes in the humanities. In turn, these educators teach approximately 500,000 students annually. The purpose of this program is to provide teachers with intellectual stimulation and advanced knowledge of the subjects they teach. Originally supported entirely by the LEH with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the series has expanded with support from the State of Louisiana, the U.S. Department of Education’s Teaching American History grants, and foundation gifts.

At its November 2008 meeting, the LEH board approved three TEACHER INSTITUTES FOR ADVANCED STUDY that will take place during the summer 2009. Most seminars offer graduate credit, feature guest lecturers, and provide information on Internet resources available for classroom use. In addition, the LEH will organize four federally-funded Teaching American History institutes at McNeese State University in Lake Charles for Calcasieu Parish public school teachers.

FORTHCOMING 2009 TEACHER INSTITUTES FOR ADVANCED STUDY

**Lincoln, Gandhi and King: Humanitarian Agents of Change**  
08-809-041 / $37,916  
Louisiana State University at Shreveport  
Dr. William Pederson  
A comparative study of moral leadership that transformed individual cultures while leaving a lasting impact on the world.

**The Ottoman Empire: Record and Legacy**  
08-809-045 / $35,594  
Louisiana State University and A&M College  
Dr. Karl Roider  
An examination of the history of the Ottoman Empire and its influence on today’s Middle East that will include substantial information on the development of Islam and Islamic culture.

**Putting PRIME TIME in New Orleans Public Schools**  
08-809-048 / $31,433  
University of New Orleans  
Dr. Nancy Dixon  
A seminar devoted to employing PRIME TIME methodologies and books to enhance Orleans Parish public school teachers’ ability to teach reading and critical thinking skills in grades K-8.
RE Ali: READINGS IN LITERATURE AND CULTURE (RELIC) offers adult readers the opportunity to engage in diverse and intellectually challenging readings and discussions of literary and historical texts in the humanities. Held in local libraries across the state, RELIC is the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities’ longest running program.

RELIC’s topics speak to the experiences of Louisianians as residents of the state and as American citizens interested in humanities topics. In 2008 RELIC developed a new program to be available in 2009 titled “Where is North Louisiana?” In 2008 the LEH successfully launched a new program, “Elizabeth I of England and Her Times,” which drew large and enthusiastic audiences.

RELIC, administered in partnership with the Louisiana Library Association, serves as a gateway for Louisianians to share ideas and expression about the human experience, and as a vehicle for libraries to diversify their role in their communities. Small towns and rural areas particularly benefit from these high quality programs, as well as newcomers to Louisiana and others with specific interests.

Reaching 62 of Louisiana’s 64 parishes since 1983, the scholar-led reading sessions have been held in libraries statewide. RELIC has attracted a total attendance of nearly 92,000 — from all accounts the most widespread and well-attended reading program in the South.

2008 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Engaged 38 humanities scholars from 14 institutions and two from the public sector.
- Delivered seven different subjects, including Louisiana history, World War II, Creoles in Louisiana, Louisiana in the Civil War, and the era of Elizabeth I of England.
- Drew into discussions 4,541 attendees in 30 programs for an evening-session average of 26 persons, all occurring while coastal areas of the state were greatly affected by hurricanes Gustav and Ike.
- Delivered programs in 29 locations in 26 parishes with 16 of those in rural communities and small towns.

“I was excited to be part of this class. After becoming a mother, my brain kind of turned into jello,”
— Houma participant, “Elizabeth I of England and Her Times”

“This program generated a great deal of audience participation ... Patrons checked out quite a number of books from our display tables as well,”
— Stonewall participant, “I’ll Be Seeing You ... America and World War II”

“I am considering auditing a Louisiana history course at the University of Louisiana because of this short course.”
— New Iberia participant, “Louisiana History: Perspectives on the Pelican State”

“I attended this program to bring Louisiana history to my Recovery School District high school classroom.”
— New Orleans participant, “Louisiana History: Perspectives on the Pelican State”
With the hiring of three full-time staff members early in 2008, the LEH made significant progress in this first developmental year of \textit{KnowLA}, the LEH’s online encyclopedia of Louisiana history and culture. The LEH also contracted with an outside agency, R2Communications of Ohio, to develop the programming code that will run the content-management system for the encyclopedia. In addition, \textit{KnowLA} staff produced a video that demonstrates the encyclopedia’s interactive features, possible entry formats and educational resources. The video, which is accessible on the LEH’s website, displays timelines, interactive maps, virtual galleries and other digital functions.

The LEH developed a list of initial topics that will be included in \textit{KnowLA}’s 2010 launch: art, architecture, folklife, history, literature and music. Listed below are just some of the entries that have been assigned:

- **Art and Architecture:** Newcomb art pottery, Benjamin Latrobe, Creole cottages and shotgun houses.
- **Folklife:** Easter Rock, Mardi Gras costumes, and jazz funerals.
- **History:** the Red River logjam of the 1830s, the Baton Rouge bus boycott of 1953 and the Ursulines.
- **Literature:** Cajun and francophone literature, the Federal Writers Project in Louisiana, Kate Chopin, George Washington Cable, Anne Rice, and swamps in literature.
- **Music:** Gospel, \textit{Isleños décimas}, swamp pop, and Louis Moreau Gottschalk.

An important key to the success of this project are the partnerships and collaborations that will facilitate the sharing of resources important in the history and culture of the state. To date, the \textit{KnowLA} staff has discussed collaborations with the following institutions:

- The Historic New Orleans Collection
- Amistad Research Center
- Louisiana State Archives
- Louisiana State Museum
- Louisiana Folklife Program
- Louisiana Archaeology Division
- Louisiana State University Libraries Special Collections Division
- Louisiana Association of Museums
- LSU Shreveport Library
- The New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and Foundation
- Southern Food and Beverage Museum

In fall 2008, \textit{KnowLA} staff worked with Tulane University and the University of New Orleans faculties to get undergraduate and graduate students involved in researching and writing entries:

- Professor Michael Mizell-Nelson, director of the Public History program at UNO, integrated work for the encyclopedia into his graduate-level Introduction to Public History course. Students in this class researched the 1900 New Orleans race riot, the Louisiana Lottery Company of the late 1800s, the Old Parish Prison, and crawfish boils, among other topics.
- LEH joined the Tulane University Community Partnership program, which encourages Tulane students to get involved in service learning through internships with local organizations. Kyle Raese, a Tulane junior history major, completed his fall 2008 public service project: a Google Maps-based tour of historic landmarks in New Orleans.
- Dr. Vicki Mayer, Tulane Communications Department Chair, developed a service-learning course, “Media Histories,” for spring 2009. In this class, students will work on a timeline that describes and digitally maps the cultural production, distribution and presentation of various media (i.e., radio, theater, music, newspaper) in New Orleans.
MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET

MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET, a partnership of the LEH and the Smithsonian Institution, brings world-class humanities programs to underserved areas of Louisiana, and provides rural museums with a platform to celebrate and explore their communities’ shared history and heritage. The fourth Museum on Main Street traveling exhibit to tour Louisiana, “New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music,” visited six small museums and concluded in January 2009. In addition to covering all exhibition rental costs ($36,000 over three years) and awarding more than $34,000 in grants for planning and local programming, the LEH provides its rural partners with continuous technical assistance on exhibition and program development, fundraising, promotions, collaboration and budget planning — all of which benefits participating museums long after the Museum on Main Street exhibition leaves town.

Since 2000, the LEH has invested roughly $300,000 in Museum on Main Street tours. Exhibitions have visited 23 rural communities in 23 parishes, and reached a combined audience of approximately 100,000 rural Louisianians. The next Museum on Main Street exhibition, “Journey Stories,” will tour Louisiana in 2011-2012.

HOST SITES OF LEH-SPONSORED MOMS TOURS, 2000-2008

“NEW HARMONIES” HOST SITES

Town of Abita Springs / Bryan Gowland
Lincoln Parish Library (Ruston) / Vivian McCain
Jeanerette Bicentennial Park and Museum / Gail Garcia
Le Musee de la Ville de Kaplan / Betty Girouard
Delta Music Museum (Ferriday) / Judith Bingham
Louisiana State Oil & Gas Museum (Oil City) / Kellie Morris

Museum on Main Street
New Harmonies:
Celebrating American Roots Music
08-809-001 / $5,000
08-809-002 / $5,000
08-809-003 / $5,000
OG 08-809-054 / $2,500
TENNESSEE WILLIAMS/NEW ORLEANS LITERARY FESTIVAL

The TENNESSEE WILLIAMS/NEW ORLEANS LITERARY FESTIVAL enters its 23rd season in 2009. One of the nation’s Top 10 Literary Events, the festival presents theatrical, literary and musical programs showcasing regional and nationally known artists. The largest and oldest established literary festival in the area, it reaches tens of thousands of local residents and tourists alike and represents a local economic impact of more than $1 million each year. In 2008, festival participants included Jason Berry, Jack Penjarvis, Julia Reed, Thomas Sancton, Tim Gautreaux, Kevin Sessums and Lee Smith.

LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

The LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS is a not-for-profit statewide membership organization that serves more than 350 museums and historical institutions through technical assistance, advocacy and professional development. By preserving and presenting Louisiana’s art, history and culture, Louisiana museums positively influence the state’s economy, education and quality of life while serving as a tremendous resource for educators and students alike. In 2008, the LEH partnered with the Getty Foundation to provide funding to the Louisiana Association of Museums in support of professional training, consultants, website development, capacity building and more for our state’s museums.

AMERICAN ROUTES

American Routes is a one-hour radio program featuring Louisiana and nationally known musicians broadcast to a national audience. These artists represent a wide range of popular music: jazz, blues, Cajun, Latin, soul, Zydeco, western swing, pop, and gospel. The program format includes conversational interviews with the hottest artists on the contemporary and traditional music scene as well as samples of their latest recordings.

Reaching 447 stations in 236 radio markets including XM Satellite Radio, these stations ranged from those dominated by classical formats to those featuring news. The estimated weekly national audience is over 500,000 listeners.

HUMANIST OF THE YEAR

The 2008 Humanist of the Year is Ellis Marsalis, internationally acclaimed jazz pianist, professor, and patriarch of America’s renowned family of musicians.

American Routes
08-809-071 / $100,000
Nick Spitzer

Louisiana Association of Museums
08-251-028 / $80,000
Jenny Nadler Thomas

Humanist of the Year
OG 08-708-020 / $1,000
Ellis Marsalis
The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities awarded 68 grants totaling $545,140 in 2008. These grants ranged from an Outreach Grant of $1,000 to a Documentary Film and Radio grant for $38,450. The average grant was $8,017. These grants included funding for 28 public, scholar-led discussion projects averaging $4,487; five documentary film and radio projects averaging $28,246; 14 museum and exhibition projects averaging $7,391; two festival projects averaging $1,944; four performances averaging $8,319; six publication projects averaging $3,750; and four Teacher Institutes and workshops averaging $26,786. Since 1971, the LEH has invested in excess of $24 million in more than 2,260 locally initiated public humanities projects that respond to local needs and infrastructure. Together, these programs have reached a total audience of 69 million people in each of Louisiana’s 64 parishes and nationwide.
GRANTS: ANALYSIS SUMMARY

ANALYSIS OF GRANTS AWARDED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outreach Grants</th>
<th>Public Humanities Grants</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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RELIC: READINGS IN LITERATURE & CULTURE
2008 Library Reading Discussion Project
A cooperative project of the LEH and the Louisiana Library Association

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Regions</th>
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PRIME TIME FAMILY READING TIME
2008 Library Reading Discussion Project for Families

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<td>Outright Funds</td>
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<td>169,820.98</td>
<td>50,946.29</td>
<td>547,006.00</td>
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<td>741,756.00</td>
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* National sites were funded by federal programs requiring sites in multiple states, or by local funds.

2008 Library Reading Discussion Project for Families

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LEH GRANTS

PUBLIC HUMANITIES GRANTS
The LEH supports cultural efforts throughout the state by awarding grants to local cultural organizations and institutions. These awards support large- and small-scale humanities public programs from university-sponsored events to those sponsored by museums, libraries, cultural centers and historical societies. Public Humanities grants bridge the gap between academia and the community, giving Louisiana residents access to top university faculty and resources. Specific formats for these projects include, but are not limited to, public forums such as conferences and workshops, interpretive exhibits, and film and music lecture series.

Public Humanities grants awarded in 2008 included Documentary Film and Radio projects.

Open the Vault: Exhibition and Public Program Series
08-809-005 / $24,520
Meadows Museum of Art at Centenary College
Diane Dufilho
Interpretive programs based on works from the permanent collection of the Meadows Museum of Art with a focus on recent acquisitions.

Moncton Rock, Acadiana Cri: Art and Music in the Cultural Capitals of Both Acadies (1968-2008)
08-809-008 / $9,982
Cultural Research Institute of Acadiana
Lucius Fontenot
An exhibition with interpretive programs featuring Acadian and southern Louisiana art that reflects and compares the recent Acadian and Cajun cultural renaissance.

Louisiana Crossroads Season 9
08-809-010 / $18,275
Acadiana Arts Council
Vicki Chrisman
An informance series exploring the cultural and musical expressions of the South in general and southern Louisiana in particular.

2008 Louisiana Book Festival
08-809-011 / $20,389
Louisiana Library Foundation
James Davis
Interpretive lecture and discussion series at the sixth annual Baton Rouge festival.

Standing Among Giants: Ida Kohlmeyer, A Louisiana Modernist
08-809-013 / $19,272
Louisiana Art and Science Museum
Elizabeth Chubbuck Weinstein
An exhibition, interpretive materials and educational programs based on the painter’s work.

LSU in Shreveport was the site of a public lecture series on President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Louisiana Indian Heritage Association 41st Annual Fall Powwow and 42nd Annual Spring Powwow
08-809-014 / $18,858
Louisiana Indian Heritage Association
Andrea Randazzo
Interpretive public program series focusing on Native American culture, both local and national.

Arctic Spirit
08-809-054 / $21,055
Louisiana Art and Science Museum
Elizabeth Chubbuck Weinstein
An exhibition, interpretive materials and educational public programs introducing audiences to Inuit art.

Michael P. Smith
08-809-056 / $22,300
Contemporary Arts Center
Jay Weigel
A retrospective exhibition of works by the late photographer with public lectures and discussions.
From Tramps to Kings:
Celebrating One Hundred Years of Zulu, 1909-2009
08-809-057/ $10,000
Louisiana Museum Foundation
Dr. Charles Chamberlain
An exhibition and public program series marking the centennial of the Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club, a Mardi Gras institution as well as a major force in New Orleans evolving race relations.

Showdown in Desire: Public Education Forums
08-809-062/ $7,483
Community Mediation Services, Inc.
Orissa Arend
Scholar-led public discussions about the 1970 confrontation between Black Panthers and New Orleans police.

Documentary Film and Radio Grants
Documentary Film and Radio projects are the most cost-effective of the LEH grants. These projects have the potential to reach all Louisiana residents simultaneously through broadcast on public radio or television. Actual audience numbers show that a documentary film can be provided to a Louisiana audience for as little as 10 cents per viewer. In addition, our efforts have made the LEH the largest state supporter of documentary film and radio projects for more than 20 years. Films funded by the LEH are made available after broadcast through the Louisiana State Library Audiovisual Resource Center. All films listed in the LEH Media Catalog are available for loan to any Louisiana resident with a library card.

A Village Called Versailles
08-809-023 / $15,000
Mary Queen of Vietnam Community Development Corp.
S. Leo Chiang
A film documenting the post-Hurricane Katrina recovery of the greater New Orleans Vietnamese community.
**LEH GRANTS**

**Walker Percy: A Documentary Film**  
08-809-024 / $35,000  
Video Veracity  
Winston Riley  
*A cinematic look at the legendary Southern writer’s life and career, including his time living in Covington, Louisiana.*

**Audrey**  
08-809-033 / $38,450  
National Hurricane Museum & Science Center  
Jennifer John Block  
*A film recounting the impact of Hurricane Audrey in 1957 through the oral histories of survivors.*

**T-Fred: The Last Frog Hunter**  
08-809-034 / $35,000  
Independent Feature Project  
Pamela Burke Cameron  
*A documentary on the waning art of Cajun frogging.*

**The Lee Dorsey Radio Project**  
08-809-037 / $17,780  
Monkey Puzzle Productions  
David Kunian  
*A radio documentary on the life and legacy of New Orleans-born rhythm and blues star Lee Dorsey.*

**OUTREACH GRANTS**

The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities’ Outreach Grants encourage community groups throughout the state to develop humanities projects that celebrate and preserve local culture and heritage, as well as to introduce people to new ones. Designed to fund programs of three months or less in duration, these grants of up to $2,500 provide for a wide range of interests and needs in a state of such great diversity. In 2008 Outreach Grants made a significant impact on the cultural life of Louisiana’s residents in both urban and rural areas.

**3rd Annual Cinema on the Bayou Film Festival**  
OG 08-708-012 / $1,994  
Center for Cultural and Eco-Tourism  
Pat Mire  
*Third annual film festival focusing on Cajun and Creole culture.*

**The Finale: An Interview with Alvin Batiste and Eloise Johnson**  
OG 08-708-013 / $2,500  
Black Heritage Festival of Louisiana  
Stella Miller  
*A prominent curator conducts a public interview of noted Louisiana artists.*
Creating Cultural Experiences Through the Humanities
OG 08-708-014 / $1,894
Artists Guild Unlimited
Jaymie LaFleur
A series of public, scholar-led discussions on cultural themes in film.

Writing Women Back Into History
OG 08-708-015 / $2,450
Fletcher Technical Community College
Alyson Blythe
Lectures and public programs in honor of Women’s History Month.

2008 Louisiana Folklore Society Annual Meeting: Where is Home, and What is it Like?
OG 08-708-017 / $2,500
Louisiana Folklore Society
Dr. Susan Roach
Public lectures on themes of the home in post-Hurricane Katrina New Orleans taking place at the society’s annual conference.

Symposium on New Orleans Free People of Color and Their Legacy
OG 08-708-018 / $2,000
Ogden Museum of Southern Art
David Houston
A scholarly discussion panel held in conjunction with an exhibition exploring the artistic and cultural contributions of free New Orleanians of color.

In Defense of Franklin D. Roosevelt
OG 08-708-019 / $1,000
Louisiana State University at Shreveport
Dr. William Pederson
A noted presidential scholar, Dr. Jean Edward Smith, presents two public lectures on the 32nd president of the United States.

American Griots: The Rebirth of the West African Oral Tradition in the African-American Community of Louisiana
OG 08-708-022 / $2,500
Tangipahoa African-American Heritage Museum and Black Veterans Archive
Amanda Barrilleaux
Oral history collection workshops connecting modern storytelling to the African bard tradition.

Revised Historic Fairfield-Highland Architectural Tour Guide
OG 08-708-023 / $2,500
Highland Restoration Association
Sue Ball
Publication of a new walking/driving tour guide to architectural gems of the historic Shreveport neighborhood, with a public lecture and guided kick-off tour.

An Evening With Louisiana’s Poet Laureate: Darrell Bourque
OG 08-708-024 / $2,500
Jefferson Parish Library
Linda Molinario
Readings and discussions with the prominent poet.

Initial Planning Phase for History of Pearl River, Post-Civil War Through World War II
OG 08-708-025 / $1,000
Pearl River and Honey Island Swamp Museum
Tammi Fandal
Planning phase for exhibitions on local history and culture to be installed in Pearl River’s new museum.

The Evolution of the Women’s Exchange
OG 08-708-026 / $1,000
Hermann-Grima/Gallier Historic Houses
Mamie S. Gasperecz
Planning phase for exhibitions and public programs to interpret the role of women’s charitable organizations in the development of New Orleans’ French Quarter.
6th Annual Saints and Sinners Literary Festival
OG 08-708-027 / $2,500
NO/AIDS Task Force
Paul Willis
Annual festival focusing on LGBT literature.

Treasures of Napoleon
OG 08-708-028 / $1,000
Louisiana Museum Foundation
David Kahn
Supporting a major exhibition and public programs exploring the life and legacy of Napoleon Bonaparte.

Up From the Cradle of Jazz
OG 08-708-029 / $1,000
Jason Berry
Supporting the republication of this important work on New Orleans' rich musical heritage.

Thomastown Project
OG 08-809-030 / $2,500
Hermione Museum
Codie Ray
Producing a script for a new permanent exhibition focusing on Depression-era federal agricultural settlements in the Louisiana Delta.

Memorable Musicals:
Films That Shaped a Generation
OG 08-809-031 / $2,303
Iberia Parish Library
Cheryl Braud
A scholar-led film discussion series complementing the display in Jeanerette of the traveling Smithsonian Institution/Museum on Main Street exhibition, “New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music.”

People of Iberville Series: Spanish of Iberville
OG 08-809-032 / $2,483
Iberville Museum Association, Inc.
Rita Lynn Jackson
An exhibition and public programs examining the Spanish colonial influence on Iberville Parish and Louisiana as a whole.

Film and the Quest for Meaning, Part II
OG 08-809-033 / $2,425
Ascension Parish Library
Dr. John May
The eleventh annual scholar-led, summertime film discussion series in Gonzales.

2008 Lambeth Lecture Series: A Summer Lecture Series
OG 08-809-034 / $2,500
Lambeth House Foundation
Tanya Becnel
A series of public lectures on topics in local culture, history and politics.

Black Out: A Historical and Social Discourse on Black Theatre in America
OG 08-809-035 / $2,500
MECCA Foundation
Angelique Feaster
Public discussion programs exploring the origins and impact of African-American theatre.
Develop Educational Resources for the Southern Forest Heritage Museum
OG 08-809-037 / $2,200
Southern Forest Heritage Museum and Research Center
Marilyn Jackson
Multidisciplinary humanities-based lesson plans for Rapides Parish public school teachers to enhance museum-based learning.

Java: Louisiana’s Coffee Roasters
OG 08-809-038 / $2,500
Imperial Calcasieu Museum
Susan H. Reed
Exhibition and humanities-based lesson plans exploring the rich history of Louisiana’s coffee roasting and manufacturing industry.

Sharing Louisiana Culture Through the Poetry of Darrell Bourque
OG 08-809-043 / $2,500
Fletcher Technical Community College
Suzanne Martin
Readings and discussions in three parishes with the poet laureate of Louisiana.

7th Annual Coffee and Conversation:
A Series of Library Discussions
OG 08-809-044 / $2,500
Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival
Paul Willis
Scholar-led public discussions with emerging and established authors.

East Meets West:
An Introduction to the Thoughts and Practices of Tibetan Buddhism
OG 08-809-046 / $2,500
Louisiana Himalaya Association, Inc.
Susan Dunlap
A lecture series from a scholar and monk visiting from India.

Creole Neighborhood of Edgar Degas:
A Walking Tour
OG 08-809-048 / $2,500
Edgar Degas Foundation
David Villarubia
A walking tour guide to notable historic properties surrounding the Edgar Degas House that inspired the painter during his time living in New Orleans.

Talking History ... A Historical Re-enactment Tour
OG 08-809-049 / $2,500
City of Opelousas
Melanie Lee
A living history presentation highlighting notable figures in the long and colorful history of Opelousas.

If Headstones Could Talk ... St. Mary Magdalene Old Catholic Cemetery
OG 08-809-050 / $2,500
City of Abbeville
Charlene Beckett
A living history presentation illuminating the lives of individuals interred in Abbeville’s historic French Catholic cemetery.

Ponchatoula Trade Days Art Exhibit
OG 08-809-053 / $2,000
Ponchatoula Chamber of Commerce Marketing, Inc.
Charlene Daniels
Public discussion programs exploring the influence of Louisiana’s culture and environment on local artists.

John Scott Exhibition Catalogue
OG 08-809-055 / $2,500
Twin City Art Foundation/Masur Museum of Art
Anne Archer Dennington
An interpretive catalogue to accompany a retrospective exhibition of the works of John Scott at the Masur Museum.

“Origins of the Creole Gumbo,” an interpretive presentation exploring the sociocultural origins of a mainstay of New Orleans cuisine was hosted by the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and Foundation.


LEH GRANTS

Cane River Back Roads
OG 08-809-056 / $2,500
Friends of the Old Natchitoches Courthouse Museum
Carolyn Harrington
A traveling exhibition featuring the drawings of a native Louisiana artist and scholar, with interpretive text panels.

Louisiana Landmarks Society Lecture Series
OG 08-809-057 / $1,800
Louisiana Landmarks Society
Susan Lloyd McClamroch
A series of lectures on topics in historic preservation.

Trey McIntyre Project
OG 08-809-058 / $2,000
New Orleans Ballet Association
Jenny Hamilton
Public humanities programs interpreting a week of performances and master classes celebrating new collaborative work between the renowned choreographer and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band.

Tom Dent Literary Festival
OG 08-809-059 / $2,000
New Orleans Public Library Foundation
Beyonka Wilson-Brown
The annual festival presents readings, discussions and lectures featuring authors who live in, or are inspired by, New Orleans.

Origins of the Creole Gumbo
OG 08-809-060 / $2,500
New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and Foundation
Scott Aiges
An interpretive, scholar-led presentation exploring the sociocultural origins of a mainstay of New Orleans cuisine.

You Are Where You Eat: Stories and Recipes from the Neighborhoods of New Orleans
OG 08-809-062 / $1,400
Norwegian Seaman’s Church
Elsa Hahne
Panel discussions and interpretive programs exploring the influence of various ethnic neighborhoods on local foodways.

The Imperial Calcasieu Museum in Lake Charles hosted Java: Louisiana’s Coffee Roasters, an exhibit that chronicled the state’s coffee industry.
**The History of the African American in Webster Parish**  
OG 08-809-063 / $2,500  
Dorcheat Historical Association and Museum  
Charlotte Martin  
*An exhibition development project focusing on the experiences of the local African-American community in the 19th century.*

**People of Iberville Series: African Americans of Iberville**  
OG 08-809-064 / $2,384  
Iberville Museum Association, Inc.  
Rita Lynn Jackson  
*An exhibition and public programs examining the African American influence on Iberville Parish and Louisiana as a whole.*

**New Orleans Art Review – Biennial Edition**  
OG 08-809-065 / $2,500  
New Orleans Art Review, Inc.  
Terrington Calas  
*A special edition of the quarterly art review presenting scholarly texts on features of the Prospect.1 biennial in New Orleans.*

**Brochures for Free Concert in St. Louis Cathedral**  
OG 08-809-066 / $2,500  
Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra  
Jenna Cronin  
*A lecture and interpretive brochure accompanying a public concert of popular German classical music in 19th century Louisiana.*

**LOUISIANA PUBLISHING INITIATIVE GRANTS**  
The LEH established its Louisiana Publishing Initiative grants to help writers and photographers tell the endless stories of Louisiana's history, landscape, people, towns and cities, triumphs and tragedies, music and literature, and architectural monuments to its living and dead. Thanks in part to these grants, writers, photographers and publishers have produced outstanding publications that explore Louisiana's contribution to the humanities in literature, history, languages, music, cultural anthropology and folk life.

**Mistress of the Haunted House:**  
*The Rise and Fall of Delphine Macarty Lalaurie*  
08-251-025 / $4,000  
Carolyn Long  
The untold true history behind the Madame Lalaurie haunted house in New Orleans.

**Cajun Breakdown: The Emergence of an American-Made Music**  
08-251-026 / $4,000  
Ryan Brasseaux  
*A critical study of the Cajun music genre to be published by Oxford University Press.*

**An Age of Men: The Historical Memoir of My Community**  
08-251-027 / $4,000  
Fatima Shaik  
*An exploration of the lives of free New Orleanians of color, as told through their journals and correspondence.*

**Old South Baton Rouge: A Community Portrait**  
08-251-031 / $4,000  
Center for Louisiana Studies  
Dr. Jay Edwards  
*A unique study describing the history, architecture, culture, and struggles for preservation of a multi-ethnic Baton Rouge neighborhood.*

**Plaquemines Parish Folklife:**  
*Community and Identity in Coastal Louisiana*  
08-251-032 / $4,000  
Louisiana State University and A&M College  
Dr. Carolyn Ware  
*A manuscript on the regional and ethnic folklife in Plaquemines Parish.*

The Louisiana State Museum celebrated the Krewe of Zulu’s 100th anniversary with an exhibit chronicling the New Orleans’ club’s century of Mardi Gras history. From 1917 through the 1950s, King Zulu arrived at the Old Basin Canal by boat to begin the Zulu parade.
Since its opening to the public in March 2007, the Louisiana Humanities Center has grown into a nexus place for non-profit organizations and other groups in New Orleans. With its state-of-the-art meeting technology and the graceful architecture of Turners’ Hall, the LHC provides a comfortable, sophisticated location to a wide spectrum of events and gatherings.

The centerpiece of the recently completed LEH’s five-year Capital Campaign, the LHC came into its own in 2008, hosting innovative programming from the LEH and outside rental clients. Groups including the Greater New Orleans Foundation, the Arts Council of New Orleans, Louisiana Speaks, the Tennessee Williams Foundation, the Young Leadership Council, the Bureau of Governmental Research, Nike, the Urban Institute, the Louisiana Landmarks Association, and Americans for the Arts and many others held meetings, lectures, and training sessions in the Center’s facilities. In addition, the Patrick F. Taylor Auditorium was the site for new LEH programming, including the LHC Documentary Series and the As Told By Themselves: Creole Wild West oral history project, as well as host to the Louisiana Shorts Film Festival and an LEH reception for New Orleans-area legislators. PRIME TIME Family Reading conducted several training sessions, a meeting of its national board, and a six-week long Teacher Institute in the auditorium.

In total, 44 different organizations held over 90 meetings in the Louisiana Humanities Center in 2008. With the launch of a monthly piano night series and several large conferences in the works, the LHC will continue to grow and welcome guests with innovative technology and dynamic facilities to meet, learn, and celebrate the humanities and the state of Louisiana.

For more information, log on to www.leh.org/html/turnershall.html
2008 HUMANITIES AWARDS HONOREES

The LEH’s annual Humanities Awards Ceremony, supported by Capital One Bank, honors Louisianians who have made outstanding contributions to the study and understanding of the humanities. The 2008 ceremony was held March 29 at Houmas House Plantation and Gardens in Darrow, La.

2008 honorees were:

- The 2008 Humanist of the Year was Ellis Marsalis, an internationally acclaimed New Orleans musician and teacher. Mr. Marsalis began formal music studies at the Xavier University junior school of music at age 11. After high school, Mr. Marsalis enrolled in Dillard University (New Orleans) as a clarinet major. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music education in 1955. In 1964 Mr. Marsalis moved his wife and family to Breaux Bridge where he became Carver High School’s school band and choral director. In 1974, he took a position at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts high school. In 1986, Mr. Marsalis accepted the position of Commonwealth Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va., where he served as the coordinator of Jazz Studies. Three years later he returned to New Orleans and the University of New Orleans to become the first occupant of the Coca Cola Endowed Chair of Jazz Studies. As a teacher, his lessons and example greatly influenced the careers of his musician sons, Branford, Delfeayo, Jason and Wynton, and his many students, including Nicholas Payton, Terrance Blanchard, Harry Connick, Jr., Kent and Marlon Jordan, Steve Masakowski, and Donald Harrison, Jr.

- The Award for Lifetime Contribution to the Humanities went to Norman Francis, PhD, longtime president of Xavier University in New Orleans and recipient of the President’s Medal of Freedom. According to the U.S. Department of Education, Xavier continues to rank first nationally in the number of African-American students earning undergraduate degrees in the biology and life sciences, chemistry, physics and pharmacy. In pre-med education, the university is first in the nation in placing black students into medical schools. The 77 percent acceptance rate of Xavier graduates by medical schools is almost twice the national average, and 92 percent of those who enter medical schools complete their degree programs. Nearly 25 percent of the more than 6,000 African-American pharmacists practicing in the United States are Xavier graduates. Dr. Francis has served as an advisor to five U.S. presidents as well as the historic National Commission on Excellence in Education, the President’s Council for the United Negro College Fund, and the American Association of Higher Education. In the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, his compassion, leadership, commitment and impeccable reputation led to his being named chairman of the Louisiana Recovery Authority. It was a job he accepted despite the destruction of his own home and devastation to Xavier University.

- The Chair’s Award for Institutional Support was presented to the Community Foundation of Shreveport-Bossier for its contributions and partnership in LEH’s Prime Time programs in the Shreveport-Bossier area. In 2008, the Community Foundation of Shreveport-Bossier awarded the LEH $150,000 in grants for LEH programming in the Shreveport-Bossier area. One of those grants was a $100,000 Endowment Challenge that the LEH matched with $150,000 of its own money to ensure quality humanities programming for the region. The remaining $50,000 was a grant to underwrite the LEH’s PRIME TIME family reading program in the Shreveport-Bossier area.

- The Humanities Documentary Film of the Year Award went to Reconstructing Creole by Jennifer John Block. Reconstructing Creole tells how and why Louisiana culture is different from the rest of America by weaving the life of Laura Locoul Gore and the restoration of her home to reveal a rich story about plantation-era, Creole Louisiana.

- Awards for Individual Achievement in the Humanities were presented to Delma McLeod-Porter, PhD, a professor and coordinator of developmental writing at McNeese State University in Lake Charles; J. Paul Leslie, PhD, history professor at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux; and Jack Helfin a professor of English at the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

- The Award for Public Humanities Programming Award went to John R. May, PhD, an English professor at LSU in Baton Rouge, for his remarkable series of “summer film festivals” at the Ascension Parish Public Library in Gonzales, La.

- The Humanities Book of the Year Award was presented to Bliss Broyard for One Drop: My Father’s Hidden Life – A Story of Race and Family Secrets, a remarkable account of a young woman’s journey to discover her racial identity in the wake of discovering her father’s African ancestry.

- Humanities Teacher of the Year Awards went to Catherine Green, a social studies (history) teacher at Caddo Middle Magnet School in Shreveport, and Emmitt Glynn III, who teaches political theory, U.S. government, and history of religion in America at Episcopal High School in Baton Rouge.
LEH PAST BOARD MEMBERS

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