

Collections Management Grant Opportunities

Updated August 2023

Andrew Mellon Foundation

a. [Humanities in Place Grant Programs | Mellon Foundation](#)

<https://www.mellon.org/grant-programs/humanities-in-place>

Supports a fuller, more complex telling of American histories and lived experiences by deepening the range of how and where our stories are told and by bringing a wider variety of voices into the public dialogue. Working with media, heritage and public spaces, history museums and other institutions, and conveners of shared experiences—including the digital or ephemeral—Mellon strives to expand the public expression of the histories that have made us and the values they hold. Their program works across and within diverse communities, encouraging a bold, innovative rethinking of past practice, as well as visionary new approaches for how to collectively understand, uplift, and celebrate more complete stories about who they are.

b. [Arts and Culture Grant Programs | Mellon Foundation](#)

<https://www.mellon.org/grant-programs/arts-and-culture>

Through the Arts and Culture program, Mellon celebrates the power of the arts to challenge, activate, and nourish the human spirit. They support exceptional creative practice, scholarship, and conservation practices while nurturing a presentative and robust arts and culture ecosystem. They work with artists, curators, conservators, scholars, and organizations to ensure equitable access to excellent arts and cultural experiences and support approaches that place the arts and artists at the center of thriving, healthy communities.

c. [Higher Learning Grant Programs | Mellon Foundation](#)

<https://www.mellon.org/grant-programs/higher-learning>

Working with colleges, universities, and organizations in higher education committed to the humanities and social justice, the Higher Learning program makes grants that broaden our understanding of American history and culture; develop the interpretive tools and methods researchers use to create meaning; support faculty and students whose work exemplifies a drive toward greater equity in their fields and institutions; and promote pathways for those seeking to exercise transformative academic leadership.

d. [Public Knowledge Grant Programs | Mellon Foundation](#)

<https://www.mellon.org/grant-programs/public-knowledge>

The program works with archives, presses, and a range of university, public, and other local, national, and global libraries that are foundational to knowledge production and distribution in culture and the humanities. The program's goal is to increase equitable access to deep knowledge that helps to build an informed, heterogeneous, and civically engaged society. Through this work, Mellon aspires to cultivate networks and maintainable infrastructure, expand digital inclusion, and ensure that more authentic, reflective, and nuanced stories are revealed, preserved, and told.

California Art Council

https://arts.ca.gov/grant_program/arts-cultural-organizations-general-operating-support/

Funds may be used to support any eligible expenses associated with the general operations of an arts or cultural organization, including but not limited to rent, utilities, and staff salaries.

California Natural Resources Agency

[Museum Grant Program \(ca.gov\)](https://resources.ca.gov/grants/california-museum)

<https://resources.ca.gov/grants/california-museum>

The California Natural Resources Agency announced more than \$19.7 million in funding by the [California Cultural and Historical Endowment](#) to support 63 museum projects from more than 25 counties. Funding will support small capital projects and programs in museums that have been severely affected by COVID-19 and that serve historically underserved communities or students subject to Title 1.

Institute of Museum and Library Sciences

a. [Inspire! Grants for Small Museums](#)

<https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/inspire-grants-small-museums>

Designed to support small museums of all disciplines in project-based efforts to serve the public through exhibitions, educational/interpretive programs, digital learning resources, policy development and institutional planning, technology enhancements, professional development, community outreach, audience development, and/or collections management, curation, care, and conservation. Inspire! has three project categories: lifelong learning, institutional capacity, collections stewardship and access.

b. [Museums for America](#)

<https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museums-america>

Supports museums of all sizes and disciplines to undertake projects that strengthen their ability to serve the public through exhibitions, educational/interpretive programs, digital learning resources, professional development, community debate and dialogue, audience-focused studies, and/or collections management, curation, care, and conservation. Museums for America has three project categories: Lifelong Learning, Community Engagement, Collections Stewardship and Access.

c. [IMLS Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services \(NAHN\) Grants](#)

<https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/native-american-native-hawaiian-museum-services-program>

Designed to support Indian tribes and organizations that primarily serve and represent Native Hawaiians in sustaining heritage, culture, and knowledge through exhibitions, educational services and programming, workforce professional development, organizational capacity building, and collections stewardship.

National Endowment for the Humanities

a. [Humanities Collections and Reference Resources](#)

<https://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/humanities-collections-and-reference-resources>

HCRR advances scholarship, education, and public programming in the humanities by helping libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations across the country steward important collections of books and manuscripts, photographs, sound recordings and moving images, archaeological and

ethnographic artifacts, art and material culture, and digital objects. The program strengthens efforts to extend the reach of such materials and make their intellectual content widely accessible. Awards also support the creation of reference resources that facilitate the use of cultural materials, from works that provide basic information quickly to tools that synthesize and codify knowledge of a subject for in-depth investigation. Projects may address the holdings or activities of a single institution or may involve partnerships between organizations.

b. [Public Humanities Projects](#)

<https://www.neh.gov/grants/public/public-humanities-projects>

Supports projects that bring the ideas of the humanities to life for general audiences through public programming. Projects must engage humanities scholarship to analyze significant themes in disciplines such as history, literature, ethics, and art history. Awards support projects that are intended to reach broad and diverse public audiences in non-classroom settings in the United States. Projects should engage with ideas that are accessible to the general public and employ appealing interpretive formats.

c. [Collaborative Research](#)

<https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/collaborative-research-grants>

Aims to advance humanistic knowledge by fostering rich scholarship that a single researcher could not accomplish working alone. The program supports sustained collaboration by teams of two or more scholars. Teams may propose research in a single field of study or interdisciplinary work. NEH encourages projects that incorporate multiple points of view and pursue new avenues of inquiry in the humanities.

d. [Digital Humanities Advancement Grants](#)

<https://www.neh.gov/grants/odh/digital-humanities-advancement-grants>

Supports innovative, experimental, and/or computationally challenging digital projects, leading to work that can scale to enhance scholarly research, teaching, and public programming in the humanities.

e. [Digital Projects for the Public](#)

<https://www.neh.gov/grants/public/digital-projects-the-public>

Supports projects that interpret and analyze humanities content in primarily digital platforms and formats, such as websites, mobile applications and tours, interactive touch screens and kiosks, games, and virtual environments.

f. [Public Impact Projects for Smaller Organizations](#)

<https://www.neh.gov/program/public-impact-projects-smaller-organizations>

Small and mid-sized cultural organizations are keepers of history and culture, sources of lifelong learning, and community place-makers. Public Impact Projects grants seek to assist you in meeting your community's needs by expanding the scope, reach, and excellence of your public programs. These awards support a variety of activities that focus on enriching interpretive strategies, strengthening interpretive skill sets or enhancing community engagement with public-facing programs. This program aims to meet small and mid-sized organizations where you are by supporting projects that are appropriate in scope and content to each organization's resources and community needs.