

Table of Contents
Minnesota Humanities Center

<i>Agency Profile</i>	1
Agency Expenditure Overview	4
Agency Financing by Fund	5
Agency Change Summary	6
<u>Change Item(s)</u>	7
<i>Maintain Current Service Levels</i>	7
<i>Healthy Eating Here at Home</i>	9

<https://www.mnhum.org/>

AT A GLANCE

The Minnesota Humanities Center (MHC) brings the humanities to all Minnesotans through building relationships, active engagement, and programs of the highest quality. In fiscal year 2021:

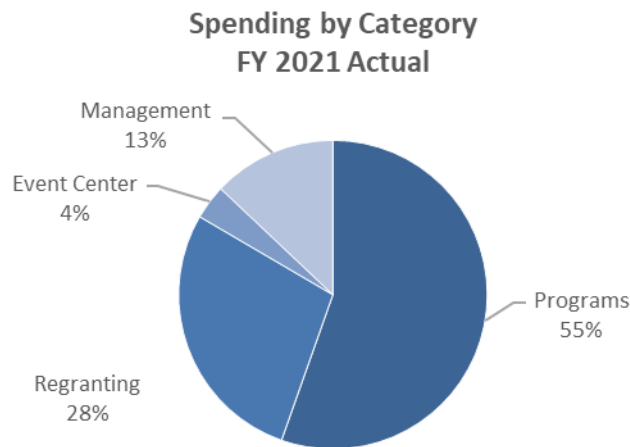
- 28,221 people participated in 124 events.
- MHC reached 15 counties through programming and partnerships during COVID.
- More than 1,000 original resources were available in an online Absent Narratives Resource Collection, and over 3,000 people attending 40 education programming.
- 134 meetings and events were held at the MHC Event Center, serving 4,228 clients during COVID.

PURPOSE

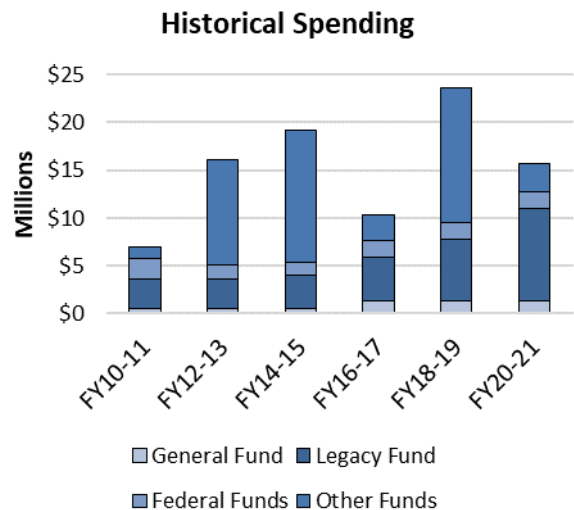
The Minnesota Humanities Center connects our past, present, and future by bringing people together to increase understanding and spark change.

MHC partners with individuals, groups, and organizations to engage multiple perspectives and build a more inclusive Minnesota. MHC’s full-service Event Center is a community resource where diverse organizations gather in conversation and active participation.

BUDGET



Source: Humanities Center records; excludes the construction project to renovate HVAC and building structure.



Note: Federal Funds are funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities, etc. Federal funds for the Humanities Center do not flow through the state’s budget or treasury and are typically not included in statewide reporting.

Other Funds include grants from state agencies; and individual, corporate, and foundation donations. These funds are typically not included in statewide reporting for the Humanities Center.
Source: Consolidated Fund Statement and Humanities Center records.

STRATEGIES

MHC's humanities-based K-12 Education Strategy builds partnerships with schools and districts across the state to provide rigorous professional development opportunities for K-12 educators that further the schools' and districts' priorities. Through immersion-based learning, an online resource collection, and in-person workshops, educators in Minnesota are building their networks and increasing student engagement in the classroom. Offerings include Increase Engagement Through Absent Narratives, Story Circle workshops, and Teaching Bdoté workshops.

At the direction of its Advisory Committee, MHC's programming prioritized understanding veterans and those impacted by war including:

- Veterans –exploring the experience of those that have served in the military
- People impacted by a loved one serving in the military –exploring the experience of those that have or had a loved one serve in the military
- Refugees –exploring the experience of individuals who became refugees because of military conflict
- History/Civics/Society – exploring:
 - history of military conflict,
 - philosophical, moral, political issues that shape the who, what, when, how, & why we engage in military conflict,
 - history and philosophy of civilian rule over the military, and
 - how government decides to engage in military conflict & how it engages in military conflict

We Are Water MN is a traveling exhibition and community engagement initiative that emerged from the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street project. It has been continued by the Humanities Center and several state partners including the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. It has been at around 15 statewide sites between 2019 and 2021. We are Water MN is scheduled to reach seven more communities in 2021-2022 including St. Paul, Winona, Lake City, Alexandria, Fergus Falls, Hastings, and Eagan. Through this initiative, the public explores the meaning of water as part of their identity, history, and culture.

Other programming includes:

- Grant-making: MHC administers legislatively mandated grants to children's museums, civics organizations, and cultural organizations. Additional grant making includes competitive grants to amplify absent narratives in the classroom, develop community partnerships, and launch new humanities projects.
- Why Treaties Matter: This statewide traveling exhibit, in partnership with the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, includes updated content with new multi-lingual exhibit panels, and the publication of prominent award winning American Indian biographies for young readers.
- Civics Renewal, deepens, broadens, and increases our capacity and collaborations that facilitate civic renewal and allow for the sharing of human experiences, particularly with traditionally marginalized and underrepresented communities. Civic Renewal work at MHC nurtures a culture that facilitates and encourages citizen-led democracy that shapes public life, empowers citizens to lead the democracy, and allows citizens to influence institutions that impact their lives.
- We partner with individuals, creatives, scholars, and organizations to broaden humanities access, learning, and impact in all four corners of the state. The team facilitates culturally responsive humanities grants and co-creates with communities to offer collaborative programming.

RESULTS

Since no one is required or obligated to use any of MHC’s services or programs, one key measure of success is demand: Do people and communities use MHC’s programs and services and is there continuing and increased demand? Do partners and participants experience a new level of engagement in their communities, classrooms, and organizations because of working with MHC?

MHC evaluates and learns from how its programs and projects are working through the implementation of Utilization-Focused Developmental Evaluation plans. Internal and/or external evaluations are completed, with close attention focused on outcomes, criteria for success, and highlighting information and findings that key stakeholders can use to make improvements.

The success of MHC’s work can be attributed to many factors. Program staff work in close partnership with community members, partner organizations, and community leaders to ensure authentic programming that meets real needs. MHC monitors and responds to feedback in real time, ensuring the most relevant and meaningful experience possible for participants. MHC staff also seeks out resources to support important initiatives as needs emerge.

Type of Measure	Name of Measure	Previous	Current	Dates
Quantity	Professional Development Offerings (# of events/# of participants)	26/483	41/3,261	FY20, FY21
Quality	Community/Public Offerings (# of events/# of participants)	41/3,798	58/7,007	FY20, FY21
Quantity	Traveling Exhibits (# of exhibits/# of host sites/# of visitors)	2/13/33,694	25/17,953	FY20, FY21
Quantity	Grants Awarded to Other Agencies (# of grants/# of dollars awarded)	99/\$3,215,198	151/\$2,485,666	FY20, FY21
Quantity	Event Center Usage (# of events/# of participants)	266/8,632	134/4,228	FY20, FY21

**Current data reflects impact from COVID-19 business closure and interruption.*

M.S. 138.911 charges MHC with providing leadership, programs, and resources that advance the study of the humanities in schools, colleges, and cultural organizations throughout the state.

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/138.911>

Humanities Center

Agency Expenditure Overview

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY20	Actual FY21	Actual FY22	Estimate FY23	Forecast Base		Governor's Recommendation	
					FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25
<u>Expenditures by Fund</u>								
1000 - General	670	730	700	700	700	700	845	845
2301 - Arts & Cultural Heritage	1,818	2,757	4,041	8,409				
Total	2,488	3,487	4,741	9,109	700	700	845	845
Biennial Change				7,875		(12,450)		(12,160)
Biennial % Change				132		(90)		(88)
Governor's Change from Base								290
Governor's % Change from Base								21
<u>Expenditures by Program</u>								
Humanities Center	2,488	3,487	4,741	9,109	700	700	845	845
Total	2,488	3,487	4,741	9,109	700	700	845	845
<u>Expenditures by Category</u>								
Grants, Aids and Subsidies	2,488	3,487	4,741	9,109	700	700	845	845
Total	2,488	3,487	4,741	9,109	700	700	845	845

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY20	Actual FY21	Actual FY22	Estimate FY23	Forecast Base FY24 FY25		Governor's Recommendation FY24 FY25	
1000 - General								
Balance Forward In		30						
Direct Appropriation	700	700	700	700	700	700	845	845
Balance Forward Out	30							
Expenditures	670	730	700	700	700	700	845	845
Biennial Change in Expenditures				0		0		290
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				0		0		21
Governor's Change from Base								290
Governor's % Change from Base								21

2301 - Arts & Cultural Heritage

Balance Forward In	1,075	2,407	2,900	3,634				
Direct Appropriation	3,150	3,250	4,775	4,775	0	0	0	0
Balance Forward Out	2,407	2,900	3,634					
Expenditures	1,818	2,757	4,041	8,409				
Biennial Change in Expenditures				7,875		(12,450)		(12,450)
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				172		(100)		(100)
Governor's Change from Base								0
Governor's % Change from Base								

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	Biennium 2024-25
Direct				
Fund: 1000 - General				
FY2023 Appropriations	700	700	700	1,400
Forecast Base	700	700	700	1,400
Change Items				
Maintain Current Service Levels		95	95	190
Healthy Eating Here at Home		50	50	100
Total Governor's Recommendations	700	845	845	1,690
Fund: 2301 - Arts & Cultural Heritage				
FY2023 Appropriations	4,775	4,775	4,775	9,550
Base Adjustments				
One-Time Legacy Fund Appropriations		(4,775)	(4,775)	(9,550)
Forecast Base	4,775	0	0	0
Total Governor's Recommendations	4,775	0	0	0

Minnesota Humanities Center

FY 2024-25 Biennial Budget Change Item

Change Item Title: Maintain Current Service Levels

Fiscal Impact (\$000s)	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
General Fund				
Expenditures	95	95	95	95
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Funds				
Expenditures	0	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Net Fiscal Impact = (Expenditures – Revenues)	95	95	95	95
FTEs	0	0	0	0

Recommendation:

The Governor recommends additional funding of \$95,000 in FY 2024 and in each subsequent year from the general fund to maintain the current level of service delivery at the Minnesota Humanities Center.

Rationale/Background:

Each year, the cost of doing business rises—employer-paid health care contributions, FICA and Medicare, along with other salary and compensation-related costs increase. Other operating costs, like rent and lease, fuel and utilities, and IT and legal services also grow. This cost growth puts pressure on agency operating budgets that remain flat from year to year.

Agencies face challenging decisions to manage these costs within existing budgets, while maintaining the services Minnesotans expect. From year to year, agencies find ways to become more efficient with existing resources. The Minnesota Humanities Center has implemented efficiencies to continue delivering services while experiencing revenue loss from not hosting events during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, cost growth typically outstrips efficiencies, and without additional resources added to agency budgets, service delivery erodes.

For the Minnesota Humanities Center, operating cost pressures exist in multiple categories—increases in compensation and insurance costs at the agency, increasing costs to maintain our current staff compliment in a challenging labor market, and increasing IT costs. If an operational increase is not provided, the services the Minnesota Humanities Center delivers to Minnesotans will be impacted. Some examples of potential impacts include:

- Decreased capacity to deliver public humanities programming to Minnesotans
- Decreased capacity to carry out fiscal agent grant oversight obligations

Proposal:

The Governor recommends increasing agency operating budgets to support maintaining the delivery of current services. For the Minnesota Humanities Center, this funding will cover salaries, insurance, IT infrastructure, and utility costs.

Results:

This proposal is intended to allow the Minnesota Humanities Center to continue to provide current levels of service and information to the public.

Minnesota Humanities Center uses quantitative and qualitative factors to measure its impact in informing audiences, engaging communities, and creating greater understanding. Minnesota Humanities Center activities and impact are collected and reported annually to the Minnesota State Legislative Library.

Lastly, Minnesota Humanities Center serves an important oversight function to ensure that state funding is spent according to state laws and rules. The Minnesota Legislature has given Minnesota Humanities Center more responsibility to serve as a fiscal agent and distribute state funding throughout Minnesota. Minnesota Humanities Center provides an important oversight role to ensure that state funding is spent appropriately and reported back to the Executive and Legislative branch.

Minnesota Humanities Center

FY 2024-25 Biennial Budget Change Item

Change Item Title: Healthy Eating Here at Home

Fiscal Impact (\$000s)	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
General Fund				
Expenditures	50	50	50	50
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Funds				
Expenditures	0	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Net Fiscal Impact = (Expenditures – Revenues)	50	50	50	50
FTEs	0	0	0	0

Recommendation:

The Governor recommends additional funding of \$50,000 in FY 2024 and each subsequent year from the general fund for the Healthy Eating Here at Home Program, also known as the Market Bucks Program. The program’s base appropriation is currently \$325,000 each year and this request would increase the base appropriation to \$375,000 each year starting in FY 2024. Minnesota Humanities Center (MHC) proposes to withhold up to 4% of the annual appropriation to cover administrative costs for disbursing funds and for oversight activities.

Rationale/Background:

- Food stability is a statewide priority and this program helps ensure low-income families have access to healthy and affordable food, particularly given the rise of inflation on basic necessities such as food.
- This program operates as part of the state’s SNAP program and leverages federal funding.
- The program has not received an increase in state funding over the past several years.

Proposal:

Market Bucks is a farmers market nutrition incentive program designed to help SNAP customers increase their purchasing power at farmers markets. The Market Bucks program increases the amount of fresh, local and healthy food SNAP customers can purchase and helps bring in new customers to farmers markets throughout the state. The Market Bucks program is available to all farmers markets throughout the state that have active EBT equipment reaching over 40 counties with farmers’ market bringing fresh healthy produce to families and children.

MHC serves as the fiscal agent for the Healthy Eating Here at Home, otherwise known as the Market Bucks Program. This proposal requests an increase to its general fund base appropriation of \$50,000 per year, this proposal is not a new initiative and funding will allow the program to maintain its current level of service.

Impact on Children and Families:

The Market Bucks program aims to broaden the availability of fresh and local produce to low income families. This program directly benefits children and families through increased access to nutritious produce and mitigating the effects of food insecurity.

Equity and Inclusion:

MHC is committed to collaborating with all people and communities in Minnesota in developing humanities programming and administering grants authorized by the Minnesota Legislature. We intentionally cultivate ideas by conducting public listening tours, meeting with educators, cultural organizations serving Indigenous people and

people of color, the state's three Ethnic Councils, the Minnesota State Council on Disability, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, and organizations serving Veterans. We also create advisory task forces to assist us in gaining greater understanding of communities as we create humanities programming such as our Veterans Advisory Task Force.

Tribal Consultation:

Does this proposal have a substantial direct effect on one or more of the Minnesota Tribal governments?

Yes

No

Results:

Performance measures:

The main goal of the Healthy Eating Here At Home Market Bucks program is to increase fresh, local and healthy food to low- income families in Minnesota. Other goals include:

1. Increase the number of SNAP users benefiting from and using the program.
2. Increase the amount of SNAP dollars spent and Market Bucks redeemed at farmers markets.
3. Spread awareness of the program to SNAP users throughout Minnesota.
4. Increase the number of participating markets in the state.
5. Increase access to fresh, healthy food for SNAP users living in food deserts around the state.

Expected program results with additional funding:

1. Retain 90% of current participating markets from the summer 2022 season, and welcome 3-5 new markets.
2. Increase the number of Market Bucks redeemed statewide by 10%.
3. Visit and review 10% of participating farmers markets, including all new participating markets.
4. Achieve a 60% participation rate to our annual market manager survey to get feedback from our participating farmers markets.