NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
Humanities

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions

Preserving Our Nation's Cultural Heritage Since 2000

Presented to
C2C Online Community Webinar
March 12, 2012
by
Senior Program Officer
Elizabeth Joffrion

Agenda

- Introduction to NEH Programs

- Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions

- Proposal Development and Grant Writing Strategies

Primary NEH Grant Making Divisions

- **Division of Research** – grants to scholars and institutions for research projects (individual & collaborative)

- **Division of Public Programs** – grants for museum exhibits, library programs, & media projects (e.g. documentary films)

- **Division of Education** – grants for seminars for teachers, curriculum development, & learning resources

- **Division of Preservation & Access** – grants for preservation and access to humanities materials; digitization; dev. of reference materials

- **Office of Challenge Grants** – matching grants for infrastructure (buildings, endowments)

- **Office of Digital Humanities** –grants to advance use of digital technology in the humanities

Grant Opportunities

Division of Preservation and Access

www.neh.gov

preservation@neh.gov

Grant Programs

Humanities Collections and Reference Resources
(Deadline: July 17,2012 for projects beginning May 2013)

Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections
(Deadline: December 4, 2012 for projects beginning September 2013)

Research and Development Projects
(Deadline: May 16, 2012 for projects beginning January 2013)

Preservation and Access Education and Training
(Deadline: July 3, 2012 for projects beginning January 2013)

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions
(Deadline: May 1, 2012 for projects beginning January 2013)

National Digital Newspaper Program
(Deadline: January 15, 2013 for projects beginning September 2013)

Documenting Endangered Languages
in collaboration with the National Science Foundation
(Deadline: September 14, 2012 for projects beginning May 2013)

Save America's Treasures
in collaboration with the National Park Service
CANCELLED

Activities We Fund

- Planning and assessments for care of collections (PAG)
- Improvement to environmental controls (PAG)
- Education and training (PAG)
- Increase access and intellectual control, through cataloging, arrangement, and description
- Conservation treatment, reformatting, and re-housing
- Digitizing collections
- Developing databases, and spatial and linguistic tools
- Research and development

Types of Collections

- Prints and photographs
- Books, journals, archives, and manuscripts
- Moving images and sound recordings
- Architectural and cartographic records
- Decorative and fine art objects
- Furniture, textiles, and historical objects
- Archaeological and ethnographic artifacts
- Digital materials

Some Facts about PAG

- NEH Outreach to Small Institutions
- We encourage applications from institutions that have never applied to NEH
- Awards for up to $6000
- Easy to write, no cost share
- Guidelines are online: www.neh.gov
- Next Deadline May 1, 2012
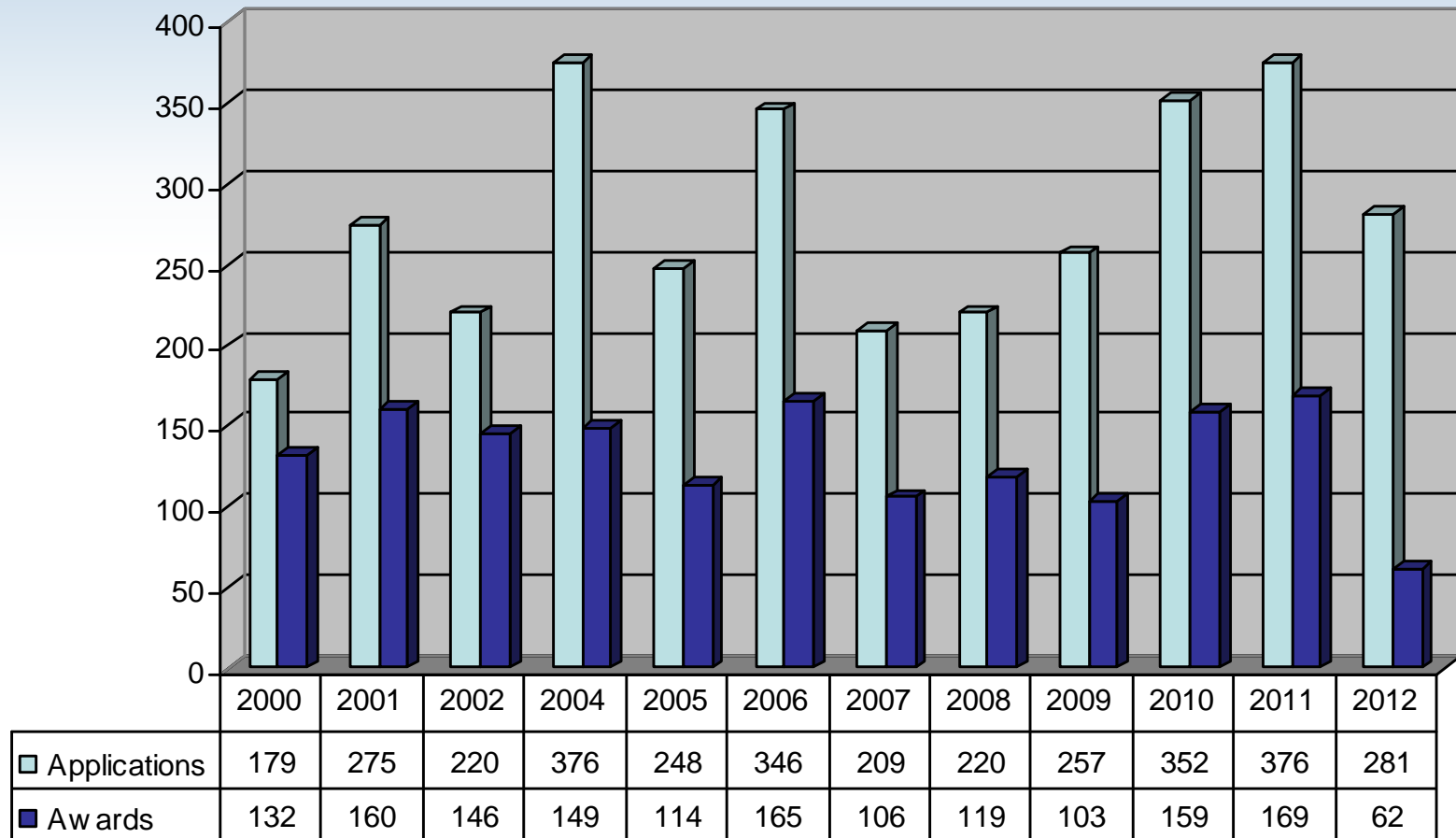
PAG Awards
by Institutional Type

2000-2005

Other
5%

Archives
9%

Historical
Organization
15%

Public Library
29%

Historic
Site/House
7%

Museum
35%

2006-2012

Other
4%

Archives
4%

Arts or Cultural
Organization
6%

Public Library
8%

Historic Site/House
4%

College, University,
Research Library
23%

Museum
31%

Historical
Organization
13%
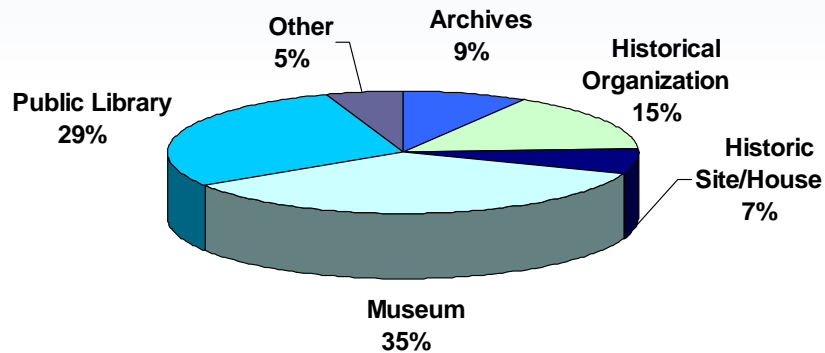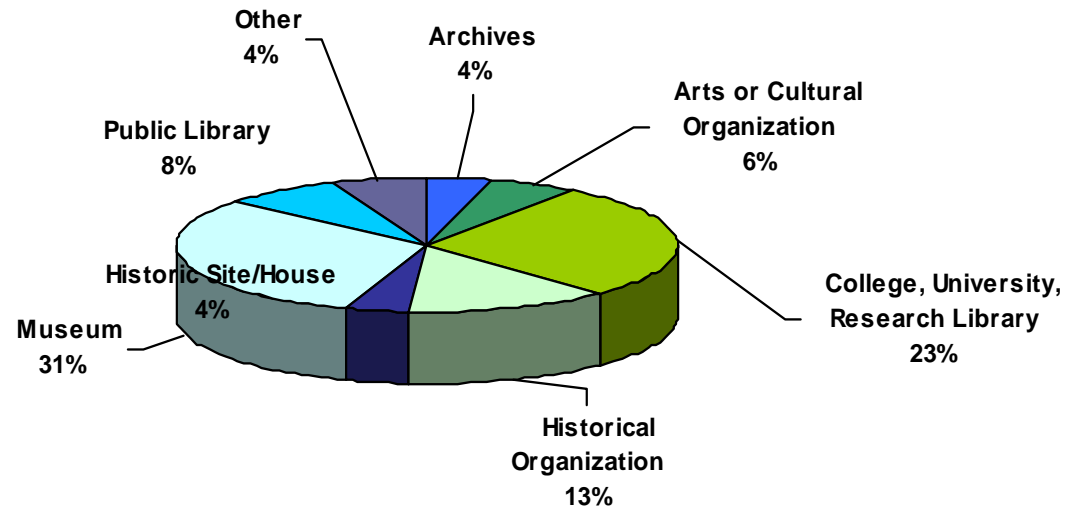
Preservation Assistance Grants 2000-2012

- The division has received 3,058 PAG applications, requesting $16,299,234 in outright funds

- NEH has awarded 1,584 PAGs for a total of $7,572,722

- PAGs have been made to every state, as well as to DC and many of the territories

- The cumulative funding ratio for the program is 46%

Preservation Assistance Grants
2000 - 2012

Fiscal Year	2000	2001	2002	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Applications	179	275	220	376	248	346	209	220	257	352	376	281
Awards	132	160	146	149	114	165	106	119	103	159	169	62

Fiscal Year

*There were no applications in FY 2003, because the deadline date was changed.

General Preservation Assessments Long-Range Preservation Plans

Atlanta Fulton Library System
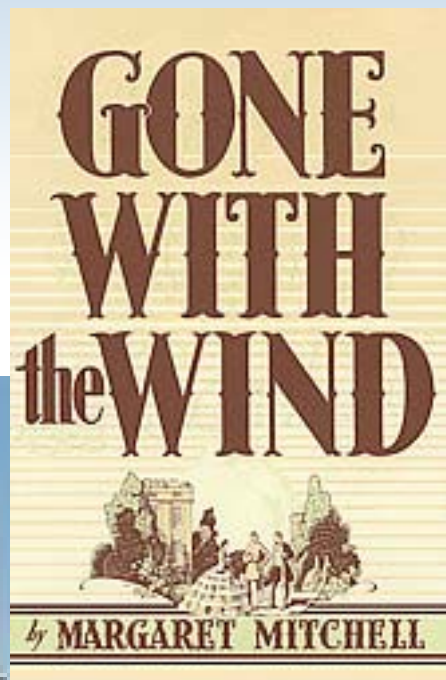
Specialized Studies and Plans

Plans for improving environmental conditions, lighting systems, security or fire protection.
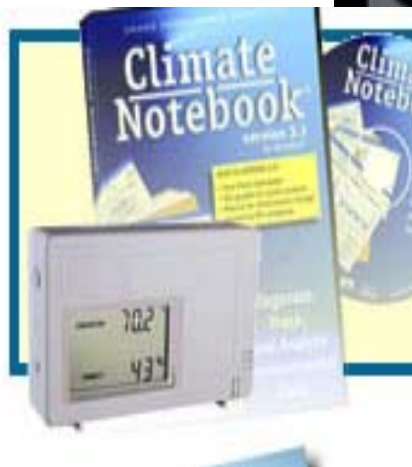
Develop and Implement a Storage Plan

Before

After

Develop an Integrated Pest Management Program
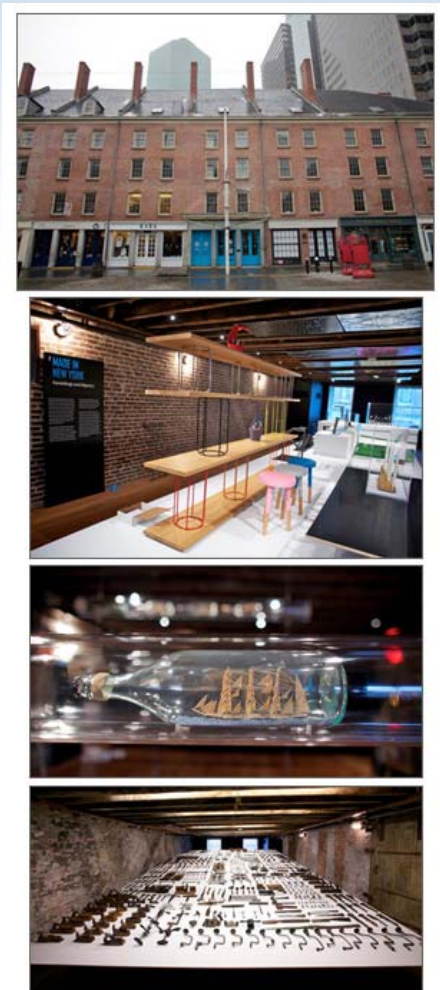
Develop a Conservation Treatment Plan
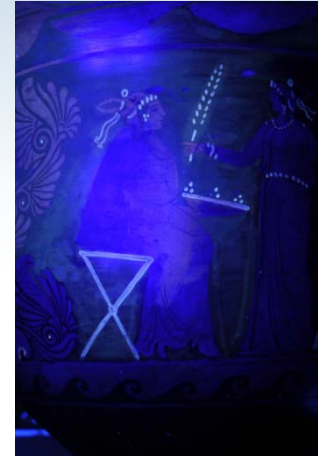
Develop a Disaster Plan

Biloxi Public Library

Beauvoir

Purchase Storage and Environmental Equipment and Supplies

Attend Workshops

On- or off-site workshops led by preservation professionals

Disaster recovery   Preservation and   Digital Preservation
                     Care of Collections

Training in Disaster Planning and Emergency Response

Expanded Training Opportunities

Attend on-site or off-site workshops on preservation and access, including:

- How to create sustainable digital resources
- Care and handling of collections during digitization
- Digital Preservation
- Best practices for cataloging
- Best practices for arrangement and description of archives

Digital Preservation

Mills College Art Museum

Valdosta State University Odum Library

M.E. Grenander Special Collections
and Archives at SUNY, Albany

Brigham Young University Harold B. Lee Library

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions

Preservation Assistance Grants help small and mid-sized institutions improve their ability to preserve and care for their humanities collections.

Eligible activities include:

- General preservation assessments
- Consultations with professionals to address a specific preservation need (environmental conditions, lighting systems, fire and security)
- Purchase of storage furniture and preservation supplies
- Purchase of environmental monitoring equipment
- Education and Training (disaster recovery, collections care, standards and best practices for digitizing collections)

Awards up to $6000, no cost share. Next Deadline: May 1, 2012

The Humanities

History
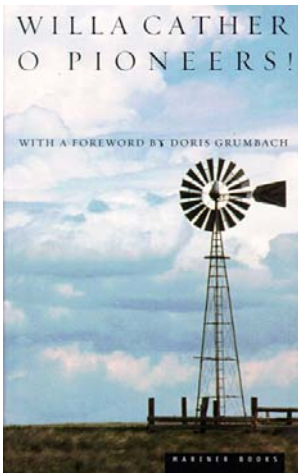
Archaeology
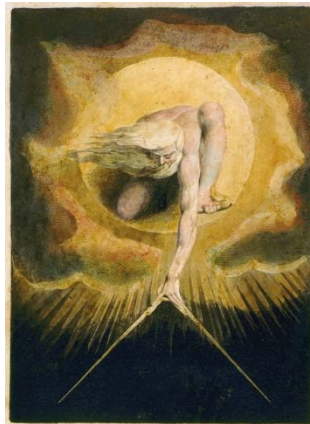
and more . . .

- Philosophy
- Jurisprudence
- Linguistics
- Language
- Ethics
- Comparative Religion

Literature

Art History

Peer Review

- Peer review by panels

- Recommendations by NEH staff

- Advice of the National Council on the Humanities

- Decision by NEH Chairman

Staff Assistance

Visit Grants.gov

- Register!!!

- Find out your AOR

- Get comfortable with the Grants.gov system.

Writing the Application

FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES and Answer All Questions:

- What activity (or activities) would the grant support?
- What are the content and size of the humanities collections that are the focus of the project?
- How are these humanities collections used?
- What is the nature and mission of your institution?

Does Size Matter?

How do I know if I am a Smaller Institution?

- libraries, archives, or museums that are part of a larger organization, such as a college or university, should provide budget information for their institutional unit.

Writing the Application

FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES and Answer All Questions:

- What activity (or activities) would the grant support?
- What are the content and size of the humanities collections that are the focus of the project?
- How are these humanities collections used?
- What is the nature and mission of your institution?
- Has your institution ever had a preservation or conservation assessment or consultation?
- What is the importance of this project to your institution?
- What are the names and qualifications of the consultant(s) and staff involved in the project?
- Plan of work for the project?

Writing the Application II

- Budget

- Appendices
1. Executive summary of a prior assessment
2. Vendor estimates
3. Training or workshop descriptions or programs
4. Consultant résumé and **letter of commitment**
5. Brief résumés for key staff
6. Letters of support

Evaluation Criteria

- The **humanities significance** of the collections and their use in education, research, or public programming in the humanities

- The proposed activities and the justification of their **importance to the institution**

- The adequacy of the **plan of work**

- The qualifications of the project's **staff**

- The reasonableness of the proposed **budget**

What PAG Won't Fund

- projects not related to humanities collections
- projects focusing on collections or materials that are not accessible to the public or in the possession of a federally funded entity
- appraisals of collections to determine their historical or financial value
- conservation or restoration treatments
- graduate-level conservation training or
- restoration or capital improvements to buildings or other structures
- projects to catalog, index, arrange and describe, digitize or reformat collections
- the exhibition or display of collections
- development of digitization programs or digital asset management systems
- purchase of computers
- salaries and fringe benefits
- the recovery of indirect costs

Some Final Tips

- Follow the Guidelines
- Remember the "H" word
- Speak to a program officer
- Review sample proposals and FAQ's
- If turned down, ask for comments, reapply.

Proposal Development and Grant Writing Tips

Tell us what you would like to learn

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities

Contact

Elizabeth Joffrion
Senior Program Officer
Division of Preservation and Access
National Endowment for the Humanities
202-606-8570
ejoffrion@neh.gov
http://www.neh.gov

Current Budget Scenario

- **FY 2011 Appropriation: $154,690,000**
  ($16,500,000 for Preservation and Access)

- **FY 2012 Appropriation: $146,021,000**
  ($15,176,000 for Preservation and Access)

- **FY 2013 Request: $154,255,000**
  ($15,700,000 for Preservation and Access)

Common Themes in NEH Evaluation

- Focus on the "Humanities"

- Panels of your Peers

- NEH Staff Assistance

- Grants.Gov

Old Post Office Pavilion
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20506