

19. I have heard some commentary to the effect that the Commission on the Arts & Humanities focuses on the arts to the potential exclusion of the other humanities. Please provide a description of the Commission's efforts relating to the humanities, other than the arts, including grant or other budget allocations.

The DCCAH is firmly committed to the inclusion of the humanities within all of its current programming and does not exclude any applicant whose focus is the humanities. Many longtime grant recipients focus on the humanities such as PEN/Faulkner, DC Creative Writing Workshop, Capitol Letters Writing Center, and Split this Rock and the Folger Shakespeare Library.

The DCCAH has a longstanding partnership with the Humanities Council of Washington DC (HCWDC) whose mission is to support community projects that enrich the lives of DC residents through the humanities disciplines. Additionally, HCWDC produces humanities programs, such as Soul of the City and Live to Read. This year the DCCAH further invested in the Humanities Council of Washington DC by increasing their funding and developing new initiatives surrounding the preservation and exploration of the District of Columbia through the humanities. The DCCAH has increased the funding to HCWDC by almost 300% to provide more grants in larger amounts for projects that focus on preserving the rich history of life in the District.

In February 2013, the DCCAH is offering a variety of events, performances and exhibitions that incorporate and focus on the humanities in celebration of Black History Month. The DCCAH opened the "We Speak the Souls of Ancestors" Gallery Exhibition featuring poetry recitation by the DC Poet Laureate Dolores Kendrick accompanied by interpretive dancing. Also, the DCCAH has partnered with the Humanities Council of Washington DC to present the James Baldwin: A Soul on Fire Literary Salon.