THE 2021 MASSACHUSETTS
GOVERNOR’S AWARDS
IN THE HUMANITIES

HONORING

JOHN BURGESS

SONIA NIETO

ANNETTE GORDON-REED

HEATHER COX RICHARDSON

#MHGOVS AWARDS21
The faculty, staff, students and alumni of The Fletcher School at Tufts University proudly congratulate beloved Professor John Burgess on being recognized with the 2021 Governor’s Award in the Humanities.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNOR’S AWARDS IN THE HUMANITIES

John Burgess • Annette Gordon-Reed • Sonia Nieto • Heather Cox Richardson

WITH THANKS TO THE AWARDS COMMITTEE

WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT MASS HUMANITIES’ COMMITMENT TO ENRICHING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Amy and David Abrams
The Board of Directors of Mass Humanities and Executive Director Brian Boyles welcome you to

THE 2021 MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNOR’S AWARDS IN THE HUMANITIES

A virtual celebration to benefit Mass Humanities

Sunday, October 24
5:00 Livestream Program
6:00 Breakout Room Reception

Introduction
BRIAN BOYLES
Executive Director

Acknowledgement of Native Land
LARRY SPOTTED CROW MANN

Welcome
ELIZABETH DUCLOS-ORSELLO
Chair of the Board of Directors

Conversation with the Award Recipients
Introduced by
DENISE KAIGLER & AMY MACDONALD,
Awards Committee Co-Chairs and Members
of the Board of Directors

Award Presentations
JOHN BURGESS
ANNETTE GORDON-REED
SONIA NIETO
HEATHER COX RICHARDSON

Closing Remarks

The 2021 Governor’s Awards Committee

DENISE KAIGLER & AMY MACDONALD
Co-chairs

ELIZABETH DUCLOS-ORSELLO
AL GRIGGS
JEFFREY MUSMAN
NANCY NETZER
LIA POORVU
MARITA RIVERO
Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito and I would like to welcome you to the 2021 virtual Governor’s Awards in the Humanities hosted by Mass Humanities.

For over forty years, Mass Humanities has worked diligently to foster and promote civic duty across the Commonwealth. Tonight, we celebrate the selfless actions Mass Humanities makes through its funding and programming to make life better for communities in Massachusetts. In addition, Mass Humanities has also made it imperative that history, literature and philosophy remain foundational pillars in our discussions concerning social, political and economic issues.

Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito and I would like to acknowledge and congratulate tonight’s honorees, John Burgess, Annette Gordon-Reed, Sonia Nieto, and Heather Cox Richardson, for their public service and for their commitment to enhancing communities in the Commonwealth.

We are proud to support an organization with such a profound and thoughtful message. Please accept our best wishes for a most enjoyable night.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
Warmly,

Brian Boyles
Executive Director

Elizabeth Duclos-Orsello
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Congratulations

Professor
Annette Gordon-Reed

on this
well-deserved honor!

~ Your friends & colleagues
at Harvard Law School

HARVARD
LAW SCHOOL

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Smith College

congratulates the recipients of the

2021
Massachusetts Governor’s Awards in the Humanities

communityfoundation.org
Mass Humanities recognizes leaders whose public actions are grounded in an appreciation of the humanities and who have acted to enhance civic life in the Commonwealth.

**JOHN BURGESS** practiced corporate and international law at the firm WilmerHale for more than three decades. He currently teaches Law of the Sea at Tufts University’s Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and has been a visiting professor internationally. Burgess spent a year at the U.S. State Department during the START Treaty negotiations. He is currently a member of the WBUR board of directors and chair of the governance committee. He has served as a trustee of the Roxbury Latin School, a director on the Mass Humanities board from 2003 to 2010, the final two years as chair, and as a member of several other boards.

**ANNETTE GORDON-REED** is the Carl M. Loeb University Professor at Harvard. Gordon-Reed has won sixteen book prizes, including the Pulitzer Prize in History in 2009 and the National Book Award in 2008, for *The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family*. She is the current president of The Ames Foundation of Harvard Law School. A selected list of her honors includes a Guggenheim Fellowship in the humanities, a MacArthur Fellowship, the National Humanities Medal, the National Book Award, and the Frederick Douglass Book Prize. Gordon-Reed served as a member of the board of trustees of Dartmouth College from 2010 to 2018. She was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2011.

**SONIA NIETO** is professor emerita of language, literacy, and culture in the College of Education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her research has focused on students of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, with an emphasis on Latin@ students. Author of dozens of journal articles and book chapters, she has written or edited 13 books, including a memoir, *Brooklyn Dreams: My Life in Public Education*. The first edition (1992) of her classic text, *Affirming Diversity: The Sociopolitical Context of Multicultural Education*, was selected for the Museum of Education Readers’ Guide as “one of the 100 books that helped define the field of education in the 20th century.” Dr. Nieto has received numerous awards including nine honorary doctorates.

**HEATHER COX RICHARDSON** is professor of history at Boston College and the author of six acclaimed books about American politics, most recently *How the South Won the Civil War: Oligarchy, Democracy, and the Continuing Fight for the Soul of America*. Her books, *West from Appomattox* and *To Make Men Free: A History of the Republican Party* were Editor’s Choice selections of the *New York Times Book Review*. Richardson is a national commentator on American political history and the Republican Party. She is a leading #Twitterstorian, and the author of *Letters from an American*, a chronicle of modern political history that appears on Facebook and in newsletter format. With Professor Joanne Freeman, she is the co-host of the podcast Now & Then.
Through the *By and For the People* strategic plan, Mass Humanities creates more opportunities for Massachusetts residents to build common ground on critical issues facing our nation.

The humanities serve as integral tools for civic engagement, bringing neighbors together to reckon with the past, discuss the present, and imagine the future. From the street corner to the classroom to the town meeting, the people of Massachusetts are using the humanities to make informed decisions and forge inclusive solutions for the common good.

**YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

We ask you to join with Mass Humanities through your philanthropy and your partnership so that more Massachusetts residents can participate in building common ground. The *By and For the People* plan places people—our experiences, our ideas, our struggles—at the center of humanities programs and education around the commonwealth. The plan embraces our state’s tradition as an incubator of ideas, while opening new doors to residents whose voices belong in the story of Massachusetts.

“Every human being has to answer the question, ‘How should I live?’ Together, we all have to answer the question, ‘How should we live?’ The humanities are resources we use to answer these questions.”

Danielle Allen
2019 Governor’s Award recipient
The *By and For the People* plan is built on five priorities grounded in Mass Humanities’ nearly 50 years of experience transforming individual lives, communities, and society.

## 5 Key Initiatives

### Clemente Course
- Core Course at 5 Sites
- Mini Courses for Alumni
- Online Access
- Dedicated Staff Member
- Publications

500 Scholars

### Smithsonian on Main Street
- Tour to 6 Rural Communities
- Local Partnerships
- “Crossroads: Changes in Rural America”
- Critical Conversations

12,000 Rural Residents

### The New Massachusetts Story
- Gather and Publish Stories from Initiatives
- Legislative Partnerships
- 50th Anniversary Event
- Dedicated Staff Member

General Public

### Reading Frederick Douglass Together
- 60 Summer Events
- Strengthening Partnerships
- National Outreach, Website

6,000 Participants

### MA Story Grantee Cohorts
- Elevating Voices of the Historically Marginalized
- Funding to Build Capacity and Partnerships

75 Orgs / 75,000 People
THE CLEMENTE COURSE

Elevating new voices for civic engagement

We are creating new opportunities for more than 500 adults from underserved neighborhoods in Brockton, Dorchester, New Bedford, Springfield and Worcester to build new skills, partner with local cultural organizations, and contribute to the civic life of their communities. This includes publishing the voices of the Clemente Course in print and digitally.

READING FREDERICK DOUGLASS TOGETHER

Bringing his words to Massachusetts and the nation

As the nation confronts the legacy of slavery, we are doubling the number of communities hosting annual readings and discussions of Douglass’s 4th of July speech, with a goal of 20 events per year. We partner with the grassroots organizations that host these events to build new digital resources to bring the program to a national audience.

SMITHSONIAN ON MAIN STREET

A partnership with the Smithsonian to spark big conversations in small towns

Small towns in Massachusetts have long histories and unique challenges. In 2022-23, Mass Humanities is hosting a traveling exhibition on rural America developed by the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum on Main Street initiative. Funding for six host communities is sparking conversations that bridge differences and identify shared paths for the future.
MA STORY GRANTEE COHORTS

Grantee partnerships for a more vibrant story of Massachusetts

Mass Humanities is committed to responding to this challenge by significantly increasing our funding for projects that elevate the voices and the experiences of historically marginalized communities in Massachusetts. Over the next three years, Mass Humanities is funding, convening, and sustaining a network of more than 75 organizations to reimagine Massachusetts’ past, present, and future.

THE NEW MASSACHUSETTS STORY

We are developing original content, generated by our grantees, produced by our staff and elevated through media partnerships, that demonstrates the power of the humanities to catalyze civic engagement. This robust outreach strategy will culminate in 2024 with a 50th Anniversary Humanities Festival that celebrates the humanities by and for the people.

THE HUMANITIES ARE THE CORNERSTONES OF A FREE SOCIETY.
They are the lessons provided by our ancestors, and the messages we pass on to future generations. The humanities are the ways we communicate our hopes and fears to our fellow human beings. They help us respond to essential questions: What is the right thing to do? What do I owe to my family, my community, my country? When we come together to address these questions, to learn and share our stories, we practice the public humanities.
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The 2021 Governor’s Awards Dinner Committee would like to thank the following individuals for their contributions toward making this evening a truly memorable one for our honorees and guests.

**The Honorable Charles D. Baker, Governor of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

Ben Avishai and Talia Sabato, Northern Light Productions

Margaret Low, WBUR

Larry Spotted Crow Mann

Susi Ryan

Kristina Scott

Willie Wilson, Jr.

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The Beveridge Family Foundation

is proud to support

**Mass Humanities.**

www.beveridge.org
The Bridge Street Friends support Mass Humanities as well-informed ambassadors, donors, and volunteers in other capacities, in advancement of the MH mission and goals. They share the belief that we must continually amplify and fund the cause of the public humanities by increasing investments of time, talent, and dollars, as well as grow awareness among the public and decision-makers of Massachusetts.

Named after the street on which Mass Humanities keeps its main office in Northampton—referring to the Calvin Coolidge Bridge, spanning the Connecticut River to Hadley—the Bridge Street Friends provide both support and connections for the delivery of public humanities programming throughout the Commonwealth. They present and attend special events that bring people together for humanities-based conversations. The Friends include former board members, Governor’s Award recipients, and individuals who contribute $1,000 or more annually.

Bridge Street Friends Committee
Laura Roberts, Chair
Ben Birnbaum
Jim Burke
Al Griggs
Susan Leff
Nancy Netzer
Martin Newhouse
Jack Regan
Perry Wu

THANK YOU BRIDGE STREET FRIENDS!

Eastern Bank is committed to recognizing the good in our communities and celebrating the work of MASS HUMANITIES

We proudly support the 2021 GOVERNOR’S AWARDS IN THE HUMANITIES

Congratulations to
John Burgess, Annette Gordon-Reed, Sonia Nieto, and Heather Cox Richardson

Member FDIC
MASS HUMANITIES creates opportunities for the people of Massachusetts to transform their lives and build a more equitable commonwealth through the humanities.

Founded in 1974, we make grants to organizations for projects that bring the humanities to the public, and conduct programs that transform lives, like the Clemente Course in the Humanities, Reading Frederick Douglass Together, and Museum on Main Street, with an emphasis on serving people who have limited access to the humanities.

We receive funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Massachusetts Cultural Council, which we use for our grant budget and operating expenses. Charitable contributions from private individuals, corporations, and foundations, such as those for the Governor’s Awards celebration, fund the programs we conduct.

ENGAGE WITH US!

There are many ways to stay in touch with Mass Humanities:

- Please subscribe to our monthly eNewsletter to stay informed about events around the state, ideas and issues related to the humanities, and all our news.

- Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and through Mass Moments, a capsule of curious and compelling anniversaries in the Commonwealth’s history delivered daily to your inbox.

- Write to us at info@masshumanities.org

We look forward to checking in with you throughout the year!

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