Friends—

Thank you for reading and sharing our 2022 Annual Report. Over the last year, organizations and communities around the Commonwealth turned to the humanities to reimagine our stories and reinvigorate our democracy. On behalf of our board of directors and staff, we extend our gratitude for their dedication and partnership.

The humanities—including history, literature, and philosophy—are the tools with which we comprehend the past, forge new ideas, and express ourselves as participants in a free and equitable society. In 2022, the nation continued to grapple with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and disinformation. As they have for centuries, people in Massachusetts confronted these crises with fresh ideas and steadfast determination.

At Mass Humanities, we created new opportunities for all communities in the state to reinvigorate our democracy. They do this by telling their stories and learning from the wisdom of their neighbors and their ancestors.

With support from the Barr Foundation and Mass Cultural Council, we increased our grant-making for projects that surface new narratives about Massachusetts. Forty-two organizations received support during the second year of our Expand Massachusetts Stories initiative, with more projects led by people from historically excluded communities.

The past and present story of rural Massachusetts is complex and significant. Museum on Main Street, our new partnership with the Smithsonian, launched in 2022. Residents from six small towns engaged in training workshops before coming together in September to kick off the statewide traveling exhibit at Essex Town Hall.

The Clemente Course in the Humanities offers a space to explore our humanity and connectedness. This year, we resumed our partnership with the Care Center in Holyoke to support the course and brought together students from around the Commonwealth for summer courses and skill building.

We continue to uplift safe spaces for rich and productive community conversations through Reading Frederick Douglass Together. Now in its twelfth year, the program grew to 24 events, including new readings during the Juneteenth holiday and the debut of a new film featuring prominent Massachusetts leaders reciting Douglass’ timeless words.

Thanks to your dedication, new resources fueled these efforts at unprecedented levels. We also thank our Congressional delegation for its ongoing support for the National Endowment for the Humanities; our legislative champions on Beacon Hill; and the vision and leadership of Mass Cultural Council. The movement to make the humanities part of local life and decision-making is exciting and growing.

Like you, we believe in Mass Humanities because we believe that the humanities can best serve Massachusetts residents by representing the diverse stories, ideas and perspectives of our Commonwealth, from creation to curation. We hope that you read this report with the same sense of inspiration we draw from this work every day.

Thank you for all that you do to support Mass Humanities. We look forward to seeing you in 2023.

Sincerely,

Brian Boyles
Executive Director

Yves Salomon-Fernández, PhD
Board Chair

“In the words of Maya Angelou, ‘I come as one, but I stand as 10,000.’ The arts and humanities are vastly more important in troubled times, certainly never more important than now. We must find and amplify the wisdom that democracy demands.”

CALLIE CROSSLEY, 2022 GOVERNOR’S AWARDS HONOREE
In 2022, Mass Humanities awarded grants to 116 organizations across the Commonwealth, providing more than $1 million in direct funding to museums, historic sites, libraries, education providers and community centers. Through our grants and programs, we are committed more than ever to making the humanities accessible to all residents of Massachusetts.

Communities around Massachusetts have important stories to tell and vital issues to discuss.
“This is a wonderful opportunity to extend our project into doing a deep dive into the invisible and most indispensable people who live in Franklin County.”

2022 LAVA CENTER COORDINATOR JAN MAHER

The center used an EMS grant to fund IndiVISIBLE: Celebrating Indispensable Agricultural Workers, Making Their Stories and Presence Visible.

In 2022, we awarded more than $713,000 in grants to 42 organizations across the Commonwealth through our Expand Massachusetts Stories grants, with support from the Barr Foundation and Mass Cultural Council.

At this pivotal time, Massachusetts needs new voices and fresh narratives to meet our challenges. We support organizations that embrace this historical moment as an opportunity to bring communities together to reimagine stories, revitalize traditions and ignite new ideas for the future.

ABOUT THE 2022 GRANTEES

- 62% had people who identify as BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) among their project leadership;
- 60% of the organizations funded had operating budgets under $500,000;
- 48% had operating budgets under $350,000.
“His words are way too relevant today. It’s a reminder that there is still a lot of work to be done but we can’t let it paralyze us with fear and negativity. It’s important for us to reflect on this and do our part to move everything forward.”

THE VILLAGE WORCESTER NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER’S SHA-ASIA MEDINA

The life and works of Frederick Douglass continue to shape our understanding of America. A gifted orator and prescient writer, Douglass forces us to reckon with the legacy of slavery and the promises of democracy.

Each year, Mass Humanities organizes and funds free public events where communities gather together to read and talk about Frederick Douglass’s influential address, “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?”

READINGS IN 2022

Boston Common
Boston

Cape Cod Cape Verdean Museum and Cultural Center
East Falmouth

Essential Partners
Cambridge

Friends of the 1836 Meeting House
North Andover

Greater Fall River Art Association
Fall River

Hawthorne Youth and Community Center
Roxbury

Historic Beverly
Beverly

Historic Northampton
Northampton

Historical Society of Old Newbury
Newburyport

Marion Art Center
Marion

Martin Luther King Jr. Family Services
Springfield

Museum of African American History
Boston

NAACP Worcester
Worcester

Natick Historical Society
Natick

Nevins Memorial Library
Methuen

New Art Center
Newton

North Shore Juneteenth Association
Lynn

Old Parish Preservation Volunteers
Norwood

Old Sturbridge
Sturbridge

Plainfield Reads
Plainfield

Sharon Historical Society
Sharon

Somerville Museum
Somerville

The Helene Johnson and Dorothy West Foundation For Artists In Need
Oak Bluffs

The Wayside Inn Foundation
Sudbury

Kyera Singleton leading the Somerville Museum’s Reading Frederick Douglass Together event in July 2022

Douglass reading event, Boston
Due to the grant awarded from Mass Humanities, we have been able to expand our partnerships with organizations like Hull Pride, No Place for Hate, and Jews of Nantasket Beach. Sharing Hull’s journey of 'Crossroads' has invigorated the town.

Maureen Gillis, Hull Lifesaving Museum

In 2022, we collaborated with the Smithsonian to bring Museum on Main Street, Crossroads: Change in Rural America to six host sites in Massachusetts through summer 2023. Crossroads offers small towns a chance to look at their own path to highlight the changes that have affected their fortunes over the past century.

Each host site received a $10,000 Mass Humanities grant and worked with the Smithsonian and Mass Humanities staff, as well as local partners, to create additional exhibitions and programming that ties each site to the Crossroads theme.

Launched in 1994, Museum on Main Street is a Smithsonian outreach program that engages small-town audiences and brings revitalized attention to underserved rural communities. The program partners with state humanities councils, like Mass Humanities, to bring traveling exhibitions, educational resources and programming to small towns across America through their local museums, historical societies and other cultural venues.

HIGHLIGHTING RURAL POLICY

As part of Crossroads, we hosted receptions with members of the state’s Rural Policy Advisory Commission as well as elected officials from Essex, Hull and Rutland to celebrate a successful opening of Museum on Main Street tour stops.

The events highlighted the importance of focusing a statewide dialogue on the Crossroads theme and the exhibit’s ability to spark meaningful discussions in rural communities as they explore their past, present and future.

“There is nothing more important than understanding just how important rural America and the arboreal areas of Massachusetts are. So often we forget what’s important in our own backyard and to have this exhibit here really shines a light on what is going on in rural towns.”

Senator Anne Gobi, Co-Chair of the Rural Caucus in the Massachusetts Senate

Host sites in 2022

Essex Historical Society and Shipbuilding Museum
September 10, 2022 to October 22, 2022

The Hull Lifesaving Museum
October 30, 2022 to December 10, 2022

Rutland Free Public Library
December 18, 2022 to January 28, 2023

Host sites in 2023

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls
February 5, 2023 to March 18, 2023

Bushnell-Sage Library, Sheffield
March 26, 2023 to May 5, 2023

Athol Public Library
May 14, 2023 to June 24, 2023

Sponsors included the National Endowment for the Humanities, Mass Cultural Council, Big Y, Blue Cross Blue Shield, New England Biolabs Foundation, Essex County Community Foundation’s Creative County initiative and Greenfield Savings Bank.
“It wasn’t just about going to school. It was about finding my identity as a single mother, starting over in a new place, and really finding out who I was. It’s something I’m incredibly grateful for to this day. It showed me that I had the potential to do so much more. It made me love learning again and want to be a better parent and give my kids the future they deserve.”

CLEMENTE HOLYOKE GRADUATE JESSICA COX

The Clemente Course in the Humanities champions opportunities for Massachusetts residents from historically and systemically excluded communities to engage with, discuss and author stories and ideas about our democracy.

Adults can attend tuition-free, college-level classes in art history, critical thinking and writing, history, literature and philosophy.

In addition to earning college credits from Bard College and local universities, Clemente participants draw upon their lived experiences to spark new ideas about historical texts; connect with neighbors about relevant civic issues ranging from LGBTQ rights to voting accessibility; author powerful anthologies like We, Too, Are America and This is Your Democracy; and take on leadership roles in their communities.

Above: Clemente Course in the Humanities, Antonio Delesline reads from his class publication “From the Clemente Classroom: 100-Word Stories on Breathing While Black” at UMass Amherst

RETURNING TO WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

In 2022, Mass Humanities renewed our partnership with the Care Center Holyoke to ensure the Clemente Course continues to change lives in the area. Holyoke was home to the first Clemente Course in Massachusetts, the first in New England and the only one just for women.

“We had this radical idea years ago to give people with little means what people with means have. We said, ‘Let’s just do it and see what happens,’ and, of course, what has happened is remarkable. At this point, hundreds of women’s lives and the lives of their families have been changed.”

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CARE CENTER IN HOLYOKE, ANNE TESCHNER

STUDENTS ENROLLED 177
EARNED CREDIT FOR THE COURSE 57
LAPTOPS PROVIDED 99
In 2022, Mass Humanities awarded Staffing the Humanities grants to 11 organizations totaling more than $196,000 to support the growth and development of humanities programs across the Commonwealth. By providing staffing funds, organizations were able to increase their staff capacity and retention.

With funding made possible through Mass Cultural Council, the grants were awarded to past Mass Humanities grantees with annual operating expenses between $50,000 and $350,000 and with five or fewer Full-Time Equivalent Employees (FTE).

African Cultural Services
Waltham

Andover Center for History & Culture
Andover

BAMS Fest
Dorchester

Blues to Green
Springfield

Guerilla Opera
Boston

Literacy Volunteers of Greater Worcester
Worcester

Old Colony Historical Society
Taunton

Shirley-Eustis House Association
Roxbury

The History Project: Documenting LGBTQ Boston
Boston

The Jar
Boston

In 2022, Mass Humanities’ Bridge Street Fund sponsored free online programs hosted by 30 Massachusetts history organizations. The Bridge Street Fund helped these institutions recover lost income and enabled free access to the humanities throughout the year.

Alden Kindred of America
Duxbury

Andover Center for History & Culture
Andover

Berkshire County Historical Society
Pittsfield

Cape Cod Maritime Museum
Hyannis

Essex National Heritage Commission
Salem

General Lander Civil War Round Table
Lynn

Gore Place Society
Waltham

Hatfield Historical Society
Hatfield

Historic New England
Haverhill

Historical Society of Old Newbury
Newburyport

Historical Society of Old Yarmouth
Yarmouth

Holyoke Public Library
Holyoke

Jamaica Plain Historical Society
Jamaica Plain

John Greenleaf Whittier Homestead, Whittier Birthplace
Haverhill

Lexington Historical Society
Lexington

Mattapoissett Museum,
Mattapoissett Historical Society
Mattapoissett

Museum of Russian Icons
Clinton

Natick Historical Society
Natick

New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center
New Bedford

New Bedford Whaling Museum
(Old Dartmouth Historical Society dba)
New Bedford

Newburyport Preservation Trust
Newburyport

Old Colony Historical Society
Taunton

Old Sturbridge
Sturbridge

Partnership of the Historic Bostons
Boston

Plimoth Patuxet Museums
Plymouth

Porter-Pheps-Huntington Foundation
Hadley

Preservation Worcester
Worcester

The History Project: Documenting LGBTQ Boston
Boston

United States Naval Shipbuilding Museum
Quincy

Winchester Historical Society
Winchester
We thank these individuals and our guests for their commitment and stewardship of the humanities in Massachusetts.

HOST COMMITTEE
Co-chairs Amy McDonald/Marita Rivera, Liz Ductos-Orsello, Jeff Musman, Nancy Netzer, and Al Griggs

“The humanities bring people together. When we connect through shared learning, experiences and conversations, we each contribute to the ongoing story of the Commonwealth and our communities.”

FORMER GOVERNOR CHARLIE BAKER’S ADDRESS TO THE HONOREES

HOST OF UNDER THE RADAR WITH CALLIE CROSSLEY

2022 CONTRIBUTORS

$50,000+
- Barr Foundation
- Goizueta Family Charitable Gift Fund of Fidelity Charitable
- The William and Lila G. Poorenu Family Foundation

$25,000+
- Alfred and Sally Griggs

$10,000+
- The George I. Alden Trust
- Anonymous
- Berkshire Medical Center
- New England Biolabs Foundation
- Laura Roberts and Ed Belove
- Howard and Frederika Stevenson
- F. Roscoe and Vila B. Webber

$5,000+
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
- Steve Rosenthal and Margot Botsford
- Essex County Community Foundation
- Fletcher School
- Greater Worcester Community Foundation
- Bruce Grinnell
- Ronald B. Hertel
- KB Private Wealth Management Group
- Jeremy Sampson
- Cathy Stone

$1,000+
- Anonymous
- Paul Bosco
- Brian Boyles
- Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation
- Clearbrook Fund of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation
- Lawrence R. Holt
- Jackie Jenkins-Scott
- Carol Kanin
- Thomas P. McCarthy
- Timothy P. McCarthy
- NAACP - Berkshire County
- Michael J. Pappone
- Gail T. Randall
- Yves Salomon-Fernandez
- William Shea
- Ron Slate
- Cynthia Terwilliger
- Kenneth J. Vacovec

$250+
- Lennie Alickman
- Catherine Allgor
- Edward Augustus
- Steve Barrett
- Lisa Baskin
- Ben Birnbaum
- David Bryant
- Eric Cochran
- Cohen Charitable Foundation
- Jeffrey Musman
- Plimpton-Shattuck Fund at The Boston Foundation
- John J. Regan
- Smith College
- Wellesley College
- Willis Wang

$100+
- Anonymous
- Al and Sally Griggs
- Berkshire Medical Center
- Lia and William Poorvu
- Eastern Bank
- GBH
- KB Private Wealth Management Group
- Ron Hertel
- Seyfarth Shaw, LLC
- Steve Immerman
- Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation
- Estella Lake – Lake Research Partners
- Jeff Musman
- Jill Alper
- John Burgess and Nancy Adams
- Mass College of Liberal Arts
- Paula Johnson – Wellesley College
- Raymond James
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- Wellesley College
- William Fowler
- Willis Wang

Up to $1,199,169

$754,866

$400,000

2022 SPONSORS

GOFUNDME

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2022 SPONSORS

GOFUNDME
**2022 Financials**

**Changes in Unrestricted Net Assets**
(Including net assets released from restrictions)

**Revenue:** $2,775,213

**Expenses:** $2,377,075

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**Assesses**

- **Cash:** $2,701,715
- **Certificates of deposit:** $539,350
- **Grants receivables:** $89,360
- **Prepaid expenses:** $5,022
- **Pledges receivable:** $30,000

**Total Current Assets:** $3,365,447

- **Leasehold improvements:** $32,032
- **Equipment:** $11,430
- **Computer equipment and software:** $15,210

**Less – accumulated depreciation:** ($58,672)

**Total Capital Assets:** $0

**Other Assets**

- **Investments:** $2,101,018

**Total Other Assets:** $2,101,018

**Total Assets:** $5,466,465

**Liabilities & Net Assets**

**Current Liabilities & Total Liabilities:** $2,455,318

<table>
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**Total Current Liabilities & Total Liabilities:** $2,455,318

**Net Assets**

- **Without donor restrictions:** $1,883,738
- **Board designated endowment funds:** $1,764,783

**Total Net Assets:** $3,337,409

**Total Liabilities & Total Net Assets:** $5,466,465