



#MH50: A Year of Storytelling - Event Sponsorship - \$2000

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Mass Humanities. To celebrate, in six Massachusetts cities we will support events where people can tell their stories, learn from each other, and share new narratives about the commonwealth.

#MH50: A Year of Storytelling - Event Sponsorship offers \$2000 for free public storytelling or story-sharing events in six cities across Massachusetts: **Pittsfield, Holyoke, Worcester, Lawrence, Brockton, and Roxbury-Dorchester.**

Mass Humanities will award approximately 3 sponsorships in each city.

Eligible events will highlight voices and experiences of Massachusetts residents, with an emphasis on communities that have gone unrecognized, or have been excluded from public conversation.

Events can take many different forms such as story circles; sharing creative non-fiction, memoir, or poetry; personal story sharing for a group or audience; storytelling performances on stage; or other forms of creative expression that share personal narratives about life in the Commonwealth.

Application and Award Dates

Applications open March 11, 2024

Applications due April 19, 2024

Awards announced by May 24, 2024

Questions? Please send inquiries to grants@masshumanities.org.

Event Eligibility

Events must:

- Be free and open to the public.
- Take place between June 14, 2024 and December 31, 2024.

- Reflect, explore, and/or share the lived experience of speakers or participants who are Massachusetts residents.
- Take place in eligible cities.

Events not eligible for Storytelling Event Sponsorship

- Performance or creation of works of fiction
- Historical re-enactment
- Publications without an associated public event
- Direct advocacy for a particular piece of legislation or political party
- Fully or primarily asynchronous programs
- Visual art that does not also involve speakers sharing lived experience.

Priorities

Priority will be given to applicant organizations that are new to Mass Humanities.

Applicant Eligibility

Applicants and events must be based in one (or more) of the following cities: Pittsfield, Holyoke, Worcester, Lawrence, Brockton, and Roxbury-Dorchester.

Applicants must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit, fiscally sponsored project or individual, public library, or state or federally recognized tribe.

Applicants not eligible for 2024 Story Sponsorship:

- Individuals without a fiscal sponsor or non-profit host applicant.
- Foreign, and/or for-profit entities
- Universities, colleges, or academic departments
- Political or advocacy organizations
- K-12 schools

Applicants must be in good standing with Mass Humanities, having completed any final project reports due before the application deadline.

Applicants can also apply for an Expand Massachusetts Stories grant in 2024, but not for the same events.

Publicity and Reporting

Recipients will be required to:

- Recognize Mass Humanities' 50th anniversary at the sponsored event(s).
- Tag Mass Humanities in social media posts about the event.
- Include Mass Humanities' logo on promotional material for the event and any content produced from the event (e.g., videos or website posts).
- Complete a brief final report on program promotion, attendance, and use of funds.

Use of Funds:

Funds can be applied to event costs for up to 3 events.

Where possible, Mass Humanities encourages using funds to compensate speakers, storytellers, presenters, or creators; or to enable access to the event through transportation support and/or live streaming.