

STATE AND COMMUNITY PROGRAM

(Definite Appropriation)

<u>Activities</u>	<u>1971 Actual</u>	<u>1972 Estimate</u>	<u>1973 Request</u>	<u>Increase or Decrease (-)</u>
1. State-based grants	\$587,400	\$2,712,600	\$5,685,000	\$2,972,400
2. Special Projects	<u>387,851</u>	<u>750,475</u>	<u>750,000</u>	<u>-475</u>
Total	\$966,251	\$3,463,075	\$6,435,000	\$2,971,925

The purpose of this program is to create increased use and understanding of the humanities at the state and local level. Like the National Dissemination Program, the State and Community Program is aimed at the general adult public--a population which is not institutionally based. The State and Community Program provides the Endowment with the capacity to be fully responsive to the diversity at the state and local level which characterizes both the general adult population and the humanistic resources available to them.

The program comprises two existing activities of the Endowment:

1) state-based public programs, aimed at testing the ways in which broadly-based public programs in the humanities can be developed within the states; and 2) special projects, conducted primarily at the community level.

1. State-based Humanities Programs (\$5,685,000)

FY 1972 \$2,712,600; FY 1973 \$5,685,000; increase \$2,972,400

President Nixon has called for the development of new ways of sharing Federal responsibilities with those who function at the state and local level. The Congress, and particularly the Senate, has urged the

Endowment to expand its public program and to accelerate the testing of a program aimed at distributing such funds broadly within the states. The Endowment itself has recognized the need for a program which rapidly expands the number of academic humanists who are in mutually fruitful contact with the general public. The state-based experimental program is aimed at meeting these related needs. Taken together, the needs suggest the creation of something which does not presently exist, rather than the support or improvement of something which does exist. The intent of the Endowment's state-based program is to create something new.

The general objectives of the program are:

- 1) to create new human and financial resources for public activity in the humanities within the states, by the full involvement of humanists in program activity;
- 2) to create increased public interest in the humanities (at both the state and local level) through increased public participation in the planning of such activity, and to increase public awareness of the use of the humanities by relating program activity to the current conditions of national life;
- 3) to establish ad hoc organizations within the states in order to learn over a period of several years what kind of permanent structures are

most satisfactory for the oversight of program activity within particular states;

4) to create clear public understanding of the valid distinction--held to at the Federal level--between the humanities, the sciences, and the arts, in order to fulfill the Congressional mandate to "foster increased public appreciation of the humanities."

The procedure which has been established to implement these objectives is built upon proper Endowment grant-making experience in public programs, and upon the specific circumstances of the humanities both locally and nationally. Briefly, these are that most humanists are in institutions of higher education; that most existing state-wide organizations or agencies (such as state historical societies or state Divisions of Archives and History, and "state-wide" university extension networks) either concentrate on one aspect of the humanities, or concentrate on much more than the humanities alone; and that much existing experience in mounting public programs in the humanities is spread over a wide variety of institutions and organizations.

The fundamental procedure of the state-based program is to seek a loose "pooling" of resources and experience in an informal organization comprised of representatives of the strongest and most active humanities "programmers" in each particular state. In a very few instances, the

program works through state arts organizations where there is a full commitment to the humanities as well; but in general the intent is to avoid Federal commitments to any specific agency of the state government during the experimental phase of this program in each state. It is not, therefore, a Federal "state-grant" program in the usual sense, since the state-based grants are made to organizations composed of private citizens (where appropriate, reinforced by public officials) with specific prior experience in adult education and in the humanities.

Once an initial "pool" of institutions and organizations is identified within a state, the Endowment staff consults at length with them about their interest in participating in a state-based experiment. Assuming their willingness to undertake the task, the Endowment requires that they develop a proposal which speaks to the general objectives of the program. Beyond that, the program requires that each Federal program dollar be matched by non-Federal funds, and that the bulk of program funds granted to the organization by the Endowment be in turn re-granted by them to local institutions and organizations. As part of its proposal to the Endowment, the organization must develop specific criteria and procedures by which they will judge and fund "regrant" proposals from within the state, including a description of how they will concentrate resources on a state-wide program "theme." In general, the Endowment provides program design grants (averaging \$15,000) to

these informal organizations in order to encourage strong and well-considered proposals for operational funds.

Examples of state-based grants:

---The Joint Committee on the Humanities in Oregon received an experimental state-based grant of \$100,000 in fiscal 1971. The committee proposed as its general theme "Man and the Land." The theme was intended to unify and increase the impact of all work under the grant, and programs developed by historians, philosophers, and other humanists will aid public discussion of the ecological and land-use questions that are particularly of public concern in Oregon. The committee has stimulated projects that make humanistic knowledge and insight more available to general public audiences by encouraging efforts to make the humanities relevant to public problems. The general theme of "Man and the Land" permits a variety of approaches: programs on changes in attitudes toward the land historically, Oregon Indian culture and the land, the land's relation to urban dwellers, to the young, and to the values of other groups. Beyond this, the committee put a priority upon developing programs for small communities, particularly in eastern and southern Oregon, and on the development of multimedia programs for general use.

The Missouri Committee for the Humanities, under an experimental state-based grant of \$100,000 is concentrating upon the theme "Man and

the American Dream, 1776-1976." A state-wide forum to consider the theme initiated the Committee's activity. Distinguished humanists from institutions throughout the state met in discussion and seminar sessions with an adult audience broadly representative of all areas of the state. The forum considered the way in which the theme, the humanists, and the general adult public could be coordinated in Missouri; from the forum sprang six "regional demonstration grants" sponsored by the Committee aimed at presenting a concrete model of public programs in the humanities in all parts of the state. The demonstration grants will be followed by further Committee grants to institutions and organizations in communities throughout the state.

---The Minnesota Humanities Commission has received an experimental state-based grant of \$100,000 in fiscal 1972 to initiate a public program in the humanities under the general theme "Minnesota's Changing Life Styles." Using historians, students of literature, philosophers, and other humanists, the Committee will make grants to trace the development of social patterns and attitudes in Minnesota from the life styles of the Indians and the voyageurs, to the "dissenting life style"--the young people who occupy a neighborhood in Minneapolis near the University of Minnesota. Grants will be made for what amounts to a coordinated examination of social history of the state and its implications for its

present citizens--all aimed at the general adult public of the state.

In fiscal 1971, the first year of the state-based experimental program, six operational grants were made at an average level of \$100,000, and ten additional groups were invited to apply for program design grants at an average grant amount of \$15,000. The funds available in fiscal 1972 will permit operational funding of the fiscal 1971 program design groups, plus continuation of the six fiscal 1971 operational groups, at an average grant level of \$150,000. Beyond this, the available funds permit program design grants (at an average of \$15,000) to be made in 20 additional states. Thus, by the end of fiscal 1972, 16 states will be operational at an average level of \$150,000 each, for a total of \$2,400,000 of Endowment funds, and twenty more state groups will have received program design grants at an average of \$15,000 each, for a total of \$300,000.

The experience of the Endowment in fiscal 1971 has not indicated that the agency should establish a program of Federal grants to state governments for the humanities. It has strongly indicated that there are large numbers of institutions and individuals within the states who feel urgently that a test is needed of how effectively the humanities and the humanist can reach the public in a state-wide effort, and that it is possible to command the talents and time of distinguished citizens,

and the human and financial resources of institutions within the state, for a serious effort to improve the level of public discussion and public understanding through the use of the humanities. Therefore, in fiscal 1972 and fiscal 1973, the Endowment plans to extend the experiment generally to the nation's 55 states and territories.

The amount requested for fiscal 1973 would permit the funding of the 36 state groups who will by then be in the operational stage or will have completed their program design and will be seeking operational* funds. In addition it will permit program design grants to be made at an average level of \$15,000 to groups in the 19 remaining states and territories which will be asked to begin the experiment in fiscal 1973. The program design funding will require \$285,000. Thirty-six states in the operational stage at an average grant level of \$150,000 from the Endowment will require \$5,400,000. While the Endowment does not believe holding the operational grant level at the fiscal 1972 average of \$150,000 will permit added progress in states where the program has been longest established and has taken off most quickly, over-all limitations on agency funding make it a reasonable choice to expand the program in terms of numbers of states involved, while holding the average grant level stable.

2. Special Projects (\$750,000)

FY 1972 \$750,475; FY 1973 \$750,000; decrease \$475

This program activity was originally created by the Endowment to provide support for a limited number of local projects initiated by community institutions and organizations, with the aim of reaching the general adult public and helping them to discover a new understanding of local problems through the knowledge of insight of the humanist, and with the aim of setting high standards of quality for public activity in the humanities. It is supplementary and complementary to the state-based experimental activity; until such time as fully operational state-based experimental groups exist in all the states, the special projects activity is the only device available to the Endowment for the support of locally-initiated public programs in the humanities tailored to the capacities of local institutions, and geared to local perceptions of need. In fiscal 1972 and 1973, priority will be given to special projects in states which do not have a fully operational state-based program. Further, such an activity can serve as a concrete model for the activities of a subsequently-established state-based group. Finally, special projects can serve as illustrations of high-quality local programs in the humanities to existing state-based groups.

Examples of Special Projects:

In fiscal 1972, this activity made a grant of \$22,000 to the

Chicago Public Library for a year-long program centered on "the city in historical and philosophical context." The Chicago Public Library is aggressively seeking to expand its role in the city, to become more than a repository for books, and to make the library's services available to a wider constituency than it presently reaches. With this grant, the library will have a series of lectures and discussions on the nature of the city from a humanistic viewpoint in which representatives of civic organizations from all over the city, and particularly from culturally deprived areas, will participate. Building upon the lecture-discussion series, the library will make its staff and its services available at neighborhood centers throughout the city for community-centered discussions based upon the over-all theme. The expectation is that by the end of the grant period the library will have substantially increased its ability to serve more than an educationally advantaged populations, and that genuine thoughtfulness about the "meaning" of a city such as Chicago will have been generated.

The Endowment does not presently fund a state-based experiment in Illinois. When such a program is initiated, a major concern will be to provide illustrations of how the humanist can be involved in such a program, of how the program can be related to the current conditions of national life, and of how the public can be reached in more than a "one-shot" fashion by program activities. The Chicago Public Library grant from the

special projects activity will give a subsequent state-based group in Illinois a leg up on planning and implementing a state-wide program, as well as possibly providing for the identification of individuals, institutions and groups who could be involved.

The amount requested for fiscal 1973 will permit the funding of approximately 25-30 such projects at an average grant size of \$25,000. This is roughly the level of this activity in fiscal 1972. As major energies must be expended upon the expansion of the state-based experimental program in fiscal 1973, and as increases in funding of this activity should reflect in part further experience with the state-based experiment, it has seemed wise to hold it at a stable level during fiscal 1972 and 1973.