

**Maryland Humanities Council Grants
Fiscal Year 2000**

The Chesapeake Bay in the 21st Century

A major conference on the Chesapeake Bay brought together scholars, journalists, and citizens to discuss important issues affecting the region. Thirteen sessions examined topics such as Chesapeake writers, black communities of the Bay, conservation and human values, regional folklore, and interpretations of the Chesapeake in art.

Salisbury State University

Wicomico County

\$8,493

1850s Living History at PFI Park

Scholars consulted with docents on planning interpretive programs at the site of the Patapsco Female Institute, a nineteenth century female academy. Programs included living history presentations, an interpretive booklet, and lectures.

Friends of Patapsco Female Institute

Howard County

\$4,510

Millennium Project

A series of literary events in Howard County featured Pulitzer prize-winning historian Taylor Branch, Hispanic and Native American poet Edgar Gabriel Silex, Irish poet Paula Meehan, poet and critic Edward Hirsch, and performances of Shakespeare scenes by "Bill's Buddies." Programs included middle and high school residencies, lectures, participatory performances, and interviews for cable television.

Howard County Poetry and Literature Society

Howard County

\$6,800

Virginia Woolf's Legacy: Contemporary Responses in Art, Music, and Fiction

Three events examined the meaning and influence of the works of Virginia Woolf: author Michael Cunningham discussed his novel based on Woolf's life and work; artist Suzanne Bellamy discussed her exhibit of monoprints inspired by Woolf; and composer Joyce Zymeck discussed how her music interprets Woolf's word experiments.

University of Maryland Baltimore County

Baltimore County

\$3,648

Heritage Preservation Projects: Millennium and Canal Sesquicentennial Activities

CanalFest 2000 celebrated the history of the western terminus of the C&O Canal and Cumberland's role as the transportation crossroad of the Canal, the B&O Railroad, and the National Road. The festival featured local folklore, interpretive walks on the canal towpath, a living history presentation, and programs on musical heritage and vintage clothing.

Canal Place Preservation and Development Authority

Allegany County
\$5,400

The Chesapeake's Cultural Legacy—Promoting Stewardship Through Lifelong Learning

Fourteen public lectures examined topics such as the role of Chesapeake African Americans in the Civil War Navy, the impact of the Bay environment on colonial settlement patterns, the influence of Annapolis boat builders on shoreside economics, recreational uses of the Bay, and the influence of regional literature. Half of the lectures were specifically directed to the training of docents.

Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum
Talbot County
\$6,600

Afterwords 2000

The Olney Theatre Center offered discussions led by scholars following selected performances during the theatre's 2000 season. In addition, middle school students will participate in writing workshops and discussions on youth violence in connection with a production of *West Side Story*, and medical personnel at the National Institutes of Health will discuss medicine and terminal illness following a staged reading of *Wit*.

Olney Theatre Center for the Arts
Montgomery County
\$2,500

Sukeek's Cabin: Uncovering Family Roots. Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum's 2000 Public Archaeology Program

An interpretive booklet and two exhibit panels provided background information on Sukeek's cabin, an archaeological site that was occupied by slave and free African Americans in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The public was invited to learn about the site through the interpretive materials and to uncover additional material through hands-on archaeological excavations supervised by professional archaeologists.

Friends of Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum
Calvert County
\$10,000

Bringing the 21st Century into Focus: The Future of Ethnic Politics, Economics, and Demographics in the U. S., the Washington area, and Montgomery County

A lecture and discussion on "Challenges of Diversity: Immigrant Demographic Trends in Montgomery County" featured noted demographer Dr. Harold L. Hodgkinson. This forum explored the challenges in race relations, human service delivery, and voting patterns of these momentous population changes and how our groups might best work together to face them.

American Jewish Committee Washington Area Chapter
Montgomery County
\$1,200

Lecture: The Medieval Stained-Glass and Sculpture of Chartres Cathedral

To strengthen community outreach and enhance interest in the art and culture of its Gothic

inspired church, The First and Franklin Street Presbyterian Church hosted an historical lecture. The lecture, “The Medieval Stained-Glass and Sculpture of Chartres Cathedral” given by Malcolm Miller, was designed to appeal to a diverse audience of professional and lay persons interested in the history, culture, religion, art/architecture of Chartres’ famous Cathedral.

First and Franklin Street Presbyterian Church
Baltimore City
\$985

The Holocaust Commemoration

The Montgomery College Holocaust Commemoration is an annual humanities event sponsored by the College’s Paul Peck Humanities Institute. Each year, the Institute commemorates the Holocaust by bringing survivors, humanists, and scholars together to share their experiences and bring intellectual and historical focus to the tragedy of the Holocaust. Events took place over a month-long period and included an exhibit, a slide/lecture presentation, and a panel on hate crimes.

Montgomery College—Rockville
Montgomery County
\$1,200

Cherokee Indian Living History Program

The Friends of Fort Frederick State Park presented living history programs addressing the importance of the Cherokee nation’s alliance with Maryland during the French and Indian War. Specific topics included clothing and accouterments, Cherokee language, culture, weapons, and the Cherokee/Fort Frederick story.

Friends of Fort Frederick State Park
Washington County
\$1,200

Living History Presentations at the African American Family Community Day Festival

Funding supported “African American Family Community Day: A Patchwork of Cultures” at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. Living history presentations included the Tuskegee Airmen and Frederick Douglass.

NAACP of Calvert County
Calvert County
\$925

Masterworks of Opera on Video: Lectures by Distinguished Scholars and Audience Discussion

This four-part lecture and discussion series offered the general public an opportunity to improve its understanding and appreciation of operatic masterworks. Lectures by distinguished historians provided historical background as well as dramatic and musical analysis. After the formal presentations, the lecturers were joined by the project director who invited the audiences to interact with the scholars through open question and answer periods. The presentations were followed by video screenings of the works discussed.

Maryland Arts Festival
Baltimore County

\$810

New Voices Play Reading Series

Round House Theatre instituted the *New Voices Playreading Series* to expose the general public to new works by the often unheard voices of women, minorities, and other non-traditional playwrights. The series consisted of professionally staged readings of works by four regional playwrights offered to the public free of charge. Moderated discussion followed each reading and involved the playwright, director, actors, and audience.

Round House Theatre
Montgomery County
\$1,200

THE RIVER: Traditions on the Nanticoke

This exhibit chronicled how the river is critically tied to the region's cultural development through the lives and livelihoods of those who worked, fished, and hunted the river, and explored the Nanticoke River as a living resource for the study and understanding of both the natural history of the region and the human dramas which blossomed and faded along its banks.

The Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art
Wicomico County
\$1,200

Perryville Middle School Challenge Camp: Introduction to Archaeology

Middle school students participated in a one-week Challenge Camp where they were introduced to archaeology at historic Principio Iron Furnace site. In addition to learning the rudiments of field archaeology, students also learned the basics of surveying through the cooperation of the Cecil Soil Conservation District. Maryland's Department of Natural Resources presented its popular "Scales and Tales" Program and the re-enactor ensemble, Ship's Company, provided a round of period games and a gunnery demonstration.

Perryville Middle School
Cecil County
\$719

The Catonsville Nine Film Project [aired as "Investigation of a Flame"]

In 1968 nine Vietnam War protesters shocked the world when they walked into a Catonsville, Maryland draft board office and burned hundreds of draft cards with homemade napalm. A half-hour documentary film about this event combined archival footage with recent interviews with participants who reflect on their actions in the context of today's world. The film was shown to area audiences and distributed to film festivals.

Catonsville Historical Society
Baltimore County
\$10,000

Women Between Worlds

Thousands of women immigrate to Maryland every year and often have a more difficult time than their men adjusting to their new surroundings. A thirty-minute film documented the lives of seven immigrant women and examined their cultural traditions and the challenges they face in

adapting to a new language, customs, and values. The film accompanied an exhibition of artwork at Villa Julie College by the interviewees and was made available to libraries and immigrant service organizations.

Villa Julie College
Baltimore County
\$9,385

The Arts of Gender

Four lectures explored how sex and gender have been understood from the prehistoric era to ancient Greece and the Italian Renaissance to the twentieth century. Speakers included an archaeologist, Classicist, and art historians. The free lectures were offered in conjunction with performances of two plays and a piano concert by women.

Hood College
Frederick County
\$6,206

We Call this Place Home: Jewish Life in Maryland's Small Towns

This ground-breaking exhibition presented the first scholarly examination of the efforts of Maryland Jews to adapt to small town life in the state. The exhibition traveled to eight communities where local residents supplemented the exhibit with original historical materials from their areas.

Jewish Museum of Maryland
Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Montgomery, and Wicomico Counties and Baltimore City
\$10,000

Flag Making in the Early Republic

Flags as myths and symbols were explored at a one-day symposium in Baltimore, the home of Mary Pickersgill, the maker of the Star-Spangled Banner flag that inspired our National Anthem. Six scholars discussed current conservation of the Star-Spangled Flag at the Smithsonian, eighteenth century flag makers, the Betsy Ross legend, fabrics and techniques used in eighteenth and early nineteenth century flags, militia flags used during the War of 1812, and an overview of American flag history.

The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House and 1812 Museum
Baltimore City
\$500

African American Music in Maryland: The People and the Stories

Music and interpreters brought to life the exhibition "The Story Is Passing Over," which celebrates Maryland's African American music from Emancipation to Civil Rights. Videotapes of the performances will be used for future children's programming at the Banneker-Douglass Museum and in the schools.

Banneker-Douglass Museum
Anne Arundel County
\$1,200

Preconcert Lectures

Twelve free lectures by music historian Bryan Nies took place before concerts of the National Chamber Orchestra in the 2000-2001 season. Nies discussed the historical and social context of the music and illustrated his lectures with recordings and by performing excerpts on the piano.

National Chamber Orchestra Society

Montgomery County

\$1,200

James Madison's Legacy to American Constitutionalism and Politics

Lectures and a workshop examined James Madison's contribution to American constitutionalism and politics. Afternoon sessions for teachers offered lesson plans, materials, and participation in a mock Congressional hearing.

Maryland Center for Civic Education

Baltimore County

\$700

Pre-concert Lectures on the Cultural, Historical, and Artistic Background of Concert Programs Performed by the Columbia Pro Cantare in the 2000-2001 Season

Three scholars gave lectures before performances of the Columbia Pro Cantare, a mixed chorus of over one hundred singers from the Howard County area. Topics include Handel's *Messiah*, *Carmina Burana*, and "Music of Jewish Traditions."

Columbia Pro Cantare

Howard County

\$1,200

CCBC Essex Writers Conference 2000: Celebrating African American Women Writers

Writers Conference 2000 celebrated the work of six African American women writers of fiction, nonfiction, children's literature, screen writing, and poetry. The three-day event featured a panel discussion, workshops, readings, poetry slam, and jazz concert at the Community College of Baltimore County Essex Campus, Towson University, and Barnes and Noble.

The Community College of Baltimore County, Essex

Baltimore County

\$1,200

When the Words Hurt: The Gospel of John, Bach's Music and Religious Intolerance

A public symposium examined the influence of the anti-Jewish legacy as it related to Bach's musical work *St. John Passion*. A panel of scholars in religion and music provided context and interpretations of anti-Semitism in the Gospel of John and prepared the audience for a better understanding of a performance of Bach's work.

Baltimore Choral Arts Society

Baltimore County

\$1,200