



PA Humanities Communications and Development Fellow

**Request for John B. Hurford '60 Center for the Arts and Humanities Intern
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Contact:

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Hurford Center for the Arts and Humanities intern at PA Humanities

PA Humanities has attracted a Hurford Center (HCAH) intern for many years now, with mutually beneficial results for both the intern and PA Humanities. HCAH interns have played key roles as PA Humanities has embraced its new mission to put the humanities into action, with an emphasis on community building, education, advocacy, and research. We and our partners use the humanities to make positive change in local communities across the state.

Description of the PA Humanities

PA Humanities is an independent nonprofit partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities and part of a network of 56 state humanities councils that spans the nation and U.S. jurisdictions.

We believe the humanities inspire people to grow their potential and shape an equitable society. We put the humanities in action to create positive change in our lives and communities. Our work is grounded in people and champions their creativity and big ideas. We bring Pennsylvanians together to shape the future through the power of stories, reflection, and relationships. Our programs and grants generate avenues for civic involvement and community development, and for youth and adult learners to strengthen skills for school, work, and personal improvement. We amplify the voices of talented partners and individuals, and we lead a movement to champion and redefine the role the humanities play in our lives. You can learn more about us at pahumanities.org.

Vision

We believe the humanities inspire people to grow their potential and shape an equitable society.

Mission

We put the humanities in action to create positive change in our lives and communities.

Our Work

- Our work is grounded in people and champions their creativity and big ideas.
- We bring Pennsylvanians together to shape the future through the power of stories, reflection, and relationships. Our programs and grants generate avenues for civic involvement and community development, and for youth and adult learners to strengthen skills for school, work, and personal improvement.
- We amplify the voices of talented partners and individuals, and we lead a movement to champion and redefine the role the humanities play in our lives.
- We strategically focus our resources in two areas -- civic engagement and education -- where the need is great and where the humanities can have the deepest impact.

PA Humanities' core programs

Education

Teen Reading Lounge (TRL) - Operating at 17 libraries and out-of-school sites across the state for the 2020-21 program year, Teen Reading Lounge allows teens to take the lead by choosing readings on topics of interest, have honest discussions with their peers, and participate in youth-led community projects. TRL is in its 11th year and is the recipient of multiple awards including the after school champion award from the Pennsylvania After School Youth Development Network.

Civic Engagement

PA Heart & Soul communities — PA Heart & Soul is a community-led process that uses a humanities-based approach to empower new leaders and encourage positive change. A unique partnership with Community Heart & Soul (formerly the Orton Family Foundation), PA Humanities has worked collaboratively with state-wide partners to recruit, select, train and support residents, local government officials as well as arts, humanities and culture leaders across the state to discover what matters most to them and plan for the future of their communities.

Chester Made uses the humanities to promote and celebrate local arts and their contributions to economic development. With funds from ember, a project of the Spring Point Foundation, Chester Made has focused on amplifying voices through the Chester Digital Storytelling Project. Storytelling is, has been, and always will be the heart of the Chester Made project. Since its earliest days, Chester Made has used storytelling as a way to bring people together, address challenges, create solutions, and celebrate victories. The emergence of the Chester Digital Storytelling project builds on the strong history of PA Humanities' mission to find human connections in the humanities.

Leadership and Advocacy

PA Humanities brings its leadership and expertise to field-defining work with national, state, and regional partners. We help shape the larger conversation around the change-making power of the

humanities through innovative communications, presentations, research, and publications. Our staff works throughout the year to build and deepen relationships with advocacy partners, government, and legislators through targeted meetings and communications. PA Humanities works with co-funders to support PHC-initiated projects and demonstrate the value of humanities tools, expertise and learning. Through cross-collaborations with state agencies, we build and sustain a larger statewide humanities community for networking and learning.

Special Projects

We pursue opportunities to engage in additional projects that help us advance our mission in partnership with people, institutions and communities. These projects usually are realized through an interactive process between partners and participants.

PA Kindness Poem

PA Humanities partnered with Philadelphia poet laureate Trapeta B. Mayson on a mission to help spread kindness throughout the state. Named the PA Kindness Poem Project, this year-long initiative invited residents to share messages on social media that promote generosity, healing, reconciliation, and peace. Drawing inspiration from those shared words, Mayson has created an original poem, “Kindness Lives Here,” and we released it on World Kindness Day 2021.

PA SHARP

PA SHARP is a PA Humanities’ \$1.4 million humanities recovery and growth program that includes a mapping project, and documentary videos, podcasts, and publications on our learnings. As part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, state and regional humanities councils distributed funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities’ SHARP (Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan) program. Through PA SHARP, PA Humanities will provide up to \$20,000 in flexible funding to support the growth and recovery of the humanities in Pennsylvania.

A More Perfect Union

PA Humanities will use NEH funds to support a youth civic education project reimagining the United States Constitutional Convention in the present day. With the help of NPR-affiliate WHYI, young people ages 16-25 will share through discussion and social media about their vision for a Constitution that reflects our present moment, including how they would seek consensus, overcome challenges, and lay the foundation for a more equitable future.

August Wilson Century Cycle Project / Leading Edge Fellowship

PA Humanities has secured a Leading Edge Fellow who will develop a series of statewide programs centered on the renowned works of Pennsylvania playwright August Wilson. The work will focus on creating programs celebrating the ten plays of August Wilson’s Century Cycle, which chronicles the collective memory, history, and dreams of African American families across the twentieth century.

Research Publications

In 2021, PA Humanities will disseminate a series of independent research studies, including a national study, on its core programs: PA Heart & Soul, Chester Made, and Teen Reading Lounge.

Researchers include Elizabeth Myrick & Associates Consulting, PennPraxis, and Dr. Valerie Adams-Bass. Also scheduled for release are articles in a Modern Language Association volume and The Foundation Review.

Working with PA Humanities

Interning with PA Humanities offers an opportunity for students to explore the multi-faceted demands of a nonprofit career in the public humanities – from program development and production to communications about our projects, from stewarding our donors and funders to meeting our constituents. The HCAH intern should be passionate about the humanities and its value for individual growth and social change. Curiosity is a must, as well as openness to new ideas and working with diverse communities, individuals, and institutions as a powerful way of achieving a greater good. The student should be able to work both independently and in team settings in an office environment. Excellent communication(s) skills, oral and written, are necessary, along with basic computer skills. Previous experience with social media, audio, or video is a plus, but not required.

Challenges and Rewards

The HCAH intern will experience the challenges and rewards of finding creative ways to leverage the staff and resources of a small non-profit by partnering with like-minded organizations to bring humanities programming to a larger audience. The greatest reward will be working with an incredible staff of committed and seasoned professionals at the PA Humanities and interacting with engaged stakeholders and community members. PA Humanities really appreciates being part of the Haverford College Humanities Center internship program. We truly value the insight, skills, and mission driven approach to work that these students bring to our organization.

Past projects have involved exciting on-site visits to Teen Reading Lounge in Philadelphia and the bustling cultural scene of Chester. Interns have helped create their own promotional campaigns, such as the “Chester Made \$100 Bill” project which highlighted important local historical figures. They have also conducted interviews of program participants, written original stories for publication on the PA Humanities website, created videos, conducted original research, and much more. Past interns have also been hired by PA Humanities, including Edna Creelman in 2020 -- [read her story here](#).

Supervision and Work Location

The intern will work with our communications and development departments. The work may be conducted virtually depending on COVID-19 guidelines. PA Humanities will provide technical resources to the HCAH intern as needed.

Communications and Development Fellow
Job Description for Summer 2022 Haverford Fellow

Come be part of a dynamic and energized team of professionals passionate about the humanities! We recently rebranded and updated our website to reflect how far we've come as an organization. As a Communications and Development Fellow you'll join the momentum, helping us to put the humanities into action and make a real difference in the lives of people across the state. Every day will bring exciting new experiences and challenges as your work supports our unique programs and initiatives.

PA Humanities has multiple Communications and Development projects for a Summer 2022 Fellow. Within the 10-week schedule, we expect the Fellow to have the opportunity to explore many of the below projects depending on interest and organizational need.

General Communications and Marketing

- Assist the communications team with creation and dissemination of marketing materials related to PA Humanities' programs and partnerships
- Taking the lead on the creation of social media content, blog posts, video, and other media
- Help develop local, state, and national media lists to bolster outreach efforts
- Perform internal and external research, such as social media and market analyses
- Help create/edit presentations, proofread copy, and other content
- Support the communications and marketing needs of A More Perfect Union and the August Wilson project

PA SHARP: Recovery and Growth Grants

- Assist the communications team with celebrating the accomplishments of the PA SHARP grantees as they use grant funds to support recovery and growth in their communities
- Monitor, research, and report on grantee activities
- Support the PA SHARP Stories podcast project
- Event planning for the PA SHARP Learning Network
- Create engaging content and stories to share on social media, email newsletters, etc.

Advocacy / Summer Legislative Visits

- Support the advocacy team as they schedule virtual or in-person meetings with federal legislators
- Observe PA Humanities staff, board, and partners as they speak with legislators and their staff about the impact of the humanities in the state
- Create advocacy communications materials for legislators and the general public
- Help with scheduling and event planning for meetings
- Organize support materials, including legislator profiles, funding in district, etc.

Special Projects

- August Wilson Century Cycle Project: Assist staff with coordination and details for upcoming community programs
- A More Perfect Union: Assist staff and our media partner WHYY with a statewide program exploring a reimagined interpretation of the Constitution by today's youth.

Humanities Sector Data Collection, Analyses, and Advocacy

- Network with PA Council on the Arts, PA Museums, Office of Commonwealth Libraries, and PA Historical and Museum Commission to collect master organization lists
 - Work with IRS-990 and other datasets to build out organization lists of historical and museum sector
 - Pair with surveys that PA Humanities has collected on Covid-19 effects on organizations to develop sector-wide analyses
- Work with staff to help build, test, and implement key elements in new Salesforce database for data tracking and analyses
- PA SHARP Mapping Project
 - Assist with mapping, networking, and celebrating the ecosystem of humanities practice in PA and their role in Pennsylvania's recovery over the next year and a half.