

Ohio Humanities Council  
OHRAB Final Report  
January 31, 2024

Project Title: Digitizing Ohio Humanities' Archives  
Project Director: Aaron Rován, arovan@ohiohumanities.org, 614-461-7802

### Summary of Project Activities and Accomplishments

The original goal of our project was to organize, digitize, and catalog the public outputs that were produced as part of project grants that we awarded between 1990 and 2023. In June 2023, we hired a summer intern, who earned his MLIS degree, to assist in organizing and digitizing these grant files. Soon after the intern began working, we realized that the job we had originally envisioned for him would extend well beyond his committed hours. So we shifted the focus of the project to best utilize his expertise in archival organization.

Over the course of the summer, he built the infrastructure necessary for a long-term project. His primary responsibility was to design workflows so that any staff member, regardless of experience working in archives, could digitize and catalog our records. Our intern designed four workflows: two for using the office scanners and two for processing our archive's materials.

We also realized that we should expand the project's scope. Although we originally intended to focus only on our grant-produced materials, we also wanted to include digitizing not only our grant records but also the programs that we ourselves have conducted over the past 40 years. To that end, our intern organized over 40 bankers boxes full of records and created a corresponding finding aid (attached at the end of this report).

We also engaged a website and database contractor to build a public-facing website of the grant records kept in our database, as well as the records of council-conducted projects. This work culminated in a searchable website where anyone can search through the history of the organization to see what kinds of projects we have funded.

The website can be accessed from a link on this page:  
<https://www.ohiohumanities.org/grants/previous-grant-awards/>

Currently, we have digitized the public outputs from the three most recent years of grants: 2021, 2022, and 2023. As staff time allows, we will continue to digitize past grants with the ultimate goal of creating digital copies of all grant materials.

### Project Expenses

	<b>Grant Funds</b>	<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
Intern with MLIS degree (\$25/hr x 120 hrs)	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
Project Director (\$35/hr x 100 hrs)		\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00

Communications Manager (\$35/hr x 11 hrs)		\$385.00	\$385.00
Director of Grants (\$50/hr x 10hrs)		\$500.00	\$500.00
Letter-sized file folders	\$69.99		\$69.99
Fujitsu Scan Snap scanner	\$579.00		\$579.00
Museum Data Solutions – database and website development (\$100/hr x 15hrs)	\$1,113.01	\$386.99	\$1,500.00
<b><i>Total Project Budget</i></b>	<b><i>\$4,762.01</i></b>	<b><i>\$4,771.99</i></b>	<b><i>\$9,533.00</i></b>

## Ohio Humanities – Archive Room Inventory

### Box 1: *Misc. (Presumed) End Products*

- The Wallpaper Project materials
- Oral History binder – “Work: An Oral History View of the Great Depression in Middletown, Ohio”
- Floppy disk of photos from an April 22, 1999, meeting related to an OHC project
- Zip disk ? (labeled as 96arcov.p65 ??)
- CD – “As Black As We Wish to Be”
- “hilltop USA: History And Homes” binder
- “Narrating Our Lives: Myths, Values, and Community In Multicultural America” (application?)
- Ohio History Project: History Untold
- “Their Stories... Our Story”

### Box 2: *NEH – We The People, Oral History Institute, and other*

- NEH related folders
  - o Site Visits
  - o Grant applications (?)
  - o Etc.
- Self-Assessment report (1997)
- “We the People”
- Oral History Institute
- More NEH stuff

### Box 3: *NEH – Correspondence/funding, forms, various projects*

- NEH related correspondence/funding
- Random correspondence
- Proclamations & certificates
- End products (?)
- Some sort of legislation documents?
- Lobbying/advocacy
- A few random programs/publications
- Newspaper Project – 1994 (?)
- Humanities on the hill
- Futures Committee
- Council history
- Rules of Organization
- Old Forms

### Box 4: *Annual Reports*

- OHC Five Year Report: 1972-77
- OHC Reports:
  - o Annual: 1978-79
  - o Annual: 1980-81
  - o Annual: 1982-83
  - o Biennial Report: 1984-85
  - o Biennial Report: 1986-87
  - o OHC 15 Year Report: 1972-1987
  - o Biennial: 1988-89
  - o OHC Report: 1989-1991
  - o Annual: 1993
  - o Annual: 1994
  - o Annual: 1995
  - o Annual: 1996
  - o Annual: 1997
  - o Annual: 1998-99
- OHC Overview – Spring 2001
- The Ohio Programs in the Humanities 1978-79 (proposal to NEH)
- (Thesis) – The Ohio Humanities Council and the Idea of Community: A study of community-related proposals funded by Ohio Humanities Council, 1981-1990

Box 5: *Photographs*

- Assorted photographs (printed)

Box 6: *Lit & Med / Random other files*

- Appalachian Portrait Project
- Art of Association
- Literature & Medicine
- Bridging Cultures
- Speaker Bureau
- Ohio History Day
- Beschloss lecture at Cincinnati – “Character and the Presidency”
- Ohio Bicentennial Commission
- “The War” PBS documentary
- Brown v. Board (2004)
- Bill of Rights (1991)
- Brass Tacks – Tell Your Stories, Preserve Your Past
- Brass Tacks – Show Me The Money
- Buckeye Council for History Education
- Barn Again (1997)
- Northwest Ordinance Study Guide (1987)

Box 7: *Ohio Forum (1991-1996)*

- Ohio Forum files
  - o Circa 1991-1996

Box 8: *Ohio Forum (1997-2005)*

- Ohio Forum files
  - o Circa 1997-2005

Box 9: *"See Ohio First"*

- "See Ohio First"
  - o Planning
  - o Completed trails and/or scripts for driving audio tours

Box 10: *Various End Products*

- Echoes and Reflections – A multimedia curriculum on the Holocaust
- Living Ohio Government Series (LOGS) – some sort of mock gov't thing
- A (Class)Room of Her Own – June 2000 – University of Toledo (2 copies)
- Traditional Art Program Publications in Folklife, Number Two: A Bibliographic Guide to Ohio Folklife (funded by National Endowment for the Arts)
- Methods of Inquiry in the Humanities (Southview High School / University of Toledo)
- Mailer for "Forbidden Sights and Sounds" exhibit/performance things
- Human Values in a High-Tech Society
- Wilberforce Stories
- Something for Everyone – 175<sup>th</sup> Geauga County Fair
- "Western Reserve"
- Architecture That Isn't There (2005)
- Remembering War mailer
- Summit County 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Cultural Domestication
- "Linking Communities through Cultural Traditions"
- "Rural Delivery" booklet
- A History of Shelby County Villages
- Voices from Berea's Past
- Impressions of the Past
- Final Report – Reel Abilities 2012
- Profile Ohio
- "A Traveler's Guide to The Historic National Road in Ohio"

- The Complicated Struggle for Woman Suffrage
- Books by the Banks
- Preserving the Wright Brother's Legacy
- Think Forum 2017-18
- Treasure from Trunks poster
- Faith and Family – Saint Paul's Catholic Church Athens, Ohio
- "History of the Land Between the Saint Marys & Wabash River Valleys"
- Our Post Card Past Celina, Ohio
- Our Post Card Past Grand Lake Saint Marys, Ohio
- Our Post Card Past Mercer County, Ohio
- A Walk Along Historic Mahoning Avenue
- 3 cassette tapes
- A few OHC publications
- An older Community Reconsidered brochure

Box 11: *Bjornson Award / OHC Alumni*

- Bjornson Award
  - o Nominations and winners: 1990-93, 1996-98, 2005-13
  - o Financial gifts to the fund for the award
  - o Folder of mixed papers related to the award
- OHC Alumni Association
- OHC Program Announcements
  - o 1972-73 through 1990-92
- Essay Contest 1997

Box 12: *Always a River / Key Ingredients / Between Fences*

- Multiple folders related to each of the following projects:
  - o "Always a River"
  - o "Key Ingredients"
  - o "Between Fences"

Box 13: *Upstream/Downstream, New Harmonies, Journey Stories*

- Multiple folders related to each of the following projects:
  - o "Upstream/Downstream"
    - NOTE: There's also a poster tube that goes along with this
  - o "New Harmonies"
  - o "Journey Stories"

Box 14: *New Deal / Civic Tourism*

- Tourism Cares
- Civic Tourism
  - o Pilot
  - o II ?
  - o IV
- New Deal project folders (a lot)
  - o "Images of the Great Depression in Ohio"

Box 15: *Chautauqua*

- An Evening with Hal Holbrook (benefit for Chautauqua 2000)
  - o Added some photos I came across that I believe are from this
- Chautauqua 2012 guidebook
- Chautauqua 2013 guidebook
- Chautauqua 2017 materials
- Chautauqua 1999 materials
- More Chautauqua materials (circa 2007-2014)
- Lots of photos from various ones
- Some buttons for Chautauqua in Kenton

Box 16: *NEH stuff / Executive Committee*

- NEH Regional Centers
- Focus Group notes
- NEH Assessment Binder 2012
- Proposals to NEH
- Executive Committee
- There are some more folder related to various finances and meetings
- "What Can the Internet Add to Your Humanities Curriculum?" pamphlets

Box 17: *NEH Bonanza*

- NEH compliance form
- Encyclopedia of Ohio – History Feasibility Study
- NEH Orientation
- Statewide Preservation Planning Committee
- NEH proposals
- Other mixed NEH stuff
- 2017 Site Assessment binder

Box 18: *Meeting Minutes*

- More meeting minutes

Box 19: *Meeting Minutes*

- Committee meeting minutes, 1972-1978
  - o Some actually labeled as "Committee Mailing" rather than "Committee Meeting" but both seem to contain similar materials.

Box 20: *Meeting Minutes*

- Strategic Planning
- Financial stuff
- Meeting minutes?
- Some random stuff from other state's humanities programs

Box 21: *Teacher's Institute (1994-95)*

- Teacher's Institute 1994-1995
  - o Applications/funding
  - o Readings & Resources
  - o Other related stuff

Box 22: *Teachers' Institute*

- Teachers' Institute

Box 23: *Teachers' Institute*

- Teachers' Institute

Box 24: *Teacher's Institute*

- Teacher's Institute (mainly 1993-95)

Box 25: *Various Projects*

- "Children of Abraham"
- "Justice Talking"



- Civil War 150<sup>th</sup>
- Teaching American History
- Gateway to History website

Box 26: *Booked for the Day / OSBA*

- "Booked For The Day" folders
  - o Some seem to be in tandem/sponsored by the Ohio State Bar Association (OSBA)
  - o One folder is also "Doing Justice" – Literature and the Law, but I think that might just be a Booked for the Day event

Box 27: *Discovery @ the Center*

- Program Descriptions
- Discovery at the Center 98
- Discovery II
- Expenses/Checks
- Proposals
- Correspondence
- Previous programming for seniors
- Grant agreements for various centers
- World War II projects
- Ohio Department of Aging / National Council of Aging / related publications
- CATCO / Magical Theatre Company materials
- (Even more folders - but it's more Discovery at the Center stuff, so you get the idea)

Box 28: *OHC Internal Documents / Brochures*

- OHC Scholar Directory
  - o 1991 Fourth Edition
  - o Roster 1981
  - o Roster (year unknown)
- Sample media grant
- Sample Media proposal
- Media evaluators' agreements
- "Grant Guidelines & Application"
- Additional guidelines and types of directories
- Community History grants program guidelines
- Misc. General brochures, 1993-1999
- "A Guide to Grants for Public Humanities Programs" c. 1991-92
- OHC Goals, 1989-1992
- Some more misc. brochures

- Final Report forms
- Grant contracts
- Video Discussion guide
- Evaluation forms
- Some more forms
- Regrant stuff

#### Box 29: Newspaper Project

- Newspaper Project folders
  - o Quite a bit of correspondence
  - o Seems like at least one folder has end products as well

#### Box 30

- "Private Visions/Public Values Essay Contest"
- Susan Stamberg talk
- 1996 Ohio Day
  - o Statehouse restoration
  - o Riffe Gallery
  - o Some "Ohio Builds a State" stuff from 1993 also here
- 1993 Senate Building opening
  - o Ties into that "Ohio Builds a State"
- "Humanities & The Profession"
- Conferences / meetings (NEH)
- "Citizens' Forum on the Humanities" 1989
- Great Lakes regional meeting, 1986
- Great Lakes regional meeting - 1988
- Midwest Humanities council meeting (Iowa) – August 1993
- Federation of State Humanities Councils meeting / seminar - 1994
- 1995 NEH roundtable
- 1994 Veterans Plaza – wall of letters ?
- "Freedom of Speech and the Press in the Twentieth Century" (20<sup>th</sup> Century) 1990
- 1994 Cultural Diversity Meetings
- Ohio History Day planning 1992
- 1991 Statehouse Seminar – Shakespeare and Politics: Poetry, Power, and Personality
  - o AKA Capitol Forum 1991
- 1993 Public Meeting – OHC
- 1993 Jefferson Foundation meeting

#### Box 31

- "Let's Talk About It I"
- Large folder related to "Let's Talk About It"
- Another "Let's Talk About It" folder
- "To Walk in Her Shoes" (Packaged Program)
- William Wordsworth and the Age of English Romanticism
  - o NOTE: For some reason, some letters related to "THE AMISH" are in this folder
  - o NOTE: Not immediately clear what this has to do with OHC
- Kettering Foundation – September 1989 OHC meeting ?
  - o "An Open Letter" pamphlets inside
- "Community Reconsidered"
- Call for proposals 1990
  - o Meeting of Cultures
  - o The Bill of Rights

#### Box 32: OAC – OHC Joint Program

- Joint Program – 10 years publication
- Joint Program – Folk Art 1979
- Joint Program – Overview 2002
- Joint Program – PR
- Joint Program – Grants
- Joint Program – Minutes/Grants 1980-83
- Joint Program – Narrative Reports 1987-89
- Joint Program – PR/Grants 1989-90
- Joint Program – Application 1994
- Joint Program – Financials on Grants 1980-
- Joint Program – Design Initiatives – Financials
- A couple other related things

#### Box 33: *OHC conferences, evaluation conferences, congressional letters*

- Various conferences & showcases & dinners & similar
  - o Cincinnati Showcase / "The Humanities are in Town"
  - o OHC 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner (1987)
  - o Akron Symposium
  - o Youngstown meeting
  - o Humanist Conference
  - o Ironton, Ohio, tristate event
  - o University of Dayton symposium
- Evaluation & Scholar Conferences, circa 1975-1988
- Congressional letters
  - o DeWine, Kasich, etc.

Box 34: *Newspaper Clippings*

- Newspaper clippings

Box 35: *Whole lot of papers*

- Some summaries of grants awarded for various years
- A whole lot of papers I can't make much sense of

Box 36: *Dregs and Random*

- Some financials for various projects
- Limited correspondence related to various projects
- Draft proposals
- Annual Fund stuff?
- Taskforce stuff?
- Schwartz Prize
- 2005 State funding / appropriations

**Box 37:** *Grant Proposal Reviews* – On cart, possibly contains unwanted materials

- Grant Proposal Reviews / votes

**Box 38:** *Paper Potpourri* – On cart, possibly contains unwanted materials

- Seems to be a real hodgepodge
  - o NEH stuff
  - o OHC Board Orientation
  - o Oral History Institute
  - o TAH & Knowledge workshops (?)
  - o Smithsonian

**Box 39:** *Materials Returned from Ohio History Connection* – On cart, possibly contains unwanted materials

- All of this box probably just needs to be thrown out, but I'll let Aaron check first
  - o Some Federation of State Humanities Councils minutes
  - o Personal records/contracts
  - o Files with Social Security Numbers on them
  - o Folder of resumes

- Meeting/council binders
  - Floppy disks
- There's also a folder from Ohio History Connection that explains what they kept