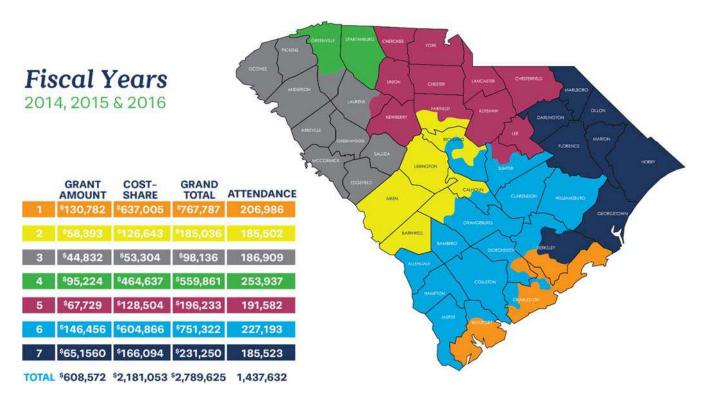
The Honorable Joe Wilson / District 2



In the past three years, South Carolina Humanities has awarded more than 45 grants in District Two. The awards range from smaller Council Program initiatives, to Mini/Planning Grants, to larger Major Grants. Here are a few you may find of great interest:

- Pelion Middle School received a grant to support bringing a traveling exhibit called Anne Frank: A History for Today from the Anne Frank House to display in Lexington County in March 2015. Public programs and tours were offered, and students participated in a lesson series called Bullying: From the Holocaust Until Now. (Awarded: \$2,000; cost-share: \$2,500)
- ➤ The Blythewood Historical Society will host the traveling Smithsonian exhibit *The Way We Worked* from March 18 April 30, 2017. The exhibit was developed specifically for rural audiences and small towns that often do not have access to major traveling exhibitions. Many collateral programs are planned to accompany the exhibit, including a railroad day and student tours.
- ➤ The Nancy Carson Library in North Augusta received two grants to support public humanities programs that were collaborations between multiple cultural organizations in Aiken County, including a tour of the Hunley Submarine Replica Exhibition in September 2014 and a lecture series on Robert Todd Lincoln and his visits to the Hampton Terrace Hotel in January 2015. (Awarded: \$3,400; cost-share: \$5,275)
- > The Lexington County Museum hosted a living history day presented by the Slave Dwelling Project and supported with a grant from SC Humanities. The event included living historians in period dress conducting demonstrations of outdoor cooking, blacksmithing, brick making, quilting and other activities that demonstrate the skills that enslaved people had. (Awarded: \$2,000; cost-share: \$5,000)
- ➤ **Aiken County** has received numerous grants, including to support the 2015 Juneteenth Celebration in the Park, to support several reading and discussion programs at the **Aiken County Public Library**, and to support a documentary about the Edgefield Pottery tradition. (Awarded: \$4,650; cost-share: \$13,850)
- > **Blythewood Township** received a Mini Grant to support their **2015 Black History Month Celebration** honoring the contributions of black Americans to the Blythewood area. More than 600 people participated in the play, art display, award ceremony, and gospel celebration. (Awarded: \$2,000; Cost-share: \$3,000).

^{**}Note: The attendance numbers will increase with receipt of final reports for projects in 2015 and 2016 and with the completion of unfinished media projects.

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Organizations in Congressional District 2 that have received support from SC Humanities (2014-2016):

- ➤ Aiken County Public Library
- ➤ Blythewood Historical Society
- ➤ Blythewood Township
- > Bravo Blythewood
- Carolina Gardens Senior Living
- Catawba Trail Elementary School
- ➤ Center for African American History, Art, and Culture
- ➤ Columbia Chapter of the South Carolina Genealogical Society
- Columbia Green
- Columbia Presbyterian Community
- > Dutch Fork Chapter of the South Carolina Genealogical Society
- ➤ Forest Lake Technology Magnet Explorer School
- > Friends of Aiken County Historical Museum
- Friends of Lexington County Museum
- ➤ Heritage Council of North Augusta
- ➤ Katie and Irwin Kahn Jewish Community Center
- Lexington County Museum
- > Lexington Main Library
- ➤ Nancy Carson Library
- > Pelion Middle School
- ➤ Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site
- ➤ Rice Estate Lutheran Retirement Community
- ➤ Richland Library Cooper Branch
- Richland Library Northeast
- Richland Library St. Andrews
- ➤ Shepherd's Center of St. Andrews
- > St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

Accolades about grant-supported projects:

"The lecture about "Mary Todd Lincoln" brought 125 people to the Aiken County Historical Museum right at the end of a holiday weekend and inclement weather. This topic opened up conversation as to the link to the community that Mr. Lincoln had as well as that of the family as a whole. The Q&A time showed a vast array of topics, and audience feedback stressed the need for more programming such as this." ~ Brenda Baratto, Executive Director of the Aiken County Historical Museum

"The Hunley Replica Exhibit was successful beyond our expectation. This event gave many people their first encounter with this portion of South Carolina history. There have been many conversations before, during, and after the event between event staffers and the public about the history of the submarine. At the library, we have seen an increase in interest in films and materials about the Hunley." ~ Barbara Walker, Director of the Nancy Carson Library

"Our humanities scholar was Dr. Art Coogler, a distant relative of J. Gordon Coogler. He attended our Coogler Festival as our main speaker at the Book Event on Friday, January 24, 2014. He was wonderful and fully prepared to discuss J. Gordon Coogler's history and poetry. His presentation was exceptional and encouraged the audience to ask questions and discuss Coogler's life in Blythewood and his passion for poetry. Dr. Coogler spoke to the students and encouraged them, as well as their parents, to pursue what is important to us. He reminded students that Mr. Coogler was only 14 when he opened his print shop in Columbia, SC out of necessity to support his mother and sisters. His poetry was a sideline and a passion that ultimately provided more income." ~ Mrs. Mittie McLean, Project Director for Bravo Blythewood

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