



2017 Awarded Grants

The following grants were awarded by SC Humanities in fiscal year 2017 (November 1, 2016 – October 31, 2017).

Major Grants

Sponsoring Organization: SC Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum

Project Title: “‘make no Doubt we shall carry this post...’ The History and Archaeology of Fort Motte”

Project Director: Fritz Hamer

Awarded: \$2,000; **Cost-share:** \$3,163

The SC Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum has created a traveling exhibition about the 10-day siege and battle of Fort Motte in May 1781. “*Make no Doubt we shall carry this post’: The History and Archaeology of Fort Motte*” consists of 15 exhibit panels, 8 reproduction artifacts, and lesson plans and is available through the SC State Museum’s Traveling Exhibit Program.

Sponsoring Organization: The Children’s Museum of the Upstate

Project Title: The Boxcar Children Exhibit and Related Programming

Project Director: Nancy Halverson

Awarded: \$2,000; **Cost-share:** \$195,580

The Children’s Museum of the Upstate (TCMU) has created a major original exhibit, *The Boxcar Children*, based on the famous children’s book published in 1942. The exhibit focuses on themes of literacy, family, resourcefulness, and empathy and will be on display at the museum through May 2018.

Sponsoring Organization: Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage

Project Title: Homegrown Heroes: The Lowcountry in WWII

Project Director: Annmarie Reiley-Kay

Awarded: \$7,000; **Cost-share:** \$20,432

The Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage presented an original exhibit titled *Homegrown Heroes: The Lowcountry in WWII*. The exhibit consisted of 20 small graphic panels, a photo booth, a film of interviews with local living veterans and civilians, and a children’s “learn and play” dress-up corner.

Sponsoring Organization: Columbia Film Society (the Nickelodeon Theatre)

Project Title: Indie Grits: Visiones



Project Director: Seth Gadsden

Awarded: \$7,500; **Cost-share:** \$289,000

The Nickelodeon Theatre presented the 11th Annual Indie Grits Film Festival in April 2017 with the theme “Visiones,” celebrating Latino arts and culture. In addition to film screenings, events included a keynote address by artist Alfredo Salazar-Caro as part of the “Indie Bits” new media exhibition, a public lecture and Q&A by artist-in-residence Favianna Rodriguez, a multi-venue art exhibition, a filmmaker roundtable, “Kindie Grits” educational workshops for students, and a concert, among other events. The film screenings focused on the work of filmmakers from across the Southeastern U.S. and all of Latin America.

Sponsoring Organization: Allison Creek Presbyterian Church

Project Title: Let The Land Say Amen

Project Director: Patrice Gaines

Awarded: \$6,585; **Cost-share:** \$13,000

Allison Creek Presbyterian Church presented the festival “Let the Land Say Amen” on May 6-7, 2017. The event took place on the historic church’s property, which includes two historic cemeteries and public trails. On Saturday, May 6, there were tours with costumed interpreters, strolling banjos, period games for children, a lecture and demonstration by a banjo historian, and the premiere of the short documentary “Allison Creek: From the KKK to Liberia, One Church’s Quest to Reconcile Itself.” On Sunday, May 7, there was a joint church service and the unveiling of a historic marker from the SC Department of Archives and History at the site of the home of Reverend Elias Hill.

Sponsoring Organization: Read Up Greenville Inc.

Project Title: Read Up 2017

Project Director: Lee Yarborough

Awarded: \$6,000; **Cost-share:** \$54,700

Read Up Greenville presented the Read Up literary festival for young adults and middle grades on October 21, 2017, featuring approximately 30 authors in panel presentations and signings.

Sponsoring Organization: College of Charleston

Project Title: The Charleston Civil Rights Film Festival

Project Director: Jon Hale

Awarded: \$5,000; **Cost-share:** \$8,000

The College of Charleston presented the “Charleston Civil Rights Film Festival” on April 19 – 21, 2017. The three-day festival included the screening of three films, a student and filmmaker workshop, a public humanities lecture, and a film workshop led by actor Danny Glover for students at Burke High School.



Sponsoring Organization: Southern Documentary Fund

Project Title: Untitled Appalachia in the Media Documentary Film

Project Director: Sally Rubin

Awarded: \$1,500; **Cost-share:** \$41,030

The documentary on “Appalachia in the Media” will examine media portrayals of Appalachia and will include such themes as: media literacy and representation, accents and dialect, Appalachia as a microcosm of America, othering, Appalachia as a cultural construct, identity politics and intersectionality, and several others. The project creators are planning to create a feature-length version of the film, a one-hour version of the film for PBS broadcast, and a curriculum and discussion guide for community screenings and classroom use.

Sponsoring Organization: University of South Carolina – Center for the Education and Equity of African American Students (CEEAAS)

Project Title: Sankofa Saturday Academy

Project Director: Gloria Boutte

Awarded: \$2,000; **Cost-share:** \$7,692

The University of South Carolina’s Center for the Education and Equity of African American Students is planning a Saturday Academy for elementary school students in Richland School District One. The subject of the academy will be African and Africa American history and culture.

Sponsoring Organization: ETV Endowment of South Carolina

Project Title: Gullah Gone: Preserving the Land, Water, and Culture of the Sea Islands

Project Director: Denise McGill

Awarded: \$8,000; **Cost-share:** \$128,765

Gullah Gone: Preserving the Land, Water, and Culture of the Sea Islands is a proposed one-hour film that will follow a group of African-American farmers on St. Helena Island who are struggling to make a living off of their land. The documentary will investigate three threats to sustainability of Gullah-owned farms and fishing operations: heirs property, real estate development, and changes in the agricultural market. The film is intended for public television and will be submitted to film festivals. The anticipated completion date is January 2018.

Sponsoring Organization: Columbia Museum of Art

Project Title: Salvador Dali’s Fantastical Fairy Tales

Project Director: Joelle Ryan-Cook

Awarded: \$8,000; **Cost-share:** \$21,135

Columbia Museum of Art presented the exhibit *Salvador Dali’s Fantastical Fairy Tales* from March 11 – May 21, 2017. The exhibit featured 37 colorful prints from The Dali Museum as well as a variety of illustrated texts from the Special Collections division of the Thomas Cooper



Library. The museum created a mobile “TAP” tour to go along with the exhibit, featuring interviews with several humanities scholar, and they produced thematic cards that connect the art with books, music, and films available at Richland Library.

Sponsoring Organization: Francis Marion University

Project Title: Beyond Mother Emanuel & The Confederate Flag: A Symposium on Race, Culture, and Understanding

Project Director: Jon W. Tuttle

Awarded: \$6,375; **Cost-share:** \$6,409

Francis Marion University will present a three-day symposium on February 26 – 27, 2018 on the topic “Beyond Mother Emanuel & The Confederate Flag: A Symposium on Race, Culture, and Understanding.” Each day will consist of a lecture and panel discussion, followed by a call to action to consider “what’s next” and a reception. Featured speakers include Kevin Alexander Grey, author of *The Decline of Black Politics*; Dr. Leo Twiggs; and Dr. Cleveland Sellers.

Sponsoring Organization: Dorchester County Archives & History Center

Project Title: Veteran’s Exhibit and Memorial Day 2018 Ceremony

Project Director: LaClaire Mizell

Awarded: \$5,000; **Cost-share:** \$13,074

The Dorchester County Archives & History Center will create an exhibit about Veterans/Active Duty Personnel that will span the Revolutionary War to the most recent conflicts. The exhibit will include artifacts and memorabilia like uniforms, medals, and weapons, and a database will be developed that includes oral histories of veterans from Dorchester County. The exhibit will open to the public on Memorial Day 2018 (May 28) with a ceremony honoring all veterans and military personnel.

Sponsoring Organization: University of South Carolina Upstate

Project Title: The Literature of Caregiving: Fostering a Humanities-Based Culture of Care

Project Director: Esther Godfrey

Awarded: \$2,600; **Cost-share:** \$5,117

The University of South Carolina – Upstate will partner with the Charles Lea Center, which provides services to people with intellectual disabilities or chronic medical conditions, to present a pilot reading and discussion program for medical caregivers that is modeled after the Literature & Medicine program from the Maine Humanities Council. Approximately 20 caregivers employed by the Charles Lea Center will participate in a 10-week workshop led by humanities scholar Dr. George Williams to discuss literary texts that present representations of caregivers. The participants will also work on a group project that will use digital technologies to create a record of participants’ insights and will be a new collective narrative about the nature of caregiving. The pilot program will culminate with a public event open to a general



audience, including additional caregivers, that will be a discussion of the insights about caregiving gleaned in the workshop.

Sponsoring Organization: Olympia-Granby Historical Foundation

Project Title: Olympia-Granby Mill Village Museum

Project Director: Staci Richey

Amount Requested: \$4,600; **Cost-share:** \$7,700

The Olympia-Granby Historical Foundation will create an exhibit about mill village life in South Carolina to be installed at the new Olympia-Granby Mill Village Museum located in the first Olympia Mill Village School in Columbia. The exhibit will include 17 interior panels and four exterior panels as well as artifacts and interactive components like an audio recording of sounds of a textile mill village. The exhibit will be in production from November 1, 2017 through the spring, with the expectation of it being completed and installed by June 2018.

Sponsoring Organization: Historic Columbia

Project Title: Reconstruction's Legacy: The History and Contemporary Significance of the Fourteenth Amendment

Project Director: Robin Waites

Awarded: \$6,000; **Cost-share:** \$24,900

Historic Columbia in partnership with the University of South Carolina History Center will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Fourteenth Amendment with a public symposium on "Reconstruction's Legacy: The History and Contemporary Significance of the Fourteenth Amendment." The symposium will take place April 18 – 20, 2018 at various venues in Columbia including Allen University, Columbia Museum of Art, and the Woodrow Wilson Family Home. Featured speakers will include Randall Kennedy of Harvard Law School (Thursday evening keynote) and David Levering Lewis of New York University (Friday lunch keynote).

Sponsoring Organization: The Citadel

Project Title: Los Ecos Del Lowcountry

Project Director: Kerry Taylor

Awarded: \$5,764; **Cost-share:** \$12,926

The Citadel Oral History Program will support the creation of a traveling multimedia art exhibition titled "Los Ecos Del Lowcountry." The exhibit will feature 20 Latino visual artists who have been commissioned to create original artwork based on their interpretations of oral history interviews taken in 2013. It is anticipated that the exhibit will open in Charleston in August or September 2018 and also travel to Columbia and Greenville in 2019. The Citadel is planning on producing a printed catalog and an educational website to accompany the exhibit,



as well as presenting several public programs such as “The Lowcountry—New Immigrant Destination in the Southeast” and “Music and Immigration.”

Sponsoring Organization: ETV Endowment of South Carolina

Project Title: Charlie’s Place

Project Director: Betsy Newman

Awarded: \$6,750; **Cost-share:** \$83,641

SCETV will create a 30-minute documentary titled “Charlie’s Place” intended to air as part of the Carolina Stories program in early 2018. “Charlie’s Place” tells the story of Charlie Fitzgerald and his Myrtle Beach nightclub, Charlie’s Place, which was a significant stop on the Chitlin’ Circuit of black nightclubs in the segregated South and which was attacked by the Ku Klux Klan in 1950. The documentary will be offered for national broadcast to all PBS stations.

Sponsoring Organization: James Agee Film Project

Project Title: At The Common Table: People, Place, and Food in the American South

Project Director: Jamie S. Ross

Awarded: \$4,000; **Cost-share:** \$30,966

The James Agee Film Project will support the creation of a 58-minute, feature-length documentary about the multiethnic roots of Southern food titled *At the Common Table: People, Place, and Food in the American South*. The documentary is intended for national primetime broadcast on PBS, and a rough cut is expected to be ready approximately a year from now. Themes for the film include how food can help us understand and communicate the past; the deep roots of Southern food and culture in Native America, Africa, and Europe; and how Southern food has been intertwined with southern identity from the beginning to the present. Several South Carolina scholars are key consultants on the film, and there will be many scenes featuring South Carolina locations, food events, and people.

Sponsoring Organization: South Carolina Archives & History Foundation

Project Title: South Carolina’s Reconstruction: Restoration, Revolution, Reaction

Project Director: Patrick McCawley

Awarded: \$4,770; **Cost-share:** \$7,327

The South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) will present an exhibit titled *South Carolina’s Reconstruction: Restoration, Revolution, Reaction* from April – November 2018. The exhibit will use the collections held by SCDAH to highlight key themes of Reconstruction like citizenship, land and labor, and education. Original copies of three of South Carolina’s constitutions – those written in 1865, 1868, and 1895 – will anchor the exhibit. A virtual exhibit will also be created for the SCDAH website.

Sponsoring Organization: South Carolina State University/I.P. Stanback Museum and Planetarium



Project Title: Resistance, Reform, & Reasoning: The Orangeburg Massacre & Its Aftermath 50 Years Later

Project Director: Frank Martin

Awarded: \$5,764; **Cost-share:** \$13,796

The I.P. Stanback Museum and Planetarium at South Carolina State University will produce two exhibits and a series of public lectures on the topic of “Resistance, Reform & Reasoning: The Orangeburg Massacre & Its Aftermath 50 Years Later.” The 50th anniversary of the Orangeburg Massacre will take place on February 8, 2018, and these special programs will take place from February 6 – April 7, 2018. One exhibit will be photographic works by Cecil Williams documenting the events that culminated in the Orangeburg Massacre, and the other will be images created by a diverse group of artists. Additionally, there will be at least three public colloquia: “Creating Change: Student Protest as Public Moral Consciousness,” “Envisioning Controversy: Image, Idea, and Human Tragedy,” and “Discussions on Civil Rights, Gender, and Inclusion: Who Sits at the Table and Why.” One of the purposes of the project is to establish an intergenerational dialogue regarding the changing meaning and significance of the term “Civil Rights.”

Sponsoring Organization: Claflin University

Project Title: Cecil J. Williams Image Collection Preservation and Digitalization Project

Project Director: Morgan Montgomery

Awarded: \$5,000; **Cost-share:** \$5,000

Claflin University is working on the preservation and digitalization of The Cecil J. Williams Historically Significant Image Collection. The collection has an estimated 250,000 negatives spanning more than 50 years. The digitized collection will be made available to researchers and the general public at no cost to view or use low-resolution reproductions. The collection will be shared with all of South Carolina’s digital libraries as well as SCETV’s Knowitall.org.

Sponsoring Organization: Town of Estill

Project Title: “Growing Strong Together” 2017 Estill Fall Festival

Project Director: Heather Docalavich-Bruemmer

Awarded: \$5,200; **Cost-share:** \$27,400

The Town of Estill presented their fall festival “Growing Strong Together” on November 8 – 11, 2017. The event was reimagined in 2017 to include more cultural programming, such as a “Taste of Tradition” community meal featuring family recipes; a “Remembering Our Roots” history harvest for senior citizens of Estill; a special night of enrichment for children featuring a presentation by Sharon Cooper-Murray; and a Harvest Celebration featuring historical hayrides and more. The anticipated outcome is empowering citizens of Estill to be more engaged and invested in preserving its past for a bright future.



Mini and Planning Grants

Sponsoring Organization: University of South Carolina History Center

Project Title: Stanley Nelson: Documenting African American Struggles for Freedom and Civil Rights

Project Director: Patricia Sullivan

Awarded: \$2,000; **cost-share:** \$6,022

The USC History Center brought noted documentary filmmaker Stanley Nelson to Columbia on March 29 – 31, 2017. He participated in two major events, including a preview screening of *Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Historically Black Colleges and Universities*. Leading up to this visit, they presented a film series highlighting Nelson’s work from January – March 2017.

Sponsoring Organization: Greenville Chautauqua

Project Title: “I Can!” – a Chautauqua History Alive interactive program about the African-American North Pole explorer Matthew Henson

Project Director: Caroline McIntyre

Awarded: \$2,000; **cost-share:** \$2,100

Greenville Chautauqua brought a Chautauqua scholar (Keith Henley from NJ) to Greenville to present as African American North Pole explorer Matthew Henson to five schools in Greenville County: Carolina High School, Tanglewood Middle School, Legacy Charter Middle School, Legacy Charter High School, and Welcome Elementary. The programming took place during Black History Month, from February 9 – 10, 2017.

Sponsoring Organization: Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College

Project Title: Engage, Empower, Transform

Project Director: Ellen Zisholtz

Awarded: \$2,000; **cost-share:** \$10,900

Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College hosted a series of monthly documentary screenings with scholar-led discussions that will take place in February, March, and April 2017. The films featured were: *Zora Neale Hurston: Jump at the Sun* (February 23), *Rosenwald* (March 16), and *The Ipson Saga* (April 20).

Sponsoring Organization: Pat Conroy Literary Center

Project Title: Pat Conroy Literary Center Strategic Planning Retreat

Project Director: Jonathan Haupt

Awarded: \$1,000; **cost-share:** \$6,000

The newly-formed Pat Conroy Literary Center conducted a strategic planning retreat in February 2017. The retreat was led by facilitator Dr. Page Putnam Miller to establish short-



term and long-term goals, including a strategic plan, updated bylaws, and position descriptions for staff.

Sponsoring Organization: Georgetown County Library

Project Title: The Lebanese Legacy of Georgetown County, SC

Project Director: Dwight McInvaill

Awarded: \$830; **cost-share:** \$1,480

Georgetown County Library brought two scholars from North Carolina State University's Khayrallah Center for Lebanese Diaspora Studies to Georgetown for a planning meeting to organize a major project about the Lebanese community located in Georgetown County. Ultimately, the Georgetown County Library plans to present a multi-faceted project including lectures, oral history creation and dissemination, a history harvest, and an exhibition.

Sponsoring Organization: Historic Charleston Foundation

Project Title: Revitalizing Historic Charleston Foundation's Oral History Program to Preserve the Stories of a Changing City

Project Director: Katherine Pemberton

Awarded: \$1,040; **cost-share:** \$2,053

Historic Charleston Foundation (HCF) is in the process of revitalizing their oral history program. They purchased some permanent equipment that enables them to more easily and cost-effectively collect oral histories in the long-term, and HCF staff received trainings from a professional videographer and oral history professionals to learn how to use the equipment and take better oral histories. This is the first phase of their oral history revitalization project, which will eventually also include taking oral histories of owners of historic properties and making those histories available through distribution online and in public programs.

Sponsoring Organization: Charleston Promise Neighborhood

Project Title: Humanities Enrichment Through Expanded Learning Time Afterschool Programming

Project Director: Katie McCabe

Awarded: \$1,000; **cost-share:** \$15,210

The Charleston Promise Neighborhood helps families in a part of Charleston County to make sure they have the support they need to thrive. They presented their Extended Learning Time program at three high-poverty schools in the promise neighborhood. The ~500 students who participated in these after-school programs received an enrichment block that includes interactive humanities programming from such providers as: Wona Womalan African Drumming & Dance, The Charleston Museum, Historic Charleston Foundation, Redux Contemporary Arts Center, and the Citadel Young Authors program.



Sponsoring Organization: ETV Endowment of South Carolina

Project Title: Charlie's Place

Project Director: Betsy Newman

Awarded: \$2,000; **cost-share:** \$2,298

ETV Endowment of South Carolina implemented the planning phase of a documentary entitled *Charlie's Place* that is expected to premiere on the Carolina Stories program of SCETV in early 2018. The documentary examines the story of Charlie Fitzgerald and his Myrtle Beach nightclub, Charlie's Place, which was a significant stop on the Chitlin' Circuit of black nightclubs in the segregated South and which was attacked by the Ku Klux Klan in 1950.

Sponsoring Organization: Franklin G. Burroughs – Simeon B. Chapin Art Museum

Project Title: Food For Thought Lecture with Will Goins: Native Roots, Healing Roots

Project Director: Pat Goodwin

Awarded: \$1,250; **cost-share:** \$3,000

The Franklin G. Burroughs – Simeon B. Chapin Art Museum in Myrtle Beach presented a lecture on July 12, 2017 featuring scholar Will Goins speaking about "Native Roots, Healing Roots." The lecture by Will Goins was one of a series of nine lectures about Southern foodways that accompanied the exhibit *Feast Your Eyes: Celebrating the Food of the South*.

Sponsoring Organization: Blackville Music and Art Festival

Project Title: Blackville Music and Art Festival

Project Director: Bobby Harley

Awarded: \$1,500; **cost-share:** \$7,131

The Blackville Music and Art Festival took place May 19 – 20, 2017. Two humanities scholars presented programs: Donald West of Trident Technical College and Damon Fordham of Charleston Southern University. Other activities included art and craft displays, musical performances, vendors, and a parade.

Sponsoring Organization: South Carolina Historical Society

Project Title: Liberty Week in South Carolina

Project Director: EmmaLee Boykin

Awarded: \$1,000; **cost-share:** \$3,500

The South Carolina Historical Society presented their "Liberty Week in South Carolina" programming in June – July 2017, which included lectures by Doug MacIntyre on "Devoted to the Cause of Liberty" at Aiken County Historical Museum and at Florence County Library. The collective programming was intended to educate the South Carolina public on the state's rich Revolutionary War history.

Sponsoring Organization: Georgetown County Historical Society

Project Title: Broadening Perspectives Of Georgetown County History



Project Director: Elizabeth McKee

Awarded: \$1,000; **cost-share:** \$4,307

The Georgetown County Historical Society presented a series of monthly lectures on Georgetown County history from June – December 2017.

Sponsoring Organization: Presbyterian College

Project Title: Oral History of Racial Integration at Clinton and Lydia Cotton Mills

Project Director: Dave Chatham

Awarded: \$1,955; **cost-share:** \$4,141

Presbyterian College is coordinating an oral history project for the communities of Clinton and Lydia in Laurens County about racial integration of the textile mills. Ultimately, the oral histories will be made available at the Presbyterian College Archives, and edited audio narratives will be available online.

Sponsoring Organization: Taw Caw Community Outreach Center

Project Title: America's Reconstruction: The Untold Story

Project Director: Lawrence Hammett

Awarded: \$2,000; **cost-share:** \$2,900

Taw Caw Community Outreach Center presented an exhibit and question and answer session about the Briggs vs. Elliott case in Summerton, SC in July 2017.

Sponsoring Organization: University of South Carolina

Project Title: American Jewish Humor in an Era of Ethnic Sensibility and Cultural Competence

Project Director: Stanley Dubinsky

Awarded: \$2,000; **cost-share:** \$2,000

The University of South Carolina will present a conference on the subject of current perspectives on humor, with an emphasis on racial, ethnic, and gender-based humor and its place in the current social and political climate. "American Jewish Humor in an Era of Ethnic Sensibility and Cultural Competence" will take place in Columbia on April 29 – 30, 2018.

Sponsoring Organization: Heritage Library Foundation

Project Title: Historic Zion Forum

Project Director: Richard Thomas

Awarded: \$1,400; **cost-share:** \$21,895

The Historic Zion Forum took place on October 13, 2017 in Beaufort with the goal to raise awareness of the history of the Beaufort District in the Revolutionary War and the plantation era. The Forum was a one-day event that included a morning panel, a luncheon, an afternoon panel, and a reception. The Zion Chapel of Ease Cemetery and particularly its Baynard Mausoleum, an antebellum building dating to 1846, were the focus of some of the discussions.



Sponsoring Organization: South Carolina State University

Project Title: South Carolina Project on Language and Culture Conference

Project Director: Sukari B. Salone

Awarded: \$1,000; **cost-share:** \$3,110

South Carolina State University presented the second "South Carolina Project on Language and Culture Conference" on October 6, 2017 in Orangeburg. The conference was on the theme of "America's Southern Cultures and Identities."

Sponsoring Organization: Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission

Project Title: Gullah Geechee Watch Night & Emancipation Day Celebration Planning Effort

Project Director: Dr. J. Herman Blake

Awarded: \$1,500; **cost-share:** \$18,745

The Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission presented a series of planning meetings to develop a plan for commemorating Watch Night (December 31) and Emancipation Day (January 1) in South Carolina. These dates used to be more regularly observed by the Gullah communities in South Carolina and beyond, although the tradition has now fallen out of practice. They coordinated planning meetings in locations in coastal South Carolina (Beaufort/St. Helena, Hilton Head, Georgetown, and Little River) to gather faith leaders from the Gullah and white communities, community improvement associations, and social organizations to discuss celebrations of Watch Night 2017 and Emancipation Day 2018.

Sponsoring Organization: Clemson University

Project Title: Black Clemson

Project Director: Dr. Rhondda Thomas

Awarded: \$2,000; **cost-share:** \$2,000

Clemson University will explore the development of an interactive traveling museum exhibition titled "Black Clemson," which will examine the story of Black Americans' journey from slavery to integration on Calhoun's Fort Hill Plantation. The completed traveling exhibition will be displayed at Clemson University and the Upcountry History Museum, as well as other locations around South Carolina.

Sponsoring Organization: The Jasper Project

Project Title: Syzygy: The Solar Eclipse Plays (& Poetry)

Project Director: Cynthia Boiter

Awarded: \$1,000; **cost-share:** \$4,450

The Jasper Project presented a unique three-part literary program about and in response to the total solar eclipse that took place in South Carolina on Monday, August 21, 2017. Six ten-minute plays and nine poems were commissioned that were presented at a special program on



August 17, prior to the eclipse. Additionally, a culminating panel took place after the eclipse to facilitate public interaction and reflection on the eclipse and the literary contributions about it.

Sponsoring Organization: Belton Area Museum Association

Project Title: Heritage Days at the Depot

Project Director: Alison Darby

Awarded: \$1,500; **cost-share:** \$12,900

The Belton Area Museum Association presented their annual Heritage Days at the Depot festival on October 5 – 7, 2017. This living history event featured historical interpreters who demonstrated folk arts skills, such as split oak basket weaving, Native American flute making, pottery, lure carving, cabin building, and more.

Sponsoring Organization: Chhondeshi

Project Title: Bongotsov: Bengal Meets the World

Project Director: Sourav Banerjee

Awarded: \$1,000; **cost-share:** \$7,477

The Chhondeshi organization, in partnership with the University of South Carolina School of Music, presented a festival about Bengali culture and how that culture has spread throughout the world through literature, music, dance, and language. The one-day event took place on Saturday, October 14 at several venues at the University of South Carolina campus in Columbia. There was a panel discussion, several presentations, and musical and dance performances.

Fast Track Literary Grants

Sponsoring Organization: Greenville Wordsmiths

Project Title: Saturday Writinc Club 2017

Project Director: Adrienne Burris

Awarded: \$1,675; **cost-share:** \$1,700

Greenville Wordsmiths presented their Saturday Writing Club from January – June 2017, in which elementary and middle school students from the upstate met twice-monthly with volunteer writers, artists, and educators to engage in creative writing. At the end of the 6-month program, a book of student writing was published and launched at a public program open to the community at M. Judson Booksellers.

Sponsoring Organization: Spartanburg Community College

Project Title: Wonders of Writing (WOW) Conference

Project Director: Judy Sieg

Awarded: \$2,000; **cost-share:** \$3,075

Spartanburg Community College presented the Wonders of Writing (WOW) Symposium on September 20 – 22, 2017 at their two Spartanburg campuses. The symposium featured two



poets published by Hub City Writers Project, Ray McManus and Ashley M. Jones. There were readings, discussion opportunities, and faculty/staff development opportunities that reached both students and faculty of Spartanburg Community College as well as the general public.

Sponsoring Organization: Anderson County Library

Project Title: 3rd Annual Electric City ComiCon

Project Director: Brianna McDonell

Awarded: \$2,000; **cost-share:** \$2,000

Anderson County Library presented their 3rd Annual Electric City ComiCon on Saturday, August 5, 2017. The event featured presentations by authors in such genres as fantasy, science fiction, and graphic novel/comic book, as well as collateral family-friendly programming, like costume and fan art contests.

Sponsoring Organization: Hub City Writers Project

Project Title: Writing for Empathy Day Camp

Project Director: Michel Stone

Awarded: \$2,000; **cost-share:** \$2,487

In July 2017, Hub City Writers Project presented a student day camp called "Writing for Empathy" for rising 10th grade students to examine identity, civic responsibility, and empathy. The camp was free; the 24 student participants had to be nominated by teachers.

Sponsoring Organization: James Island Arts

Project Title: Poetry at McLeod

Project Director: Katherine Williams

Awarded: \$2,500; **cost-share:** \$20,800

James Island Arts will present their "Poetry at McLeod" programming, which will feature African American poets who have participated in the Cave Canem program. Four poets will each have three-day residencies on James Island, and each residency will include a presentation at a local school (and in one case, a senior center), a workshop at James Island Town Hall, and a reading and reception at McLeod Plantation Historic Site. The four selected poets are: Gary Jackson, Kwoya Fagin Maples, Len Lawson, and Marilyn Nelson, and the four three-day residencies will take place in October 2017, March 2018, April 2018, and June 2018.

Sponsoring Organization: Greenville County Library System

Project Title: 2017 Southern Author Festival

Project Director: Mary Frances Shelato

Awarded: \$1,500; **cost-share:** \$4,225

The Greenville County Library System presented their third annual Southern Author Festival on September 16, 2017. The focus was Southern food culture and traditions and featured authors Alice Randall, Ashley English and Lake High, as well as filmmaker Stan Woodward.



Sponsoring Organization: Charleston Friends of the Library
Project Title: Black Ink: The Charleston African American Book Festival
Project Director: Brittany Mathis

Awarded: \$2,500; **cost-share:** \$4,600

The Charleston Friends of the Library presented “Black Ink: The Charleston African American Book Festival” on September 23, 2017 at the main branch of the Charleston County Public Library. More than fifty authors participated, and ten featured authors will also make school visits.

Sponsoring Organization: EdVenture Children’s Museum, Inc.

Project Title: Read It and Eat It: Literacy Outreach

Project Director: Sara Salley

Awarded: \$1,500; **cost-share:** \$6,000

EdVenture will present after-school literacy programming for students in 12 Columbia-area elementary schools. The theme of the program is “Read It and Eat It,” and the lessons tie literacy with nutrition education. One “Read It and Eat It” program will be offered at each school during the 2017 – 2018 academic year.

Sponsoring Organization: Peace Center for the Performing Arts

Project Title: Palmetto Poets: Voices of SC

Project Director: Burgess Scott

Awarded: \$1,000; **cost-share:** \$5,350

The Peace Center for the Performing Arts in Greenville will present three South Carolina poets at “Palmetto Poets: Voices of SC” on January 18, 2018. Poets Delana Dameron, Ray McManus, and Ed Madden will share the stage with facilitator Glenis Redmond for this evening event, which will be free and open to the public and widely publicized.

Sponsoring Organization: Greenwood County Public Library

Project Title: Writer in Residence – Reyna Grande

Project Director: Prudence Taylor

Awarded: \$3,000; **cost-share:** \$12,855

Greenwood County Library presented their Greenwood County Reads 2017 program featuring the book *The Distance Between Us* by Reyna Grande in October 2017. Reyna Grande gave six public presentations and a radio interview over the course of a two-day residency on October 2 – 3, 2017.

Sponsoring Organization: City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs

Project Title: Free Verse Festival

Project Director: Scott Watson

Awarded: \$3,000; **cost-share:** \$3,000



The City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs presented a new literary festival in Charleston during the month of October 2017. The “Free Verse Festival” was the first poetry festival to take place in Charleston and was coordinated with support from Charleston’s recently-appointed city poet laureate, Marcus Amaker. Events included poetry workshops for students and educators at schools in Charleston County, a “Preview Night” kick-off, public art installations, and other events at venues like Dock Street Theatre, Charleston County Public Library, and City Gallery.

Sponsoring Organization: University of South Carolina Upstate

Project Title: IV Annual Translation and Interpreting Panel: Literary Translation

Project Director: Maria Francisco Monteso

Awarded: \$1,000; **cost-share:** \$1,000

The University of South Carolina Upstate presents an annual Translation and Interpreting Panel, and the fourth annual event, which will take place in late March 2018, will focus on literary translations. The event will feature keynote speaker Rachel Hildebrand followed by a panel featuring several overseas translators via video-conference. They will discuss how translating literary texts helps expand knowledge of the global human experience

Sponsoring Organization: Pat Conroy Literary Center

Project Title: Lowcountry Book Club Convention

Project Director: Jonathan Haupt

Awarded: \$3,000; **cost-share:** \$4,620

The Pat Conroy Literary Center will present the “Lowcountry Book Club Convention” on Friday, December 15, 2017 at the Technical College of the Lowcountry. The event intends to bring together the many book clubs of the Lowcountry to engage in programs and discussion designed to share best practices for book clubs and provide networking opportunities between the public and authors. The keynote speaker will be Will Schwalbe, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The End of Your Life Book Club*. A variety of other authors and presenters will appear on panels titled “Read Like a Critic,” “Keeping a Book Club from Becoming a Wine Club,” and “Book Club Recommended Lowcountry Writers.”

Sponsoring Organization: The Watering Hole Poetry Organization

Project Title: The Watering Hole 2017 Winter Reading

Project Director: Candace Wiley

Awarded: \$2,000; **cost-share:** \$8,250

The Watering Hole Poetry Organization presents an annual winter retreat scheduled to take place December 26 – 30, 2017 at Santee State Park in Orangeburg County. It is the only retreat/residency program that targets poets of color. There will be two public readings during the retreat. The first public reading will feature two native South Carolina poets: National Book



Award winner Terrance Hayes and DeLana R.A. Dameron. The second public reading will feature Patricia Smith, Abiodun Oyewole, and Danez Smith.

Sponsoring Organization: Francis Marion University

Project Title: Race and Healthcare Today: Damon Tweedy's *Black Man in a White Coat*

Project Director: Shawn Smolen-Morton

Awarded: \$3,000; **cost-share:** \$5,839

The English Department at Francis Marion University will present their annual Hunter Lecture Series in March 2018. Their featured author is to be Dr. Damon Tweedy, author of *Black Man in a White Coat*.

For more information about the Grants Program or any of SC Humanities's funded projects, please contact [Theresa \(T.J.\) Wallace](#), the Assistant Director, at 803-771-2477.