Mercy College
Funder: NEH
Mercy College crafted an interdisciplinary Latino and Latin American Studies curriculum with NEH funding. Designed largely for the many students who are planning careers that will involve serving Latino communities, the curriculum includes courses in history, literature, political science, sociology, psychology, and international relations that help students better understand those communities. Spanish courses have been adapted for professional tracks like law enforcement and health care. And global experience courses, which include a study abroad component, offer international opportunities to students who would otherwise not be able to afford them.

Westchester Community College
Funder: NEH
An NEH challenge grant, which generated an additional $600,000 in private support, helped Westchester Community College establish a humanities institute that supports workshops, writers-in-residence, and faculty fellows. The institute partners with student groups and outside organizations to bring major speakers to campus. And in an area in which one out of every four residents are foreign-born, the institute’s theme of immigration creates a common ground for dialogue and learning, helping students integrate the humanities into their studies more broadly.

Jacob Burns Film Center
Funder: NEH
With NEH funding, the Jacob Burns Film Center and the Brooklyn Historical Society developed Created Equal: Image, Sound, and Story, a program for local middle schools that combines historical study with the media arts. In the classroom, students from Westchester County and Brooklyn use primary sources to investigate the past through the lens of current events—they begin by composing a photograph and conclude by developing their own documentaries.

A participant in an ArtsWestchester event coinciding with the exhibition “HATtitude: The Milliner in Culture & Couture,” which was funded in part by HNY.

EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL ACCESS

NEH and HNY FUNDING in NEW YORK’S SEVENTEENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Historic Hudson Valley
Funder: NEH
Since 1977, the NEH has supported Historic Hudson Valley’s work preserving and interpreting local sites. In the 1990s, NEH funding helped Historic Hudson integrate the history of slavery in the North into its interpretation of Philipsburg Plantation. Recently, the NEH has extended the impact of this effort by supporting two summer institutes for K–12 teachers on the topic and the development of a website, to be launched in 2019, that tells the story of slavery on the plantation and provides educational resources to the broader American public.

Smarthistory, Inc.
Funder: NEH
With more than 37 million page views, Smarthistory.org provides art and cultural history resources to people around the world. An NEH grant helped the organization create its “At Risk Cultural Heritage Education” series (ARCHES). With 10 essays and 20 videos, ARCHES provides in-depth, expert-vetted information about endangered cultural heritage worldwide to students, reporters, and the general public.

Lyndhurst National Trust for Historic Preservation
Funder: HNY
Humanities New York supported the critically-acclaimed exhibition “Defying Labels: New Roles, New Clothes,” which was on view at the 67-acre Lyndhurst estate in 2016. The exhibition, which garnered over 4,000 visitors, told the story of the revolutionary changes in women’s roles from 1880 to 1940 as reflected in their clothes.

Warner Library
Funder: HNY
With support from an HNY grant, the Warner Library, located in Tarrytown, hosted “The Essential Hamilton,” a discussion series that examined the life of Alexander Hamilton and his contributions to the founding of the United States of America.

Suffern Public Library
Funder: HNY
The Suffern Public Library hosted a Reading and Discussion program, entitled “Pulitzer Campfire Readings: Reaching for the American Dream.” The program, which was supported by HNY, convened a group of community members for a deep conversation on the American Dream and other themes from a variety of perspectives.

In New York’s 17th congressional district, grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and Humanities New York (HNY) help build strong local institutions, expand educational access, and foster civic engagement through community conversations. Both NEH and HNY funding spur additional private investments in the humanities.

In the past two years alone, HNY has supported humanities programs that brought together more than 6,000 participants for conversations, readings, exhibitions, presentations, and many other culturally rich events.

BUILDING LOCAL INSTITUTIONS

Lyndhurst
National Trust
for Historic
Preservation
Funder: HNY

Warner Library
Funder: HNY

Suffern Public Library
Funder: HNY

DEFYING LABELS: NEW ROLES, NEW CLOTHES
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CULTIVATING DIALOGUE AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

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