

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

March 20, 2012

The Honorable Michael K. Simpson  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment & Related Agencies  
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson:

We are writing to urge the Appropriations Committee to provide \$154.3 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in fiscal year (FY) 2013, as the President requested.

As you know, NEH is the primary source of federal support for humanities research and related activities in the U.S. The Endowment provides competitive grant funding for research and scholarship in history, literature, foreign languages, and other fields that provide individuals with critical ethical, cultural, and historical perspective. All sectors of our country's education enterprise – research universities, small private institutions, state colleges, and community colleges – use NEH's competitive grants to conserve and nurture America's heritage and educate the next generation of Americans. Additionally, NEH funding allocated through state humanities councils strengthens the cultural infrastructure of local communities in every state and territory across the nation.

When we think of national security, the global economy, and other perennial and pressing concerns, the word "humanities" does not typically come to mind. But it *should*. Investment in the humanities advances vital U.S. interests by fostering a globally competitive workforce, strengthening civic engagement, preserving our cultural heritage, and protecting our national security. As our world becomes more interconnected, building a solid foundation in the humanities becomes even more vital to U.S. interests – that's why virtually all of our CIA analysts, State Department officials and diplomats at embassies across the globe are graduates of the humanities.

NEH has been an outstanding steward of the relatively small amount of federal support it receives annually. Between 1965 and 2009, NEH successfully leveraged more than \$2 billion in non-federal support, including private and institutional contributions. However, current demand for humanities project support far exceeds funding availability and non-federal support for the humanities has declined sharply due to the current economic downturn. Each year, as billions of dollars are rightfully invested in research and education in science and technology, the relative federal investment in the humanities falls further behind. The President's FY 2013 request therefore includes a 3.5 percent increase (\$5 million) to NEH's base budget, as well as a one-time appropriation of \$3 million to support the costs of relocating the NEH from its current

offices in the Old Post Office Pavilion (as mandated by the Old Post Office Building Redevelopment Act of 2008).

We are aware of the many difficult choices your Subcommittee faces in crafting its FY 2013 bill, but we believe that strong federal support for the humanities is needed now more than ever to preserve America's place as a world leader in education and innovation for all fields of learning and help provide our nation's citizenry and workforce with the foundation necessary to tackle the challenges of today's globalized world. We appreciate your past support of NEH and strongly urge your support for this FY 2013 request.

Sincerely,



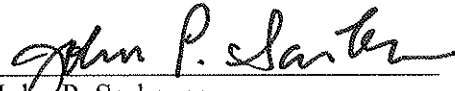
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James P. Moran  
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis  
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John P. Sarbanes  
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Dale Kildee  
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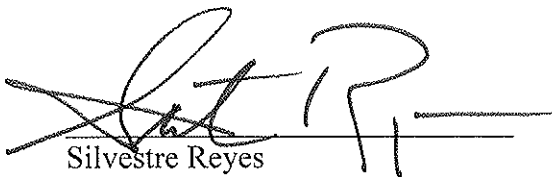
Peter DeFazio  
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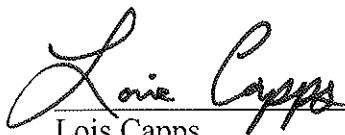
Henry A. Waxman  
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Silvestre Reyes  
Member of Congress



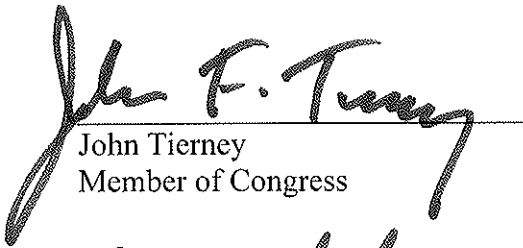
Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress

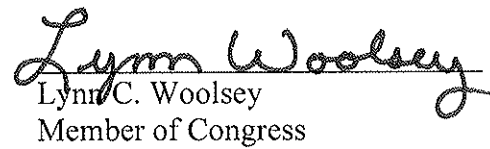



Lois Capps  
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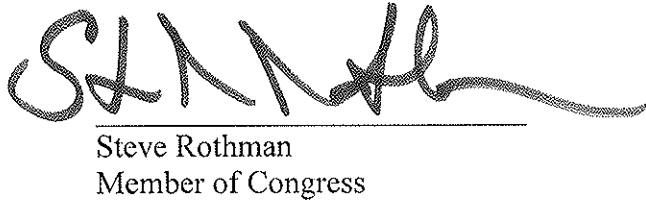
Elijah E. Cummings  
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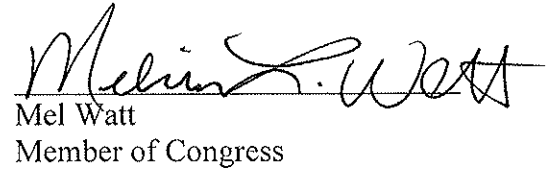
  
John Tierney  
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Lynn C. Woolsey  
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Robert E. Andrews  
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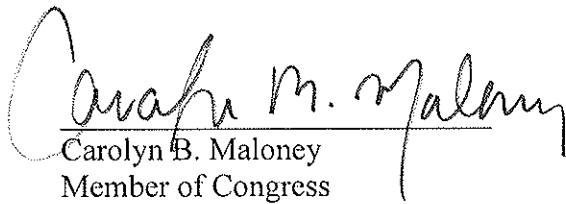
  
Nydia M. Velázquez  
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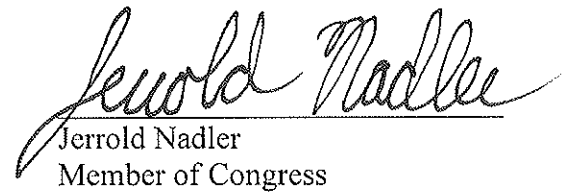
  
Steve Rothman  
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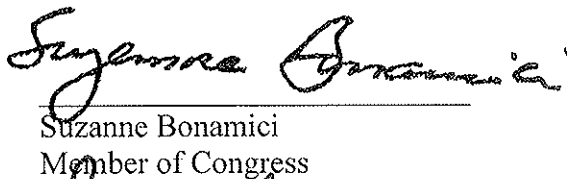
  
Mel Watt  
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Nick J. Rahall, II  
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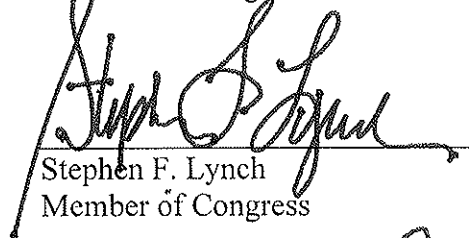
  
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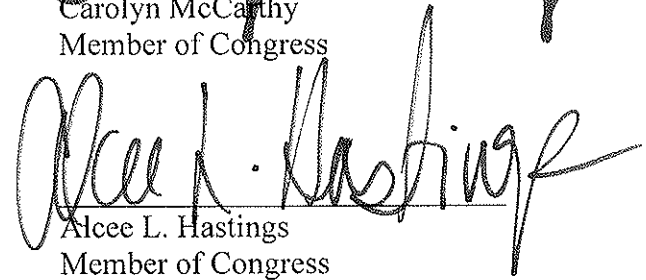
  
Carolyn B. Maloney  
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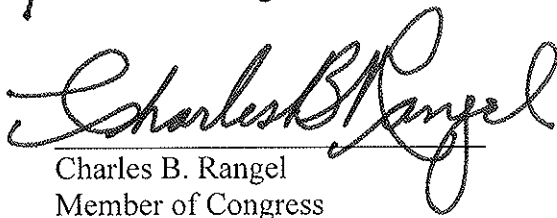
  
Jerrold Nadler  
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Suzanne Bonamici  
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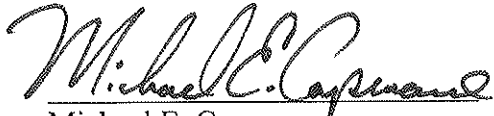
  
Carolyn McCarthy  
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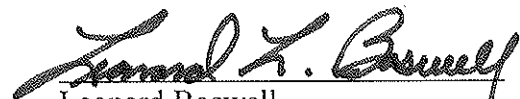
  
Stephen F. Lynch  
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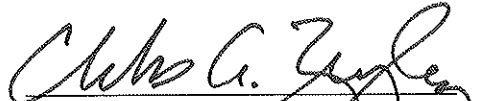
  
Alcee L. Hastings  
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Charles B. Rangel  
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Bill Owens  
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Michael E. Capuano  
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Leonard Boswell  
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Dave Loebsack  
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Chris Van Hollen  
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Russ Carnahan  
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Mike Michaud  
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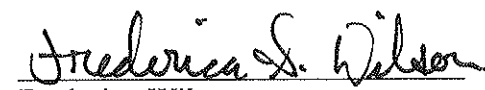
  
Robert A. Brady  
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Rick Larsen  
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James R. Langevin  
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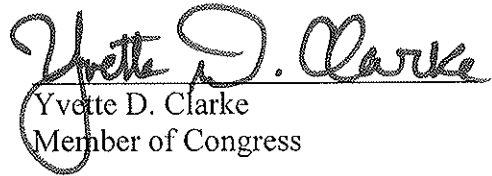
  
David N. Cicilline  
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Lloyd Doggett  
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Frederica Wilson  
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Theodore E. Deutch  
Member of Congress



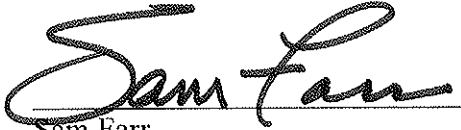
Yvette D. Clarke  
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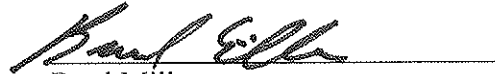
Jim McDermott  
Member of Congress



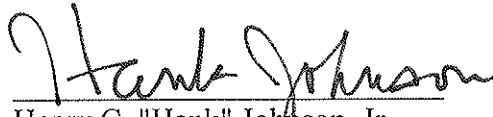
Mike Quigley  
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Sam Farr  
Member of Congress



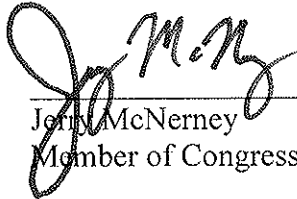
Brad Miller  
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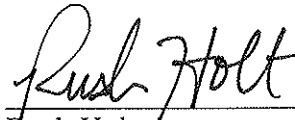
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



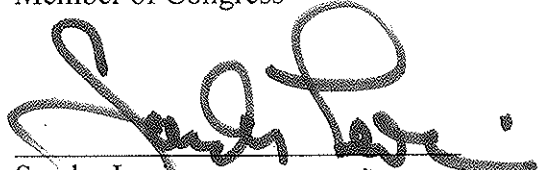
Jerry McNerney  
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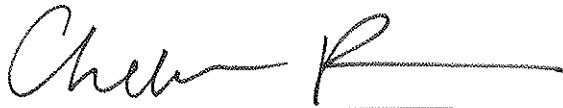
Rush Holt  
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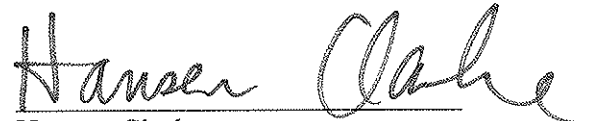
Xavier Becerra  
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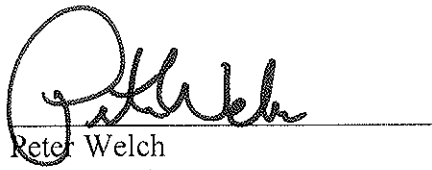
Sander Levin  
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Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



Hansen Clarke  
Member of Congress

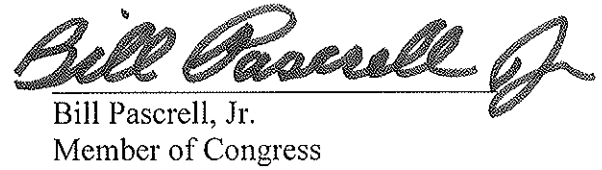


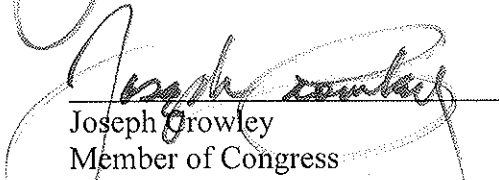
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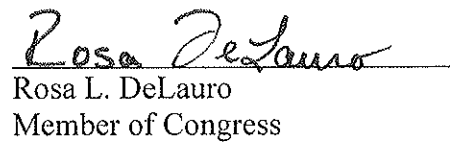


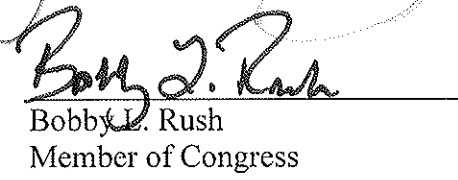
Mazie K. Hirono  
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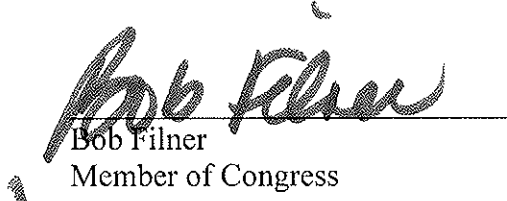
  
Jan Schakowsky  
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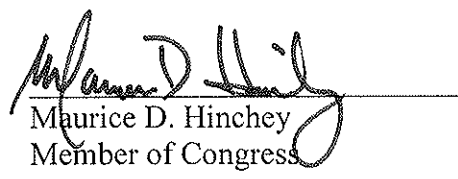
  
Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress

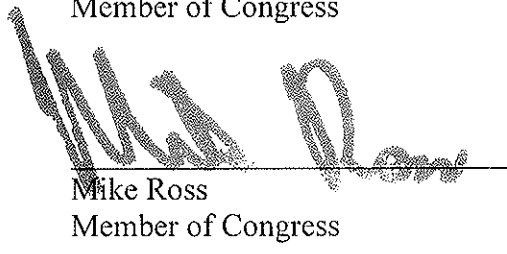
  
Joseph Crowley  
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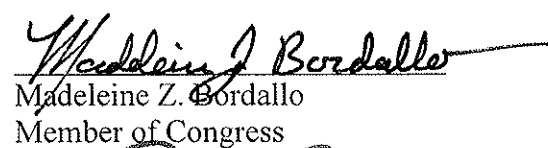
  
Rosa L. DeLauro  
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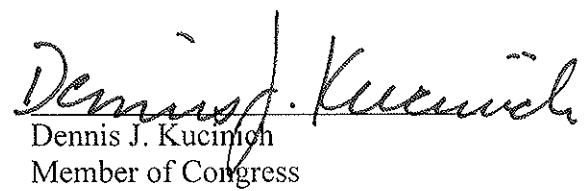
  
Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress

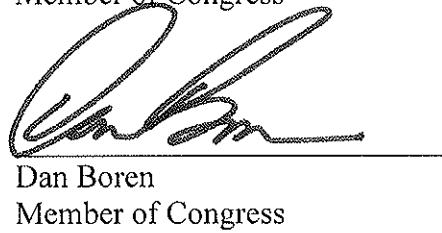
  
Bob Filner  
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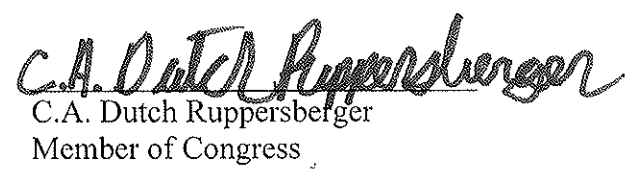
  
Maurice D. Hinchey  
Member of Congress

  
Mike Ross  
Member of Congress

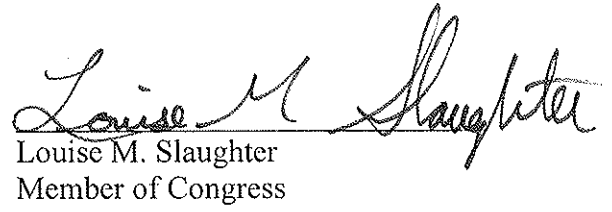
  
Madeleine Z. Bordallo  
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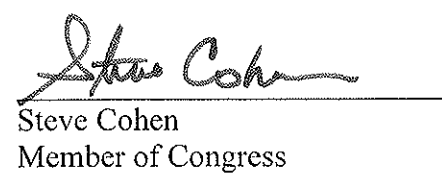
  
Dennis J. Kucinich  
Member of Congress

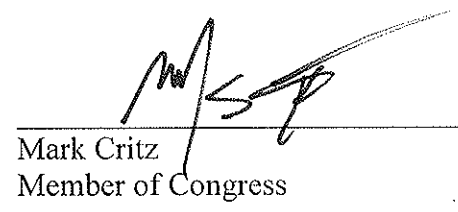
  
Dan Boren  
Member of Congress

  
C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger  
Member of Congress

  
Steve Israel  
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Louise M. Slaughter  
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Steve Cohen  
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Mark Critz  
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*Doris O. Matsui*

Doris O. Matsui  
Member of Congress

*Frank Pallone Jr.*

Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress

*Pete Stark*

Fortney "Pete" Stark  
Member of Congress

*Shelley Berkley*

Shelley Berkley  
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*Gerald E. Connolly*

Gerald E. Connolly  
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*John Yarmuth*

John Yarmuth  
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*Jared Polis*

Jared Polis  
Member of Congress

*David Scott*

David Scott  
Member of Congress

*Colleen Hanabusa*

Colleen Hanabusa  
Member of Congress

*Ben Ray Lujan*

Ben Ray Lujan  
Member of Congress

*Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan*

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan  
Member of Congress

*André Carson*

André Carson  
Member of Congress

*James McGovern*

James McGovern  
Member of Congress

Cc: House Appropriations Committee Chairman Harold Rogers  
House Appropriations Committee Ranking Member Norm Dicks