

# FAST FACTS FOR POLICYMAKERS

## HUMANITIES AND THE UO

The **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)** and other federal humanities programs provide opportunities for collaboration among students and faculty, similar to those in the sciences, and helps sustain the pipeline of young humanities researchers and scholars.

Our scholars advance humanistic knowledge across a variety of disciplines and receive funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and Fulbright.

Our impact is evidenced by our faculty's impressive book publication record and consistent standing in the top 10% of federally funded institutions in humanities.



## TOP 10%

UO'S RANK AMONG INSTITUTIONS WITH NON-STEM FEDERAL HUMANITIES EXPENDITURES OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS

(Based on the weighted average of rank considering expenditures)

Source: NSF 2023 HERD Survey

### Leveraging New Opportunities and Initiatives

The **National Endowment for the Humanities** is entering a period of updated priorities, including new emphasis on public-facing projects tied to the upcoming 250th anniversary of American independence. Through initiatives like Celebrate America!, NEH is encouraging institutions nationwide to support programming that helps communities study, interpret, and commemorate the nation's founding. The University of Oregon remains committed to engaging with these evolving opportunities and continuing its strong record of nationally competitive humanities scholarship.

### Connecting Communities Through the UO's Museums and Cultural Programs

The University of Oregon's **Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art (JSMA)** and **Museum of Natural and Cultural History (MNCH)** enrich Oregon's communities through exhibitions, education, and public programs. Supported by NEH, NEA, and IMLS funding, these museums preserve cultural heritage, expand K-12 education, and bring traveling exhibits to rural communities. In the past decade, federal grants have supported conservation efforts, hands-on learning experiences, and accessibility initiatives, ensuring Oregonians of all backgrounds can engage with history, science, and the arts.

## 7 Historical Federal Humanities Partnerships

- **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)**
- **Title VI/Fulbright/Hays (International Education Programs)**
- **National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)**
- **Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)**
- **Library of Congress**
- **History and Civics (The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 2015)**
- **National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)**

## Making Oregon History Accessible to All

Museums, libraries, and archives in every state hold nationally significant collections that document our country’s history and culture. The NEH provides essential support to ensure these collections are preserved and accessible to the public. At the UO, the **Oregon Digital Newspaper Program (ODNP)** digitizes and preserves historic Oregon newspapers and makes them freely available through a full-text searchable online database.

ODNP now contains more than two million pages from newspapers dating back to 1846, with new titles continually added. In 2025, ODNP received a \$324,907 award through the National Digital Newspaper Program to digitize an additional 100,000 pages from 1855–1963, marking the program’s fourth NEH-funded project. As of January 2025, ODNP has preserved pages from 380 current and historic newspapers statewide.

### Web Views of Historic Newspapers by City 2025

|                        |                            |                           |
|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Portland*.....611,262  | Roseburg*.....209,477      | Cottage Grove*.....97,480 |
| Salem*.....503,782     | Klamath Falls*.....196,095 | Albany*.....85,138        |
| Pendleton*.....216,633 | Oregon City*.....135,271   | Vernonia.....83,357       |
|                        | Astoria*.....128,314       |                           |

Circles indicate number of page views in 2025 for newspapers digitized with NEH funding.

\*NEH funding for some titles in city

