

CT Humanities requests a line item increase to \$4 million (from \$1.36 million) in fiscal year 2026-27.

**Impact:** CT Humanities concentrates its resources for grants and programs to achieve the following results:

- **Capacity, Resilience, and Sustainability:** Invest in the systems and processes, training and practices, and relationships needed to cultivate adaptive and resilient organizations.
- **Civic and Community Learning:** Encourage and support informal learning opportunities (programs, exhibitions, etc.) in public spaces that bring people and communities together, encourage dialogue, and promote our civic health.
- **Community Vibrancy:** Foster collaborations that integrate arts and humanities in our municipalities, main streets, and cultural districts and contribute to quality of life, joy, and pride in our communities.
- **Education:** Connect and support museum and classroom educators to enrich student learning experiences that are aligned with state curriculum frameworks/standards.

**Justification for Request:** In 2025, CT Humanities lost \$1M in funding from NEH. Restoring this with a line item increase to \$2 million will:

- **Fully fund** its operations and administration, including administration of Community Investment Fund planning grant to assess the state of Connecticut’s cultural infrastructure;
- Invest in statewide events and initiatives related to **America 250 | CT**, the state’s commemoration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; and
- Provide **accountability and metrics** for state investments, through surveys to better understand the economic and social impact of arts and culture organizations.

A full investment of \$4 million total in CT Humanities will also support the following initiatives:

- As seen below, when adjusted for inflation \$4 million returns CTH to funding levels from the mid-2000s.
- **Workforce development:** Build a pipeline of cultural workers in collaboration with Connecticut’s colleges and universities to keep talent in Connecticut;
- **Economic impact:** Conduct an economic impact study (in the absence of federal data collection) to understand how arts, humanities, and cultural organization create economic growth in Connecticut;
- **Long-term planning:** Create a ten-year plan for investments in preparation for CT400 in 2036; and
- **Expand granting:** Increase competitive grants to eligible cultural organizations, making up for the loss of other federal funds.

**Funding History:**



