

LOUISIANA
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES



INVESTMENT

IMPACT

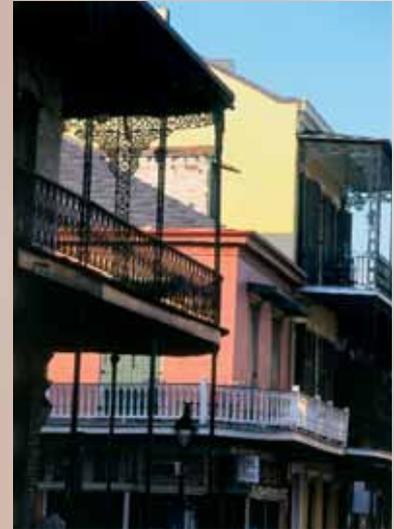
FOR 35
YEARS

Contents:

LEH Timeline . . .	4
Prime Time . . .	6
Family Reading Time	
Teacher Institutes . . .	10
for Advanced Study	
Readings in Literature . . .	12
and Culture (RELIC)	
Louisiana Cultural Vistas . . .	14
Grants . . .	18
Louisiana Publishing Initiative . . .	22
Tennessee Williams /	
New Orleans Literary Festival . . .	24
American Routes . . .	26
Museum on Main Street . . .	28
Louisiana Humanities Center	
at Turners' Hall . . .	30
Honors . . .	32

About the cover —

Historic balconies with intricate wrought iron like these on the corner of Royal and Ursulines streets make the French Quarter one of the most distinct places



in the world. This scene captured by New Orleans photographer Syndey Byrd opened the second of a two-part series in *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* on French Quarter architecture excerpted from the posthumous *Historic Buildings of the French Quarter* by Lloyd Vogt.

duction

For 35 years, from 1971-2005, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities — the Louisiana affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities — fulfilled its mission to bring the humanities to all Louisianians throughout the state. This report is a summary of 35 years of investment and the impact of that investment. We especially want to acknowledge our two principal investors and partners: The National Endowment for the Humanities and the State of Louisiana.



After all these years the question remains . . . What are the humanities and why are they important?

The humanities define us. The humanities tell us who we are as a people, where we have been, where we are, and where we might be going. The humanities teach us about the past, help us understand the present and enrich the future.

The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities' mission has been and continues to be about providing all Louisianians with access to and an appreciation of their own rich, shared and diverse historical, literary, and cultural heritage. We reach people of every educational level through grant-supported outreach programs, family literacy and adult reading initiatives, teacher professional development institutes, publications, film and radio documentaries, museum exhibitions, cultural tourism, public lectures, library projects, and other public humanities programming.

This report is a culmination of 35 years of investment and impact on our state, our communities, and our people.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Sartisky". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael Sartisky, Ph.D.
LEH President, Executive Director

35 YEARS
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ENDOWMENT
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investment > The LEH has invested **\$38.5 million** in humanities

LEH Investments include:

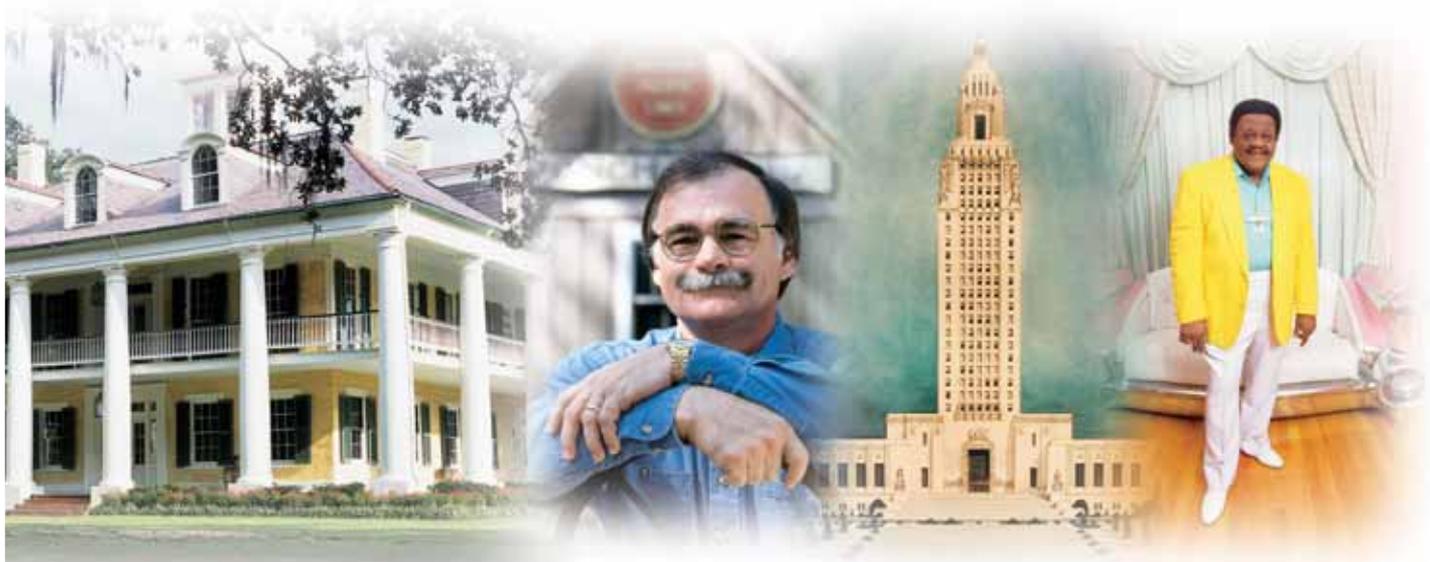
- **\$22.3 million** in grants to collaborative partners throughout the state for humanities programming;
- **\$6.9 million** in developing, implementing, and updating **Prime Time Family Reading Time** across the state and nation;
- **\$3.4 million** invested in producing **Readings in Literature and Culture (RELIC)** programs throughout Louisiana;

- **\$4.4 million** invested in publishing an award winning magazine, **Louisiana Cultural Vistas**, that brings Louisiana's people, stories, history, and culture to a state, national, and international audience;
- **\$1.835 million** in the **Louisiana Humanities Center** at Turners' Hall, the first step in creating a state-of-the-art learning center that will serve the entire state.

programs and projects that, together with funds invested by our collaborative partners, represent a total humanities investment of more than **\$90 million**. To insure that life-long learning for

all Louisianians is a reality, the LEH developed programs to reach out into small towns, to help families break the cycle of intergenerational illiteracy, and to help Louisiana's teachers become better educators.

Above, far left and second from left: Mural of Captain Henry Shreve Clearing the Great Raft From the Red River, by Lloyd Hawthorne, housed at the R.W. Norton Art Gallery in Shreveport; Cajun Mardi Gras masker by Lee Celano.



impact >

An audience of more than **70 million** people has benefited from all LEH-supported programs. **10 million** Louisianians have directly attended Prime Time and RELIC programs, Teacher Institutes, festivals, and events. The total

LEH Impact includes:

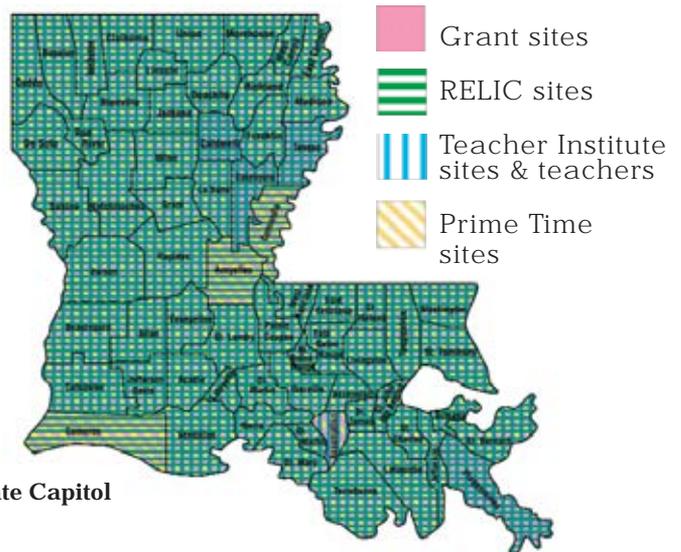
The LEH's programs have reached major audiences:

- **Grants** projects including documentary films and radio programs have reached a total audience of **69 million** people.
- **PRIME TIME** family reading and literacy programs have reached **14,000** Louisianians.
- **RELIC** adult reading and dis-

cussion programs have reached almost **80,000** people.

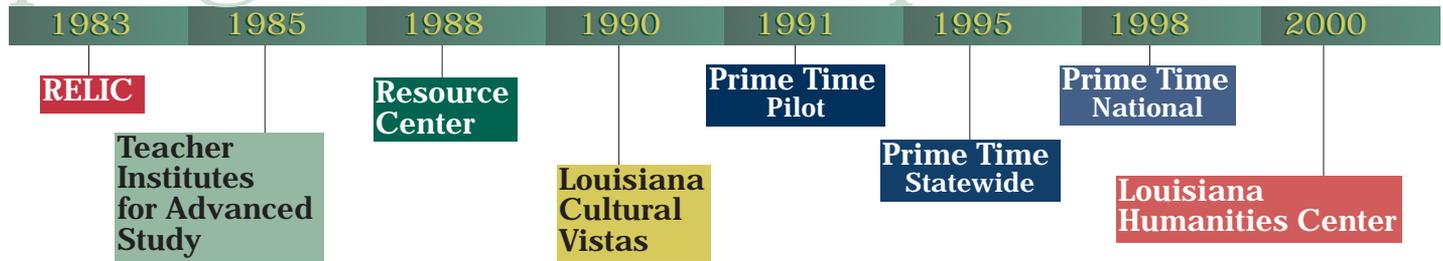
- **Louisiana Cultural Vistas**, the LEH's quarterly publication, is read by **50,000** people annually.

- **Teacher Institutes** programs have enrolled more than **3,400** teachers.



Above, from center to right, Houmas House plantation by Kerri McCaffety; author Tim Gautreaux by Philip Gould; Louisiana State Capitol by Jim Blanchard; Fats Domino by Philip Gould.

program development

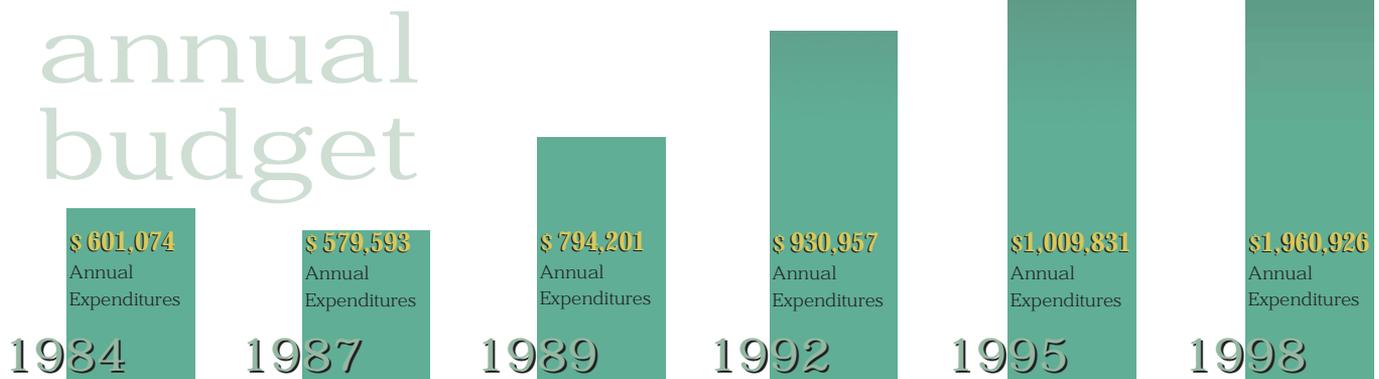


Growth of the LEH

During the 1970s, the LEH essentially acted as a re-grantor of funds, supporting humanities programs and projects throughout Louisiana much like other state humanities councils. During this time, the LEH's budget and staffing stayed relatively flat. Determined that life-long learning opportunities should be available to ALL Louisianians, the LEH became a more active force in community and state education and cultural initiatives in the mid 1980s.

Beginning in the early 1980s, the LEH developed programs that dramatically expanded its reach by breaking down barriers caused by illiteracy and poverty and bringing the humanities to a wider audience in all corners of the state.

These tables depict the time frames of budget growth impact as the LEH identified problems, developed solutions, field-tested them, and finally brought the programs on line.



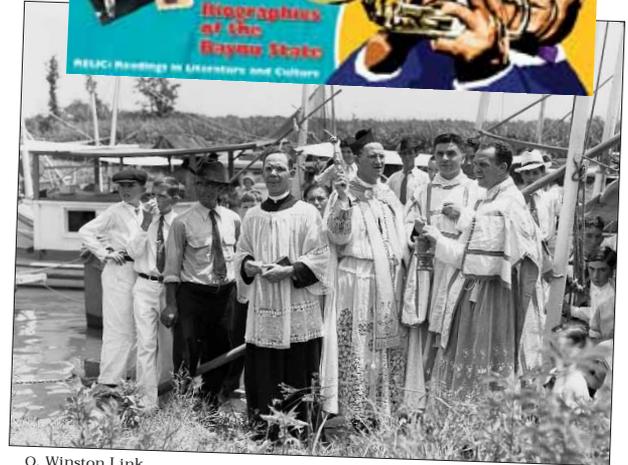
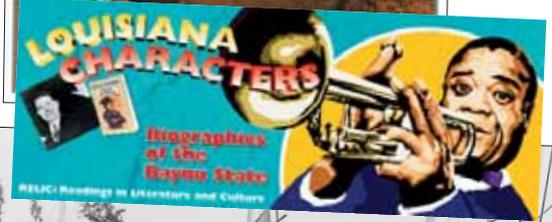
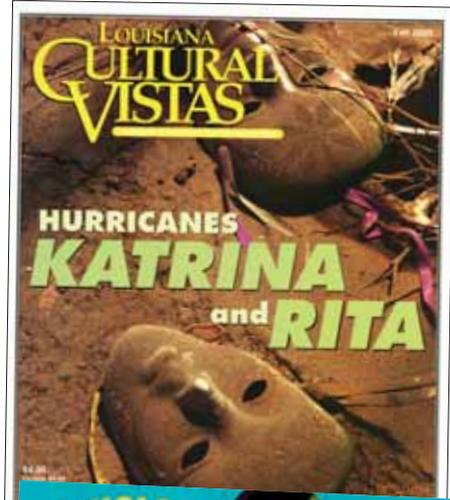


2001 2003 2005

Museum on Main Street

Teaching American History

Capital Campaign



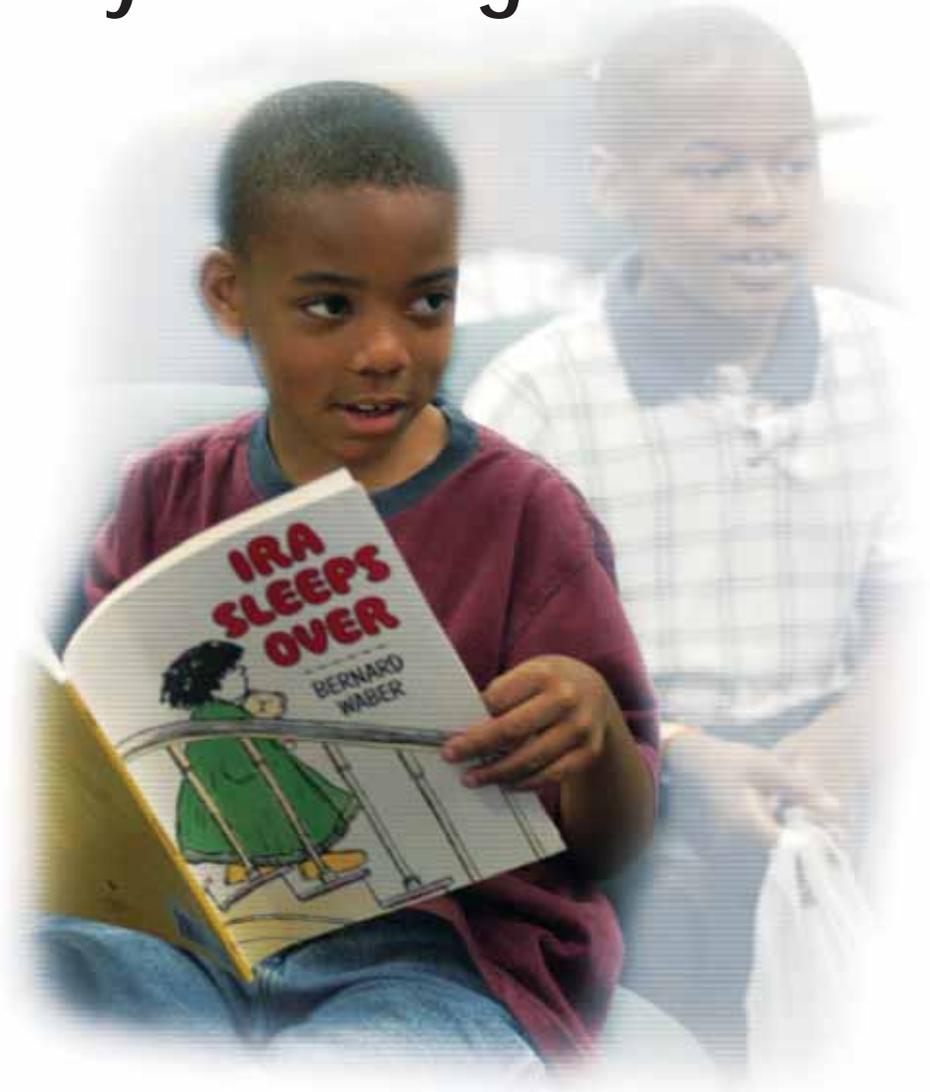
O. Winston Link

Fall 2005 *Louisiana Cultural Vistas*, featuring cover photo of Hurricane Katrina by David Rae Morris. RELIC brochure. "Blessing of the Fleet."

Prime Time Family Reading Time

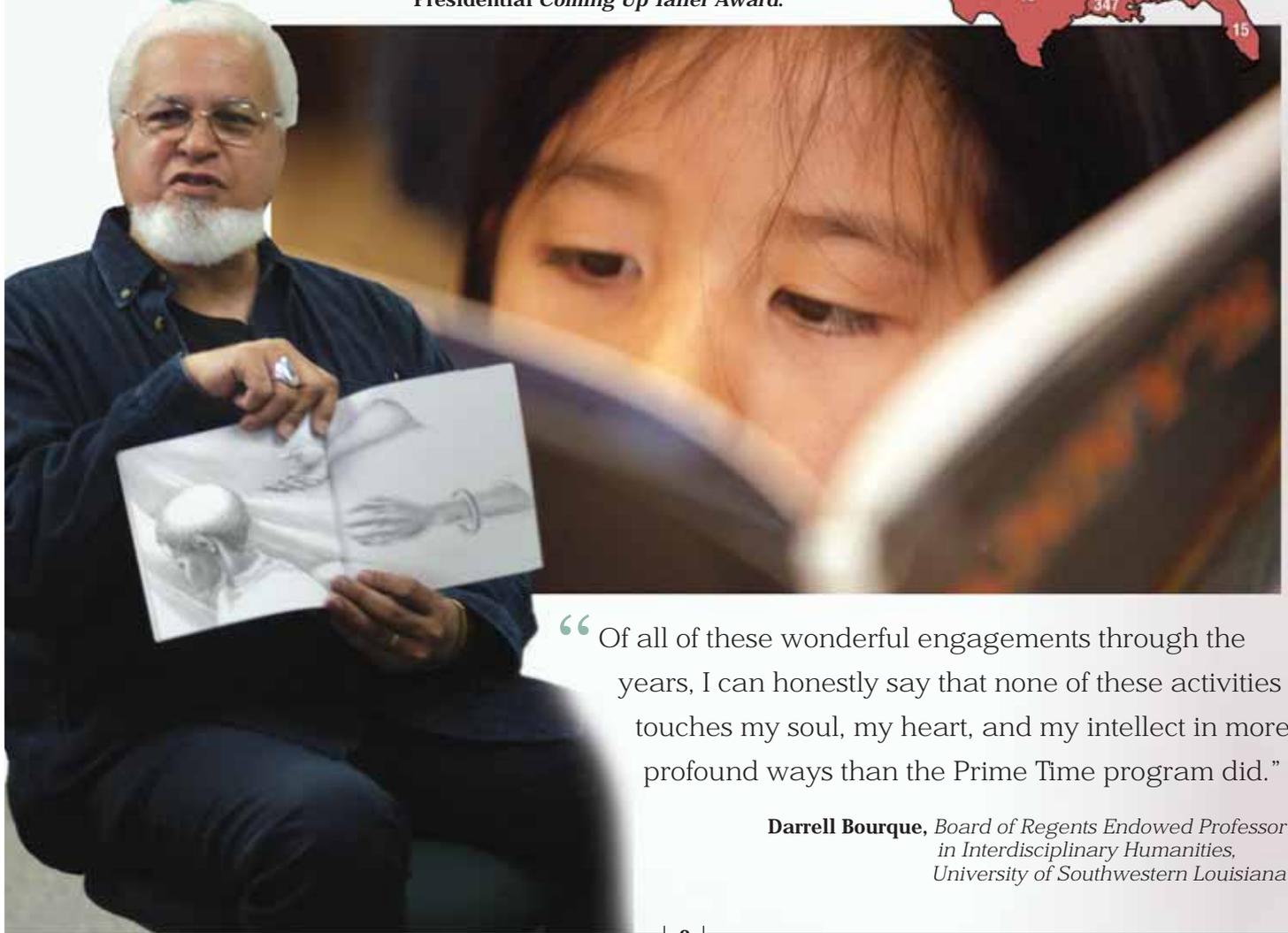
The LEH developed
Prime Time Family
Reading Time

in response to Louisiana's illiteracy crisis and to reach people traditionally not served by humanities programs. **Prime Time Family Reading Time** is an intergenerational, humanities-based literacy program that enables parents with low literacy skills, working with scholars and storytellers, to help their children, ages 6 to 10, read and comprehend. Led by a scholar and a storyteller, this family based literacy program features award-winning children's books that stimulate discussion around the themes of problems faced in everyday life. **Prime Time Family Reading Time** bonds families around the act of reading. It changes behaviors and expectations with parents taking a more active role in their children's education.



35 YEARS
LOUISIANA
ENDOWMENT
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HUMANITIES

Prime Time programs have been modeled and adopted in 36 states and the Virgin Islands and has been named winner of the Presidential *Coming Up Taller* Award.



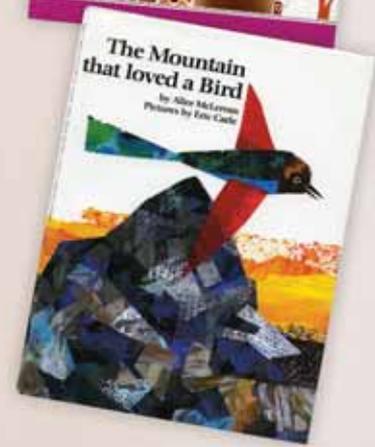
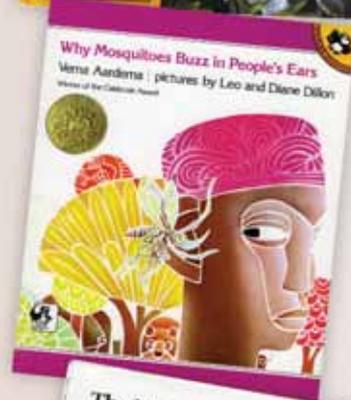
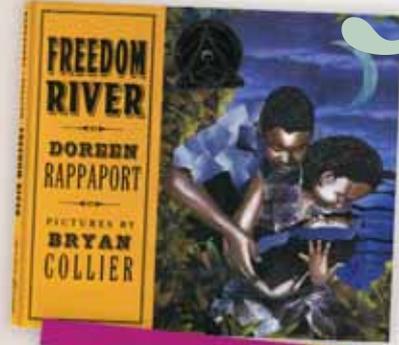
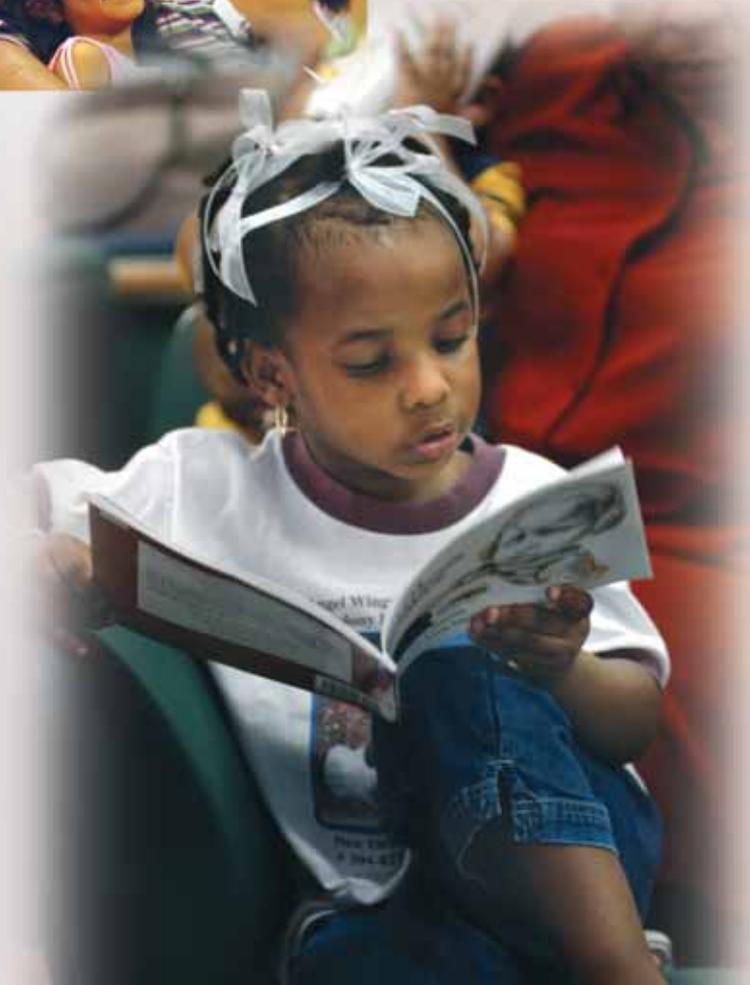
“Of all of these wonderful engagements through the years, I can honestly say that none of these activities touches my soul, my heart, and my intellect in more profound ways than the Prime Time program did.”

Darrell Bourque, *Board of Regents Endowed Professor in Interdisciplinary Humanities, University of Southwestern Louisiana*

literacy



Families bond through sharing books at Prime Time sessions.

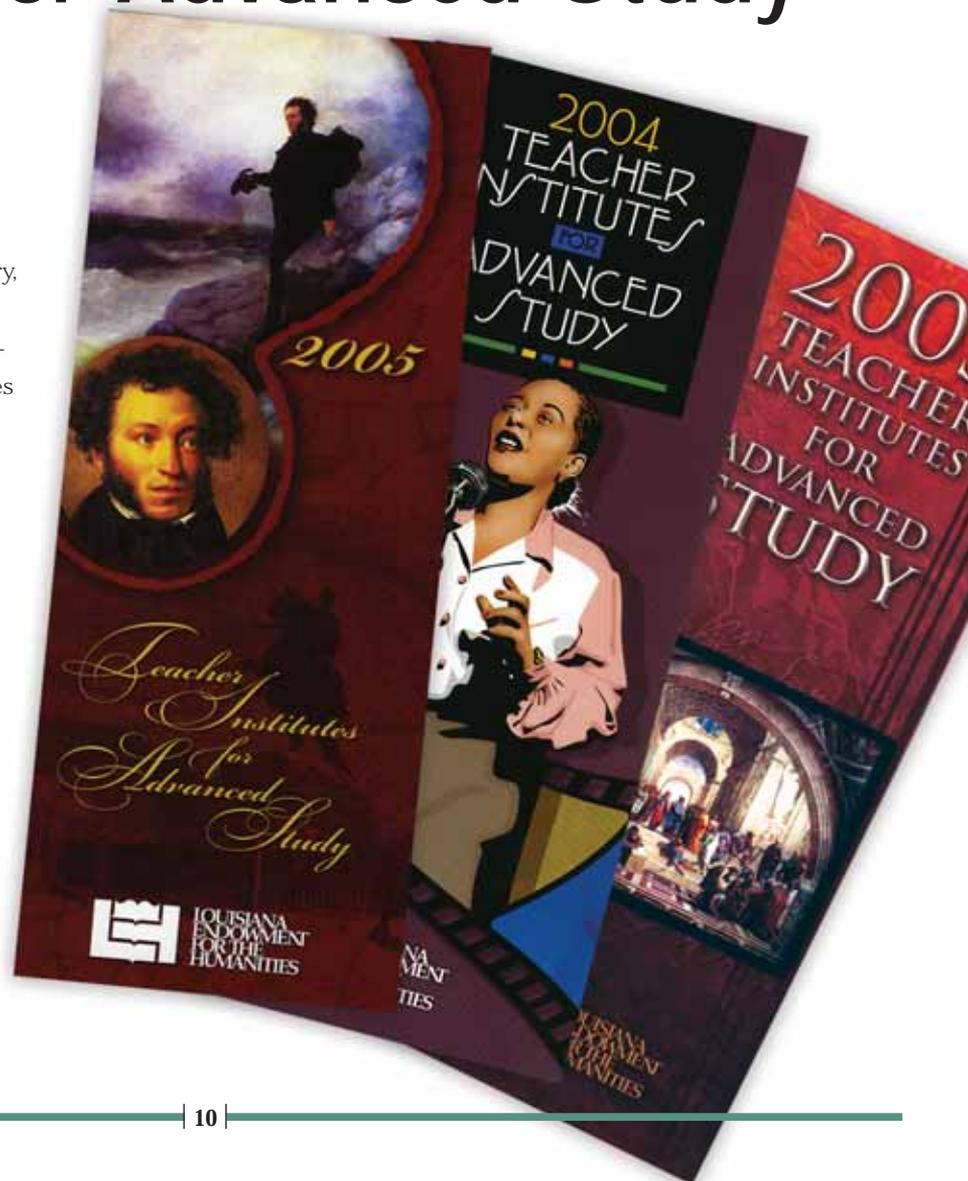




Teacher Institutes for Advanced Study

Since 1985, the LEH has sponsored Teacher Institutes for Advanced Study, intensive summer seminars for Louisiana's elementary, middle, and high school teachers. Led by Louisiana university professors, these graduate-credit institutes provide educators with intellectual stimulation, advanced knowledge, and practical access to improved teaching methods and technology.

The LEH's Teacher Institutes for Advanced Study is the largest program of its kind in the country. That sustained success led in 2003 and 2005 to the LEH winning two \$1 million Teaching American History grants from the U.S. Department of Education.



education

investment > LEH Teacher Institutes

for Advanced Study represent an investment of **\$6.4 million** in teacher professional development. The LEH's collaborative university partners have invested or contributed an additional **\$5 million** in tuition and fee waivers.

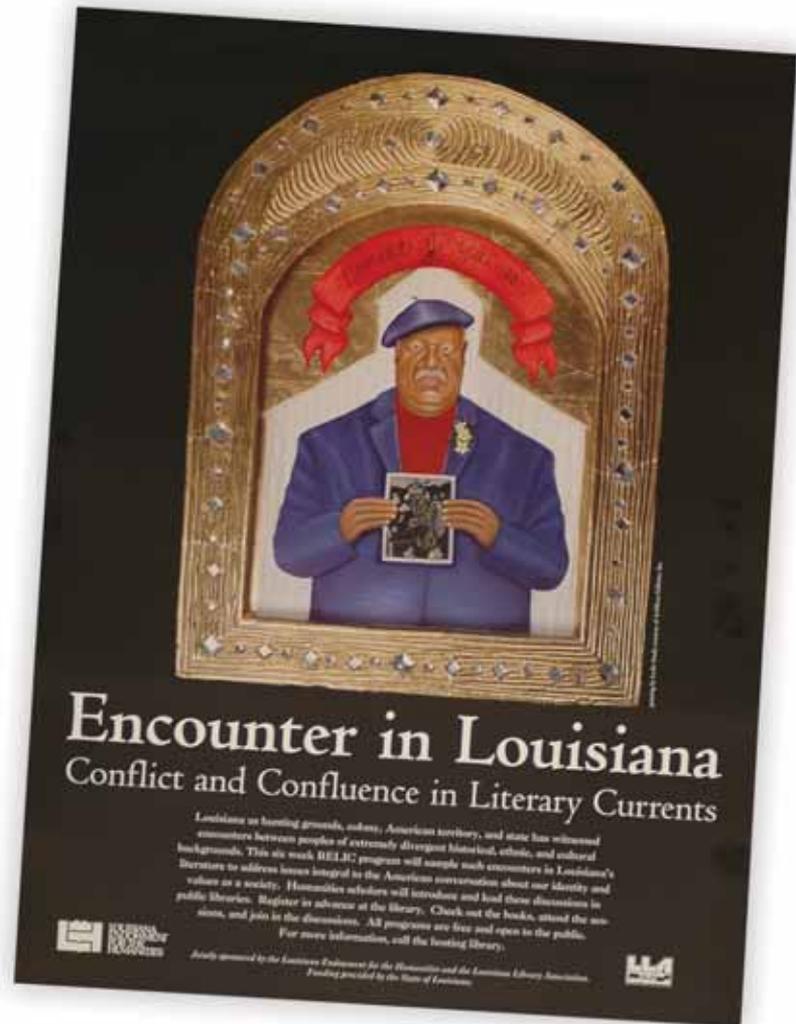


impact > Since 1985, more than **3,400 teachers** attended 176 graduate-level Teacher Institutes. Teacher participants have come from **61 of Louisiana's 64 parishes**. These educators teach nearly **500,000 students** annually.

Readings in Literature and Culture

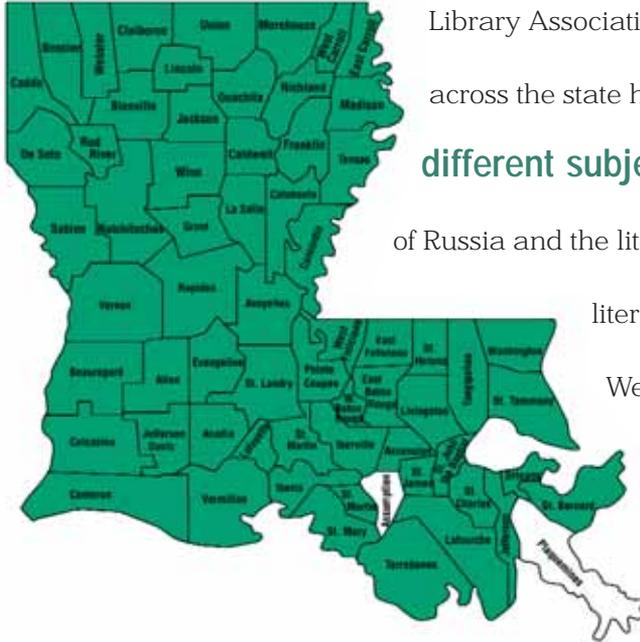
The LEH developed RELIC in 1983 after a review of grant making in the early 1980s showed that rural areas of the state were not applying for grants and that libraries were not conducting adult reading and discussion programs as integral parts of their mission. RELIC has helped Louisiana libraries create public forums on topics of literature and history throughout the state.

RELIC has become one of the most important programs available to public libraries, especially among the many that serve rural parts of Louisiana. Typically, these libraries lack sufficient staff and financial resources to develop comprehensive, engaging adult reading and discussion programs. Instead, RELIC offers a “turn-key” alternative, staffed with university scholars and featuring a wide variety of topics.



investment > More than **\$3.4 million** has been invested in RELIC, including more than **\$1 million** in competitive grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

impact > RELIC is the most widespread and well-attended adult library reading program in the nation with total attendance of almost **80,000** and programs in **62 of Louisiana's 64 parishes**. RELIC has conducted 684 six-week programs, with an average attendance of 118 persons. ■ In partnership with the Louisiana



Library Association and the State Library, more than **100 libraries** across the state have hosted RELIC programs. RELIC has offered **24 different subjects**, from Louisiana history and literature to the history of Russia and the literature of Canada and Latin America, from women's literature to the history of World War II, from the American West to southeastern Native Americans. ■ RELIC programs have been led by 240 scholars from 28 educational institutions, 22 of which are four-year universities.

Louisiana Cultural Vistas magazine exists because not everyone in Louisiana is Cajun, because Louisiana is more than New Orleans, college football, and great food. *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* exists because Louisiana is far greater than the sum of its parts. For 15 years, *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* has focused on the state's culture, arts, and history. This rich and substantive magazine brings to the printed page the best in visuals and text from Louisiana scholars, artists, photographers, fiction writers, poets, essayists, and critics.

Families pay homage to the deceased on All Saints' Day in Lacombe, Louisiana.



ication

investment > Through an investment of **\$4.4 million**

and **15 years of publication**, *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* has

published **4,600 pages** of articles

on Louisiana, forming the basis

for the future Louisiana online

Encyclopedia.



impact > *Louisiana*

Cultural Vistas has taken

the state to a national and international audience of

50,000 readers annually. Since 1994, *Louisiana*

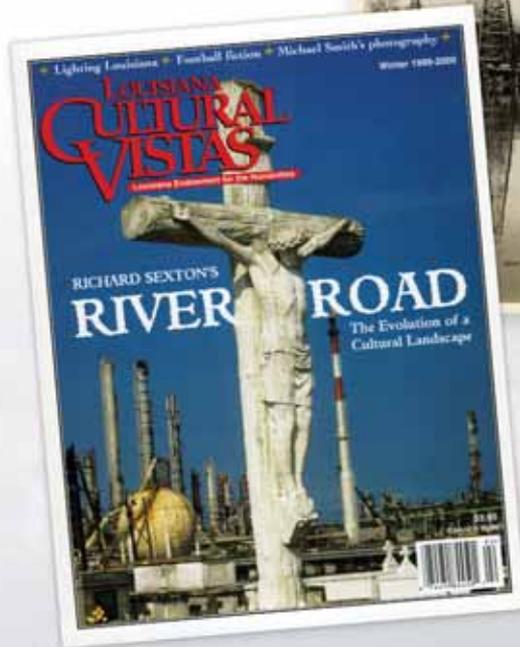
Cultural Vistas has won **65 Press Club of New Orleans**

awards for excellence, including best publication five times

since 1996.

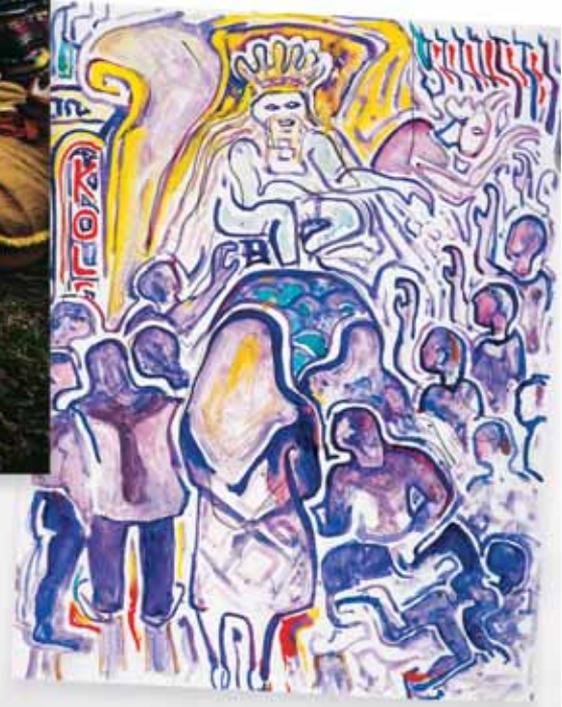
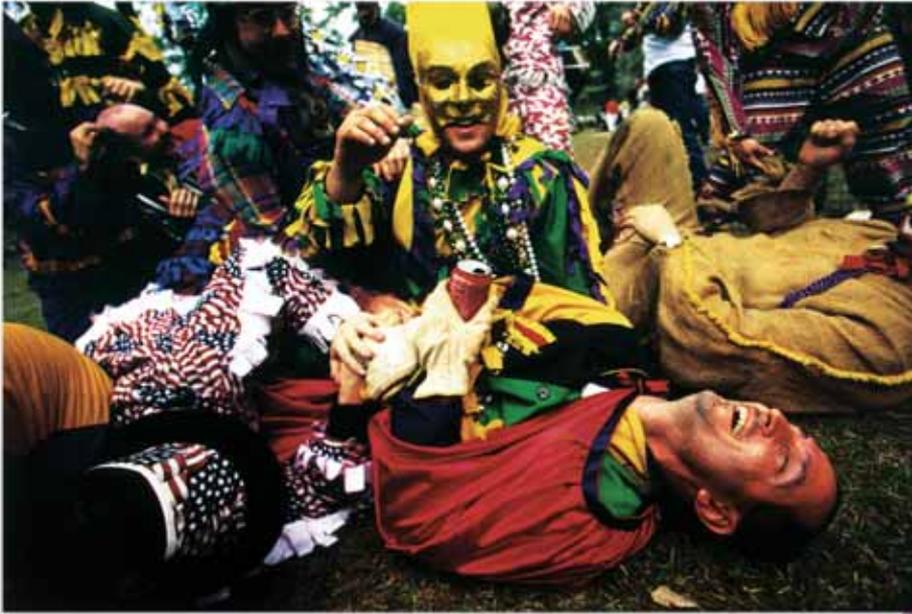
Photograph by Owen Murphy

35 YEARS
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ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES



“ [The humanities are] the force of memories in our lives and how we learn, preserve our family identities, the identities of our communities, our backgrounds, our shared heritage. . . . The humanities are important because they teach us about ourselves. They hold up a mirror, not only to our communities, our history but in a very real way, our souls.”

Jason Berry, LEH Humanist of the Year, May 2002



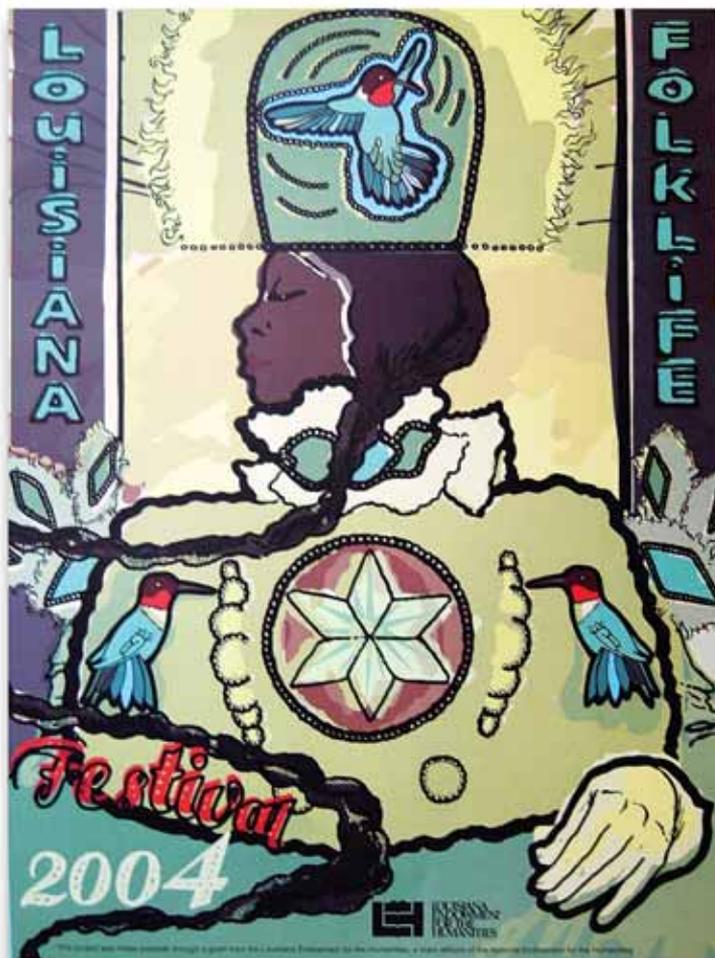
Among *Louisiana Cultural Vistas*' topics have been a photo essay on River Road by photographer Richard Sexton (far left), the art of North Louisiana artist Clementine Hunter (left), Caddo Parish oil fields (above left), a Cajun Mardi Gras pictorial by Lee Celano (above), the art of New Orleans native son Walter Anderson (right), and South Louisiana landscapes by Nell Campbell (below).



Outreach Grants Public Humanities Grants

LEH grants support a wide range of needs and interests in a state of such great diversity. LEH's collaborative partners include Louisiana universities, libraries, museums, cultural centers, historical societies, community groups, and grassroots organizations in both urban and rural areas. Grantees have included local librarians and museum directors, as well as Emmy and Academy Award nominated filmmakers, and Pulitzer Prize winning authors.

The LEH has long supported the popular annual Louisiana Folklife Festival in Monroe.

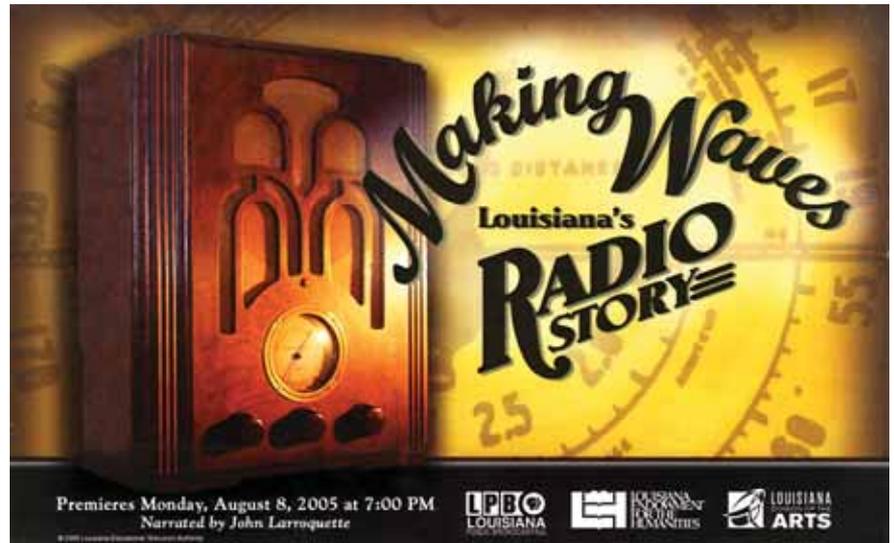




Documentary Film and Radio Grants

Documentary Film & Radio Grants are the LEH's most cost-effective grants. They have the potential to reach the state's and nation's entire population through public television or radio. For more than 20 years, LEH has supported documentary film and radio projects about Louisiana. Among the films which received LEH support are:

- Huey Long
- Shalom Y'all
- Louisiana Boys: Raised on Politics
- Uncle Earl
- All on a Mardi Gras Day
- Journey for Justice:
 The A.P. Tureaud Story
- Haunted Waters, Fragile Land



- Up From the Cradle of Jazz
- Something Nobody Else Has:
 The Story of Turtle Trapping
 in Louisiana
- Hidden Nation
- The Baroness and Her Buildings
- Swapping Stories:
 Folktales from Louisiana

& radio

investment > The LEH

has invested **\$3.2 million** in
157 documentary film and radio projects.

impact > Based upon

television and radio ratings,

LEH-funded documentary films and radio

programs have been seen or heard by an

estimated **60 million Americans.**

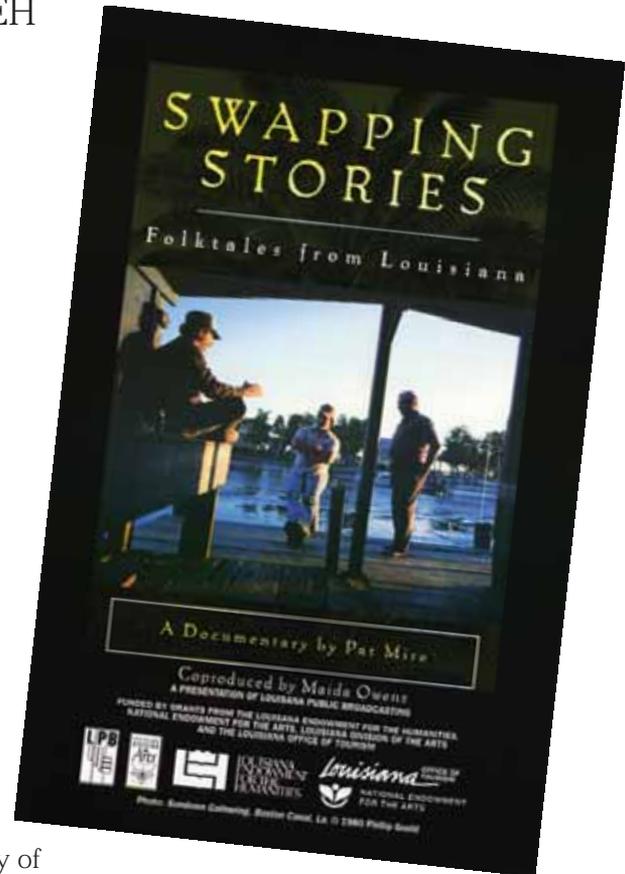
The LEH established the Louisiana

Humanities Resource Center at the State Library of

Louisiana in order to archive and circulate the 157 documentary films produced through

this program, making them available to any Louisiana resident with a library card.

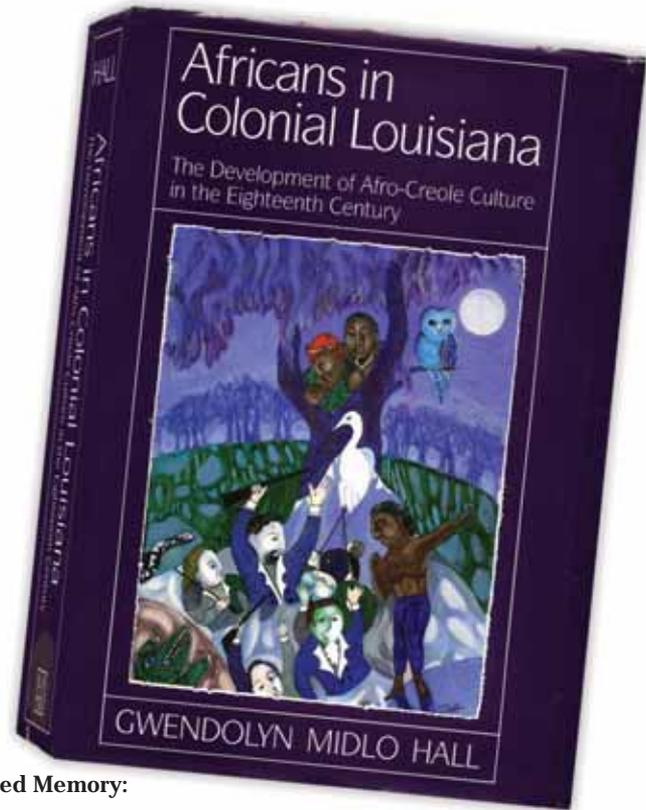
These films let Louisiana tell its own story to the world.



Louisiana Publishing Initiative

The Louisiana Publishing Initiative (LPI) has increased the quantity and the quality of books published on Louisiana topics in the humanities that are of interest to general audiences. Through the LPI, more than 100 books have been published on Louisiana's history and culture. Books that otherwise may have never been published have brought Louisiana, its people, and their stories, to the nation.

- **Unveiling Kate Chopin**
by Emily Toth
- **Elysium-A Gathering of Souls**
by Sandra Russell Clark
- **The Kingdom of Zydeco**
by Michael Tisserand
- **War Stories:**
Remembering World War II
by Elizabeth Mullener
- **On My Way:**
The Art of Sarah Albritton
by Susan Roach



- **Troubled Memory:**
Anne Levy, the Holocaust
& **David Duke's Louisiana**
by Lawrence Powell
- **The Cajuns: Americanization**
of a People
by Shane Bernard
- **Buildings of Louisiana**
by Karen Kingsley
- **The Civil War Diary**
of Sarah Morgan
by Charles East

OKS investment >

The LEH has invested **\$732,000** to assist in the publishing of more than **100 books**.

impact > No other organization

has done more to bring Louisiana's history, people,

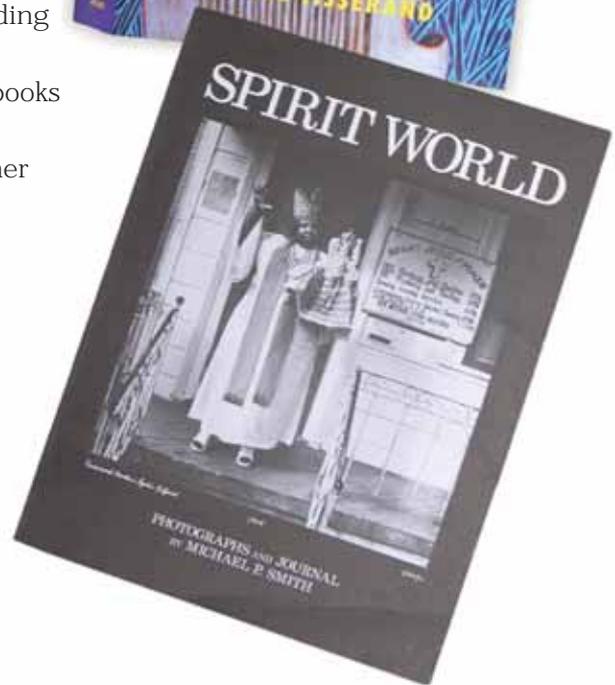
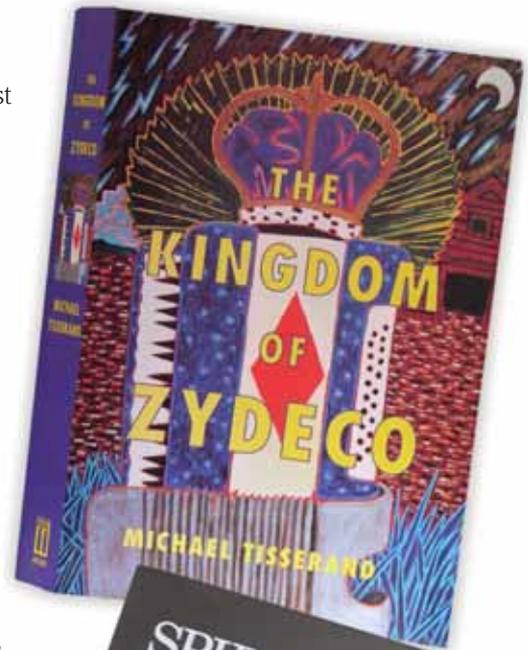
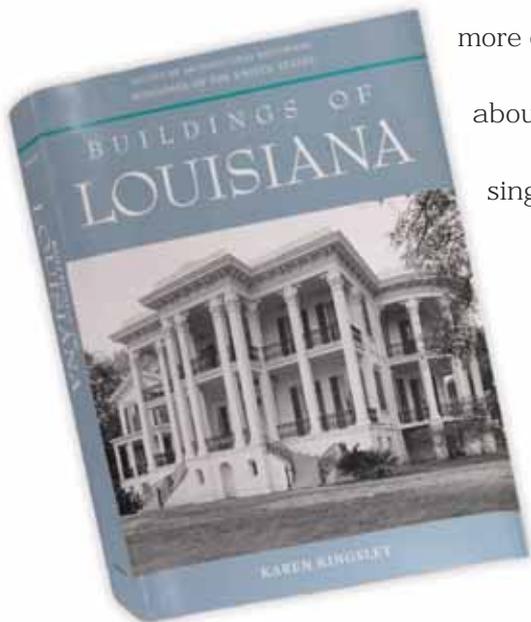
and culture before national and international

audiences. The LEH is responsible for funding

more documentary films and books

about Louisiana than any other

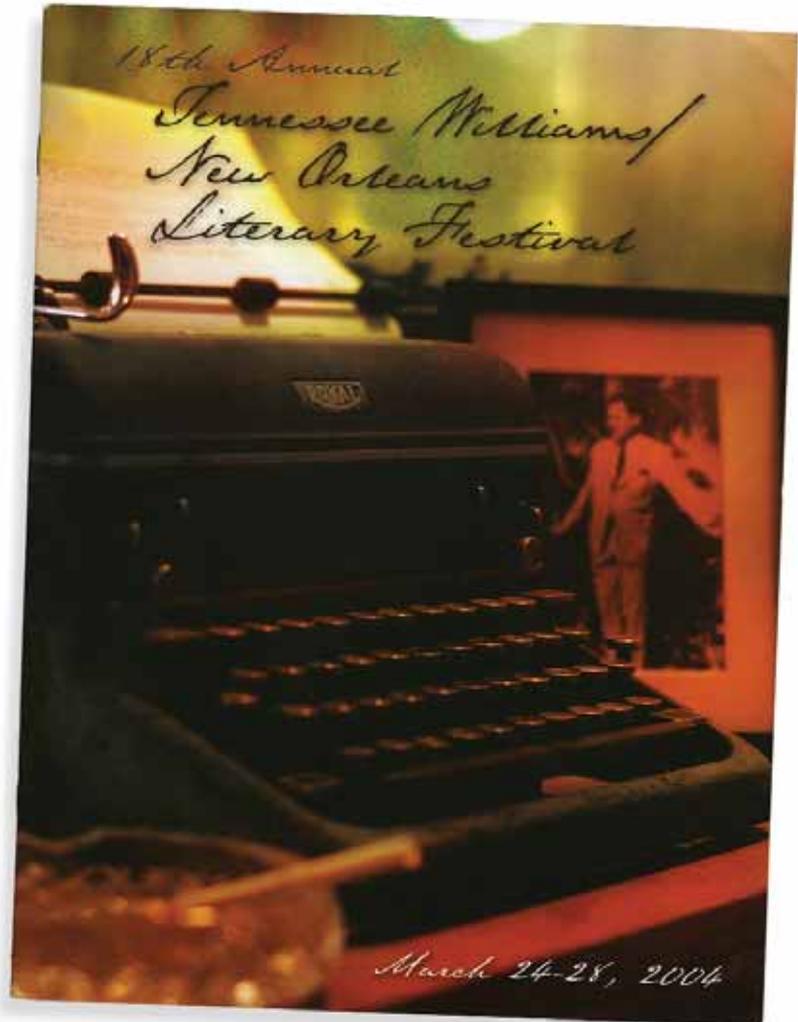
single organization.



Tennessee Williams New Orleans Literary Festival

The Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival, funded by the LEH for 18 years from 1988 to 2005, is one of the top 10 literary festivals in the country. Today, the Festival's offices are housed at the Louisiana Humanities Center at Turners' Hall.

Participants have included Pulitzer Prize winners, National Book Award Finalists, and best-selling writers such as Douglas Brinkley, Ernest Gaines, John Barry and the late Stephen Ambrose and George Plimpton.



investment >

Since 1988, the LEH has invested
\$281,365 in the festival.

impact >

Annual festival attendance exceeds
10,000. The Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary

Festival's total economic impact in New Orleans is
nearly **\$1 million annually**.



The Tennessee Williams / New Orleans Literary Festival celebrates the noted playwright and his works, such as "A Streetcar Named Desire" depicted in the still shot at the right from the 1951 movie starring Marlon Brando and Vivien Leigh.

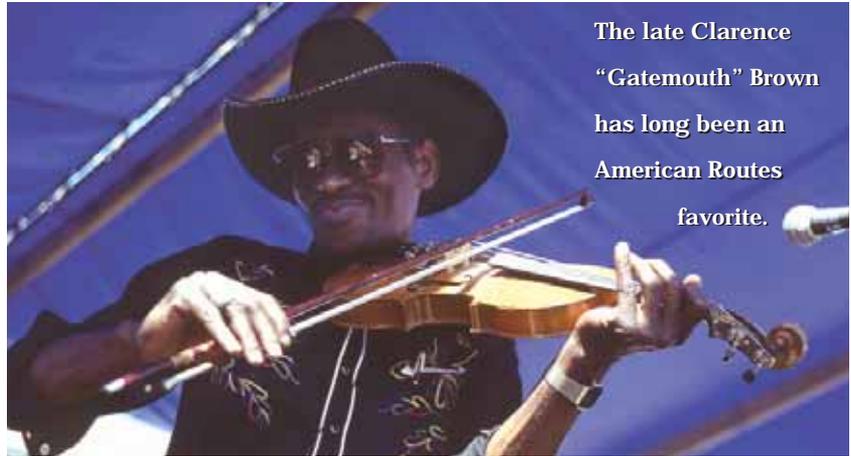


millis

American Routes

American Routes is a two-hour, national weekly public radio program produced in New Orleans. It presents a broad range of music and interviews that includes blues and jazz, gospel and soul, old-time country and rockabilly, Cajun and Zydeco, Tejano and Latin, roots rock and pop, avant-garde and classical. American Routes explores the shared musical, historical and cultural threads in these American styles and genres. Among the Louisiana musicians featured on the program are:

- Lucinda Williams
- Dr. John
- Preservation Hall Jazz Band
- Mahalia Jackson
- Hackberry Ramblers
- Ernie K-Doe
- Michael White
- Fats Domino
- Buckwheat Zydeco



The late Clarence
"Frogman" Brown
has long been an
American Routes
favorite.

Photograph
by Syndey Byrd

- Henry Butler
- Professor Longhair
- Aaron Neville
- Allen Toussaint
- Harold Batiste
- Deacon John
- Mamou Playboys
- Lazy Lester
- Queen Ida
- Henry Gray
- Buddy Guy
- Jerry Lee Lewis
- Clarence "Frogman" Henry
- Rebirth Brass Band
- Wild Magnolias
- Dave Bartholomew
- Irma Thomas
- Kermit Ruffins
- Harold Dejan
- Wynton Marsalis
- Dale Hawkins
- Nellie Lutcher
- Nathan Williams
- Nicholas Payton
- Ellis Marsalis
- Marcia Ball
- Beau Jacque
- Bruce Daigrepont

ic investment > The LEH has invested \$739,000

in American Routes to help bring Louisiana's music and culture to a national and international audience.

impact > More than 500,000 listeners

tune in to American Routes every week.

The nationally syndicated program

is aired in more than **200 media**

markets in 41 states.



Alabama
Alaska
Arizona
Arkansas
California
Colorado
Dist. of Columbia
Hawaii
Idaho

Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine

Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Mexico

New York
North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
South Carolina
South Dakota

Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Virginia
Washington
Wisconsin
Wyoming

American Routes often highlights New Orleans jazz greats, such as Preservation Hall legend Joseph “Fan” Bourgeois.



Photograph by Bob Coke



rural

Museum on Main Street

In 2000, the LEH formed an exclusive partnership with the Smithsonian Institution to bring its Museum on Main Street program to rural Louisiana. One-third of Louisianians live in rural communities and those that have museums can seldom afford to develop or attract major exhibitions. The Museum on Main Street program provides small towns with the opportunity to host high-quality traveling exhibitions that they would never be able to obtain independently.



MOMS exhibits included a poster of Rosie the Riveter encouraging Americans during World War II and artwork of “Past Visions of the American Future.”

outreach

investment >

The LEH has invested **\$90,000** in two

Museum on Main Street programs — **Produce for Victory: Posters on the American Home Front**

and **Yesterday's Tomorrows: Past Visions of the American Future** — paying for exhibit rental and

providing funding for local humanities programming at the host sites. **Key Ingredients: America**

by Food, the third Museum on Main Street exhibit, will focus on food and culture.

Produce for Victory: Posters on the American Home Front, 1941-1945

- Herbert S. Ford Memorial Museum / Homer (Claiborne Parish)
- Hermione Museum / Tallulah (Madison Parish)
- Louisiana Political Museum and Hall of Fame / Winnfield (Winn Parish)
- West Baton Rouge Museum / Port Allen (West Baton Rouge Parish)
- Zigler Museum / Jennings (Jefferson Davis Parish)
- Varnado Store Museum / Franklinton (Washington Parish)

Yesterday's Tomorrows: Past Visions of the American Future

- Webster Parish Library / Minden (Webster Parish)
- Princess Theatre / Winnsboro (Franklin Parish)
- Jeanerette Museum / Jeanerette (Iberia Parish)
- Brimstone Museum / Sulphur (Calcasieu Parish)
- Iberville Museum / Plaquemine (Iberville Parish)
- Old Town Hall Museum / Pineville (Rapides Parish)

impact >

The six rural Louisiana museums that hosted

Produce for Victory, reported:

- A 100-percent increase in attendance during the exhibit's run.
- An ongoing 50-percent increase in average yearly attendance after the exhibit closed.
- A total economic impact for their communities in excess of \$500,000 representing a return of more than 600 percent on the LEH's investment.



bric

Turners' Hall

The Louisiana Humanities Center

&

Turners' Hall Today

In December 2000, the LEH purchased Turners' Hall, a historically and architecturally significant building in the New Orleans Central Business District. LEH acquired the 30,000-square-foot building and 27-space adjacent parking lot for \$1.835 million. Today, the building is fully paid for and because of the building's architectural and historical significance and quality of construction, replacement value for the building is an estimated \$8 million with the land valued at an additional \$2 million.

The LEH moved into the Louisiana Humanities Center at Turners' Hall in New Orleans in 2000.



Photograph by Robert Brantley

ks mortar

Turners' Hall Tomorrow

The Louisiana Humanities Center Capital Campaign

will enable the LEH to develop a fully functional distance learning humanities center that will serve ALL Louisianians. Efficient space design and state-of-the-art learning technology—whether in the auditorium or in the seminar rooms—will enable presenters and participants opportunities to access a world of information and to share knowledge with each other and with colleagues.

Among the highlights will be:

- The PrimeTime Family Reading Time Literacy Center on the first floor with offices for PrimeTime, RELIC, and other LEH staff, and a multi-use auditorium



that can be converted to a conference room or meeting space.

- A totally wireless environment will connect video conferenc-

ing equipment to give program participants seamless communication on-site, throughout the state, and nation.

35 Years of Honors and Recognition

awards >

PRIME TIME:

Prime Time Family Reading Time, between 1995 and 2005, received seven competitive national NEH grants as well as 14 grants from private foundations, community organizations, and other federal agencies.

■ **Coming Up Taller** (2000): Bestowed by the U.S. President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities

■ **Helen and Martin Schwartz Prize** (2000): Presented by the Federation of State Humanities Councils

■ **Public Library Association's Advancement of Literacy Award** (2003): In recognition of Prime Time's contribution to the advancement of adult literacy projects.

RELIC:

■ **NEH's Exemplary Project Award and American Association for State and Local History's Award of Merit** for "Southern Voices: The Conflict of Myth and History"

1993 the magazine has been recognized **twice for best editorial writing** and **10 times for the Best Photo Story**.

Grants Program:

In 1995, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities received an **Award of Merit from the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH)** in recognition of the LEH's high level of achievement in local, state, and regional history. Additionally, the **AASLH has recognized 55 other LEH-funded projects** for their excellence. Included in those awards are 24 Documentary Film and Radio projects funded by the LEH, 18 Program Grants funded in collaboration with our partnering organizations around Louisiana, and seven publications.

In national competition, the LEH has won **15 competitively awarded federal grants** totaling more than **\$4.5 million**.

Louisiana Cultural Vistas:

Louisiana Cultural Vistas has been **recognized by the Press Club of New Orleans 65 times** for excellence. Included in those awards, Cultural Vistas has been awarded **First Place for Best Publication five times** between 1996 and 2005. Additionally, since



Humanist of the Year

Beginning in 1985, the LEH began celebrating the humanities with a series of awards that recognize contributions to the humanities in Louisiana. The awards honor individuals for Lifetime



Gov. Kathleen Blanco
congratulates 2005 Humanist of
the Year Carl Brasseaux.

Contribution to the Humanities, The Chair's Institutional Award, Louisiana Book of the Year, Teacher of the Year, and Humanist of the Year. The Louisiana Humanist of the Year award honors individuals who have encouraged public consideration of issues central to the

humanities; participated in public programs in libraries, museums, or other cultural institutions; or published important works in the humanities.

- 1985: Stephen Ambrose**, historian, University of New Orleans
- 1986: Joe Gray Taylor**, historian, McNeese State University
- 1987: Lewis P. Simpson**, literary scholar, Louisiana State University
- 1988: Huel D. Perkins**, educator, Louisiana State University
- 1989: Ernest Gaines**, author, University of Southwestern Louisiana
- 1990: Patricia and Milton Rickels**, educators, Southeastern Louisiana University
- 1991: Earle Labor**, literary scholar/ editor, Centenary College
- 1992: Jessie Jean Poesch**, art historian, Newcomb College of Tulane University
- 1993: Donald E. Stanford**, literary scholar
- 1994: Gwendolyn Midlo Hall**, historian, University of New Orleans
- 1996: Ralph Lee Woodward, Jr.**, historian
- 1997: Richard Ford**, author and literary scholar
- 1998: Peggy Whitman Prenshaw**, literary scholar, Louisiana State University
- 1999: Lawrence Powell**, historian, Tulane University
- 2000: Joseph G. Tregle, Jr.**, historian, University of New Orleans
- 2001: Glenn Conrad**, historian, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- 2002: Jason Berry**, independent scholar and writer
- 2003: Beth Willinger**, director, Newcomb College Center for Research on Women
- 2004: Douglas Brinkley**, historian, author, director of the Eisenhower Center for American Studies
- 2005: Carl Brasseaux**, historian, author, director University of Louisiana Lafayette Center for Cultural and Eco-Tourism