SIXTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
INDIANA HUMANITIES ACTIVITY, 2009-10

Grant Recipient
Community Conversation
Board Member
Novel Conversations
Food for Thought
BOARD MEMBER
Ms. Patricia Schaefer, Muncie

FOOD FOR THOUGHT
PARTNER
- MINNETRISTA CULTURAL FOUNDATION, MUNCIE
  She CAN Make a Difference - $1,765
  Exhibits and events highlighted the role of women on the WWII homefront and the history of home canning and food preservation.

AG ESSAY CONTEST
Morgan Williams of Rushville Consolidated High School wrote the winning essay for the 10-12 grade category in our first Ag Essay Contest. Students in grades 4-12 were encouraged to capture their love of Indiana food and its farmers on paper or on video for the contest, titled “Our Food, Our Farmers.” Sponsored by Indiana’s Family of Farmers and Indiana Humanities, the essay contest asked students to explain how Indiana agriculture plays a positive role in their life—and in the lives of those around them.

NOVEL CONVERSATIONS PARTICIPANTS
Adams Public Library System
Berne Public Library
Cambridge City Public Library
Decatur Public Library
Franklin County Public Library
Middletown Public Library
Muncie Public Library
Union County Public Library

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS
HOPE (BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY)
This Indiana Humanities/Bowen Center for Public Affairs facilitated workshop attracted 95 participants for a discussion of community development on October 21, 2010. Jack Schultz, author of Boomtown, USA: the 7 ½ Keys to Big Success in Small Towns, was the keynote speaker. Other panelists included Brian Blackford from the Indiana Office of Tourism Development, Gina Sheets from the Indiana State Department of Agriculture and Lewis Ricci from the Indiana Arts Commission.
GREENSBURG (DECATUR COUNTY)
Residents attended a discussion on innovative community development, regional cooperation and unique local assets on April 7, 2009. Presenters included former Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson and Indiana Economic Development Corporation CEO Mitch Roob.

MARION-MUNCIE-ANDERSON
Held in Grant County on June 25, 2009, this Community Conversation brought together representatives from Marion, Muncie and Anderson for a discussion of the benefits of regional cooperation in economic development. Mayor Sharon McShurley of Muncie and Mayor Kris Ockomon of Anderson joined state and local agency officials in panel presentations.

PICTURING AMERICA TEACHERS WORKSHOP
In partnership with the Ball State University Museum of Art, Indiana Humanities sponsored a workshop for 35 teachers and librarians to train them in the use of Picturing America, a free resource created and distributed by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Picturing America consists of representative American artwork, illustrated on a set of full-color posters, together with lesson plans.

RECENT GRANTS AWARDED
ABRAHAM LINCOLN, THE CIVIL WAR, AND INDIANA: AN EVENING OF PRESENTATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY
Indiana University-Purdue University Columbus, Columbus - $2,000
IUPUC hosted an evening with three historians who write about Abraham Lincoln and Indiana’s role in the Civil War. (Sept. 2009)

BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: THE MADISON COUNTY HOME
The Anderson Center for the Arts, Anderson - $2,000
Myths and misconceptions about county homes (earlier known as “poor farms”) were examined through lectures and an exhibit of paintings from photographs of the Madison County Home, demolished in 1984. The Anderson Center has a mission to present high quality visual arts and explore beyond the visual to inform and educate a variety of audiences. (Sept 2009-Jan. 2010, exhibition; Sept.-Nov. 2009, programs)

CELEBRATING INDIANA’S CONSERVATION DESIGN HERITAGE
Ball State University, Muncie - $1,693
An educational exhibit of illustrations, plans, and drawings from the Department of Natural Resources archives reflected the design heritage of Indiana’s State Park, Forestry, and Fish and Wildlife properties. The images were digitally scanned and displayed at the Indiana State Fair as well as at Ball State University. (Aug. 2009, exhibit at Indiana State Fair; Sept. 2009, exhibit at Ball State University)

ANDERSONTOWN POWWOW
Central Indiana Powwow, Inc., Anderson - $1,000
The Andersontown Powwow combines a Native American festival and education days in local schools, with guest presenters from the Delaware (Lenape) tribe in Oklahoma. Culture, art and the historical background of the city of Anderson are the focus of the program. (Sept. 12-13, 2009)

REDUCING HEATING COSTS IN RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS BOTH OLD AND NEW
Muncie Historic Preservation & Rehabilitation Commission, Muncie - $2,000
A one-day workshop on the science behind home heating loss and cost-effective methods to prevent it helped historic homeowners, design and construction personnel, and preservationists to gain practical information on this common problem. The event was part of a community-wide effort to focus attention on sustainability. (Sept. 12, 2009)
THE RHYTHM OF THE RIVER: TRANSPORTATION’S ROLE IN THE WHITewater VALLEY’S PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
Whitewater Canal Scenic Byway Association, Metamora - $2,000
The Whitewater Canal Scenic Byway Association, representing eight counties in eastern Indiana and nearby Ohio, compiled research on transportation history in the Whitewater Valley. The project comprised Phase 1 of an extensive plan to interpret and present the history of the region through heritage tourism. (April-Sept. 2010)

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS OF MULTICULTURAL MUNCIE
Muncie Children’s Museum, Muncie - $1,800
Working with a scholar from IU Bloomington’s folklore department, the Muncie Children’s Museum will create a program for children around multicultural birthday celebrations. Food, songs and family traditions illustrate similarities and differences in cultures represented in Delaware County. (Jan.-Sept. 2011, consultation, interviews, program development)

MUNCIE’S MOST ENDANGERED BUILDING INITIATIVE
Muncie Historic Preservation & Rehabilitation Commission, Muncie - $ 2,000
Public input will help to identify Muncie’s ten most endangered buildings, and a poster will be created to encourage community awareness of the need for preservation of these properties. Presentations to local groups will further help to educate leaders and citizens about the benefits and challenges of historic preservation. Project cosponsors: Delaware County Historical Society, Muncie Public Library.

NORTH DECATUR HIGH SCHOOL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD INITIATIVE
North Decatur High School, Greensburg - $2,000
A brochure identifying key stops on the Underground Railroad in Decatur County was created, and a tour of the sites was organized in conjunction with North Decatur High School’s fall Chautauqua event. Teacher John Pratt guided his students in researching and producing the brochure, as well as mounting an exhibit for the student-created My Indiana Museum. The Decatur County Freedom Trails Association and the Historical Society of Decatur County assisted with the project. (Nov. 2010, Chautauqua)

WHITewater CANAL SCEnIC BYWAY INTERPRETIVE DRIVING GUIDE
Whitewater Canal Byway Association, Metamora - $ 2,000
This driving guide will help visitors and residents explore the rich history of the Whitewater Valley by interpreting the sites of operational assets and historic structures that remain along the Whitewater Canal Scenic Byway. The newly designated byway follows the route of the canal from Lawrenceburg to Hagerstown in southeastern Indiana and part of southwestern Ohio. The project will show how the canal worked by illustrating locks, culverts, feeder dams, aqueducts and tunnels, as well as mills, canal houses and canal communities. (Spring 2011, publication)