

REQUEST FOR BOARD NOMINATIONS



About Indiana Humanities

Founded in 1972 and headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana Humanities is the official state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

Indiana Humanities connects people, opens minds and enriches lives by creating and facilitating programs that encourage people to **think, read** and **talk**.

Indiana Humanities receives substantial annual support from the NEH. Major funding also comes from private gifts, grants and contributions. Indiana Humanities is a nonpartisan, independent, not-for-profit corporation governed by a volunteer board of 18-30 Indiana educators and community leaders. Six of the directors are nominated by the Board of Directors and appointed by the Governor of Indiana, while the others are selected from nominations solicited annually from the public.

The Staff

A president serves as chief executive officer of the organization. The president is extensively engaged with the Board of Directors. The president supervises a staff of five full-time members. Board members work closely with staff through committees and in coordination with the President.

The Board of Directors

A strong Board of Directors is necessary for Indiana Humanities to continue developing the support, resources and connections necessary to encourage Hoosiers to think, read and talk. Because the organization seeks to serve all the people of Indiana, diversity on the Board of Directors is essential. The Board is a geographically, ethnically and professionally diverse governing body. Board members' active involvement is vital to the success of the organization.

The members of the Board of Directors bring energy, access and insight to the work of Indiana Humanities. Membership is comprised of scholars and public citizens who have made significant contributions to the humanities and civic life and are interested in providing for the leadership in Indiana. The Board of Directors articulates Indiana Humanities' philosophies, establishes policy, and is responsible for the financial integrity of the organization.

Service on the Board of Directors requires commitment, dedication and willingness to devote time and effort to the organization. Each member contributes to the work of Indiana Humanities through a commitment of time and expertise and financial contributions. In partnership with the staff, the Board helps to focus, direct and extend Indiana Humanities' work throughout the state.

Board members:

- prepare for meetings
- serve actively on at least one committee/project
- actively assist in fundraising and make a personally significant annual financial contribution

- enlist the aid of legislators and the general population in support of Indiana Humanities goals
- debate and act on program priorities and grant policies
- promote and advertise the work of Indiana Humanities to the public at large

To be a director, an individual must be a resident of the state of Indiana. Currently all Board members are donors to Indiana Humanities. In addition, members are asked to assist in resource development.

We seek members who can bring access to additional financial, human, and policy resources to our work. The tradition of the Board is to identify members who bring a love of the life of the mind and a commitment to the purposes of Indiana Humanities in the state.

Membership involves a minimum of six to eight days of time annually for a three-year term. Elections are held in September for terms beginning November 1.

The board meets as a full body four times each year. The meetings are most often held in Indianapolis on a Friday. One meeting per year is a planning and evaluation retreat typically hosted by a member of the board in his or her own community. This meeting runs from midday Thursday through midday Friday.

Attendance at these meetings is a basic responsibility of each member. One-third plus one of all voting directors must be present in person to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. There are no proxy votes. An individual who is absent for three consecutive meetings will be assumed to have resigned unless satisfactory reasons for non-attendance are submitted to and accepted by the Board.

To nominate yourself or another individual for election to the Indiana Humanities Board of Directors, please write to:

Keira Amstutz
President and CEO
Indiana Humanities
1500 North Delaware Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202