

SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS
HISTORY
CENTER

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SDHC SHARES IN MI H.O.P.E. GRANTS
SUPPORTING HUMANITIES NONPROFITS

AUG. 21, 2020 -- Saugatuck-Douglas History Center has been named one of 116 Michigan cultural and community organizations to share \$661,085 in emergency support funding provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Distributed among 53 counties across the state as Michigan Humanities Organizations Pandemic Emergency (MI H.O.P.E.) Grants, the funds target museums, libraries, archives, historic sites, and other humanities-focused nonprofits and may be used for eligible general operating expenses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including salaries and fringe benefits, rent and mortgage payments, and utilities, with an emphasis on maintaining personnel.

SDHC's grant application was one of 306 MI H.O.P.E received, in total requesting \$2.5 million. Only two organizations in Allegan County were among those selected, with SDHC receiving \$5,000 and Holland Historical Trust receiving the same amount.

In announcing the grants, Shelly Hendrick Kasprzycki, president and CEO of Michigan Humanities, stated: "We strive to be a pillar of support for organizations around the state to be able to do their humanities work. We're proud of how efficiently we were able to disburse the CARES Act funding across the state and how broadly we were able to grant these emergency dollars to so many of the cultural and humanities organizations of Michigan."

SDHC Executive Director Eric Gollanek responds: "This MI H.O.P.E. support has given SDHC vital resources for stabilizing our grass-roots community history organization through a time of unprecedented uncertainty. The grant helped cover operating expenses, allowing the History Center to plan and launch a new series of outdoor and virtual humanities programs -- a dozen this summer, publicly accessible and free -- to replace the scheduled in-person programs disrupted by Covid-19. It also has allowed our organization time to plan and envision new ways to sustain our work and remain relevant to our community."

Michigan Humanities works to inspire communities to come together in creative and freely expressed ways to deepen our understanding of ourselves and others, and for all people of Michigan to experience and understand the importance of humanities. For more information on available grants and programs, visit michiganhumanities.org.

For more information about the History Center, its Museum in Saugatuck and Old School House in Douglas, and its activities planned for the months ahead, visit www.MySDHistory.org.

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MI HUMANITIES & NEH LOGO JPEG IMAGES ATTACHED SEPARATELY

Michigan Humanities funding from the HOPE grant has given the SDHC vital resources to reimagine our public programming, producing History Hop pop-up exhibits in our community and supporting the move to outdoor and virtual programs--a dozen this summer--accessible and free to all! HOPE support also gives us time to plan for the future including new exhibits for the summer of 2021.