

## **Kansas Humanities Council Board Member Information 2012**

Leadership by a volunteer board guides the work of the Kansas Humanities Council and anchors the mission in Kansas values and priorities. The members' backgrounds, expertise, and other assets vary, but collectively they provide KHC the ability to remain a successful and creative organization.

All KHC board members are expected to:

- provide financial oversight of the organization
- participate in fundraising
- set policy
- be knowledgeable about the humanities
- promote the work of the council

In more detail:

1. The Kansas Humanities Council is governed by a 22-member Board of Directors. Seventeen are elected through open nominations and 5 are appointed by the Governor.
2. Members serve without compensation although reimbursement for board-related travel is available.
3. Members serve for one three-year term, with the possibility of renewal for an additional three-year term. Terms begin July 1.
4. Business meetings occur in March, June, and October. The locations of the June and October meetings rotate statewide, but the March meeting is held annually in Topeka. The business meetings are usually held on Fridays from 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM. Committee meetings are often held on the Thursday afternoon prior to the business meeting.
5. In addition to attending regular board meetings, members each serve on at least one standing committee that meets as needed.

### **KHC Mission**

The Kansas Humanities Council promotes understanding of the history, traditions, and ideas that shape our lives and strengthen communities. Central to KHC's mission are the disciplines of the humanities, including history, literature, languages, philosophy, and related social sciences. These disciplines tell the story of the human experience in ways that help us better understand who we are as a people and what we have valued over time and across generations.

### **Fulfilling the Mission**

KHC supports the humanities in Kansas by investing in programs and partnerships with local libraries, historical societies and museums, civic organizations, senior centers, colleges and universities, and other nonprofit groups. KHC manages a competitive grant making program and supports a range of public humanities programs, including speaker presentations and

book and film discussions. KHC annually supports more than 500 events in at least 100 communities.

### **About the Kansas Humanities Council**

Formed in 1972, the Kansas Humanities Council is a 501c3 nonprofit cultural organization. KHC receives funding from tax-deductible gifts from individuals, corporations and foundations, as well as support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the State of Kansas. KHC is not a state agency.

### **Board Orientation**

New board members are invited to an orientation to learn more about the Council's goals and priorities and receive a Board Notebook, complete with a comprehensive overview of KHC history, policies, and board responsibilities.

### **Inquiries about the Nomination Process or Board Membership**

If you would like to nominate yourself or another candidate, please contact Julie Mulvihill, Executive Director at (785) 357-0359 or email [julie@kansashumanities.org](mailto:julie@kansashumanities.org), or visit [www.kansashumanities.org](http://www.kansashumanities.org).

Application Deadline: April 6, 2012

A call for new board members is held annually. Applicants not elected are kept on a register of candidates for consideration for three years. Applicants interested in being appointed by the Governor need to apply through the Governor's Appointment Office.