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*Michigan Humanities launches Bridging Michigan,
a grant opportunity and event series focused on systemic inequities*

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Okemos—Michigan Humanities has launched Bridging Michigan, a grant opportunity and event series that will spark in-depth conversation and action around the persistent social, economic, and cultural issues of systemic inequities, their current impacts, and the ways that the arts and humanities are active parts of creating real change.

“Bridging Michigan grants and conversation events provide an excellent opportunity to have humanities-based discussion on critical topics with a wide group of participants across Michigan,” said Shelly Hendrick Kasprzycki, President & CEO of Michigan Humanities. “We are delighted with the caliber of featured speakers and workshop leaders, and look forward to seeing where we can go with this new initiative.”

Michigan non-profits are currently engaging in work that addresses the historic inequities that face our communities. In support of these organizations and their expanded reach, Michigan Humanities is offering a funding opportunity specifically for intentional, humanities-based, public programs. The Bridging Michigan grant opportunity invites Michiganders to reflect and use the humanities to look at the longer histories driving contemporary debates. Diverse projects from across Michigan are welcomed, including those that address different themes and use a variety of public humanities formats like reflective conversations, reading series, film screenings with discussions, web projects, walking tours, documentary films, public lectures and panels, and the creation of exhibits. A short video is available on the Michigan Humanities website that will give more information about the application process. Program staff is available and willing to assist organizations interested in this opportunity.

As part of Michigan Humanities' commitment to dialogue around critical issues and their connection to the humanities, the Bridging Michigan online conversation series kicked off this summer with a virtual event featuring Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, physician, activist, and author of *What the Eyes Don't See*, and Stephen Henderson, host of WDET's Detroit Today. The next event will take place on September 3 at 7 p.m. and feature a conversation about the history and current state of Native mascots with Eric Hemenway and Matthew L.M. Fletcher. Bridging Michigan conversation events are open to all, free, and will continue through the fall.

Find additional details about Bridging Michigan grant opportunities and how to register for the next online conversation at MichiganHumanities.org.

About Michigan Humanities

Michigan Humanities inspires Michiganders to come together in creative and freely expressed ways to deepen our understanding of ourselves and enrich our communities. In carrying out this mission, Michigan Humanities builds awareness and excitement for humanities in everyday life,

achieves best practices and sustainability for all humanities programs and services in Michigan, and upholds the following key values:

- Inclusion, diversity, and equity
- Discovery and understanding
- Authentic conversation
- Respectful collaboration
- Meaningful experiences

Michigan Humanities' vision is for all people of Michigan to experience and understand the importance of humanities to enrich lives.

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