Wyoming Crossroads Grants
Grant Overview

Wyoming Crossroads is a state-wide public humanities initiative applying humanities perspectives locally to help Wyoming realize growth out of change. Wyoming Crossroads Grants support programs, publications, preservation, and digital media projects that dig deep into the larger themes and goals of the Wyoming Crossroads initiative.

General themes that can be explored through Wyoming Crossroads Grants are:

- Wyoming’s identity
- Wyoming’s sense of community
- Wyoming’s connection to the land
- Wyoming’s persistence
- Wyoming’s ability to manage change

The goals of Wyoming Crossroads Grants are:

- Increase Wyoming’s intellectual, community, social and civic wealth as the state restructures its economy.
- Apply humanities programming in new and innovative ways to reach audiences that do not typically engage in public humanities
- Develop new partnerships with groups and associations not typically considered “humanities” or cultural organizations

Applications for Wyoming Crossroads Grants will be available on August 15, 2022. Wyoming Crossroads Grants will be awarded biannually, with applications due for the following categories:

- October 14, 2022, for all Programming and Publication applications
- April 14, 2023, for all Digital Media and Preservation applications

Applications will be screened by Wyoming Humanities staff to verify eligibility status. There will be an interview between applicant and Wyoming Humanities following the initial screening of the application; interviews will take place over the phone, or preferably Zoom. Board members of the Wyoming Humanities Grants and Programs Committee will review eligible applications and recorded interviews to make final decisions for awards. Award amounts will be based on the availability of funds. Applicants will be notified of the application award status four to six weeks after the respective deadline.

Programming and Publication applications will be accepted until midnight October 14, 2022. Digital Media and Preservation applications will be accepted until midnight April 14, 2023.
Wyoming Crossroads Grants

Description: Wyoming Crossroads Grants will support programs, publications, preservation and digital media projects that dig deep into the larger themes and goals of the Wyoming Crossroads initiative. Those themes are:

- Wyoming’s identity
- Wyoming’s sense of community
- Wyoming’s connection to the land
- Wyoming’s persistence
- Wyoming’s ability to manage change

Wyoming Crossroads goals are:

- Increase Wyoming’s intellectual, community, social and civic wealth as the state restructures its economy.
- Apply humanities programming in new and innovative ways to reach audiences that do not typically engage in public humanities
- Develop new partnerships with groups and associations not typically considered “humanities” or cultural organizations

Ultimately, Wyoming Crossroads Grants will expand the public humanities available across the state to encourage future growth of Wyoming culturally, socially, politically, and economically.

Eligibility: Eligibility is limited to not-for-profit organizations (as reported to the IRS and with an existing EIN), accredited public and 501(c)(3) institutions of higher education (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1001), local governmental agencies, and federally recognized Native American tribal governments. Humanities-focused organizations, organizations that routinely conduct humanities programming, and non-humanities focused organizations interested in conducting humanities programming are eligible for Wyoming Crossroads. Not-for-profit organizations (status other than 501(c)(3)) may apply with the support of a tax exempt fiscal sponsor.

A humanities-focused organization has a mission explicitly connected to the humanities and a history of specifically working in the humanities. Some examples of eligible organizations include cultural and ethnic organizations, history organizations, humanities museums, humanities education organizations, literature organizations, media, journalism, and documentary organizations, libraries, and archives, etc.

In addition to humanities-focused organizations, organizations whose missions are not exclusively humanities focused but have a history of humanities programming or conducting humanities-centered social sciences may be eligible for humanities-focused programs under Wyoming Crossroads Grants. For example, an arts organization that regularly hosts discussions related to the content or context of artwork would be eligible for a Wyoming Crossroads Grant. Applying organizations will be asked to provide a history of humanities programming/projects and evidence of organization missions consistent with the Wyoming Humanities strategic values:
• enhancing the creative and cultural economy
• engaging communities to improve quality of life;
• raising cultural awareness to expand the Wyoming narrative;
• promoting civics and democracy; and,
• fostering critical thinking and lifelong learning.

**Maximum Award Amount:** The maximum award amount is $10,000 for each grant category.

**Cost Share Requirements:** Wyoming Crossroads Grant funds must be matched 1:1 with non-Federal dollars. This match can be both cash and in-kind (for example, the dollar value of facilities or time that people contribute to your project).

**Timeframe for activities:** Organizations will have one year from the time a grant is awarded to complete activities associated with the award.

**Anticipated number of grants:** The number of awards and award amounts will be determined by the availability of funds. Wyoming Humanities has allocated $100,000 for awarding 2023 Wyoming Crossroads grants. Final awards may be granted in the full requested amount (max $10,000) or as partial awards; final award amounts are determined by the Grants and Programs Committee.

**Grant award categories:** Wyoming Crossroads Grants will support programs, publications, preservation, and digital media projects that dig deep into the larger themes and goals of the Wyoming Crossroads initiative. Those themes are Wyoming’s identity, sense of community, connection to the land, persistence, and ability to manage change. Wyoming Crossroads goals are to increase Wyoming’s intellectual, community, social and civic wealth, reach new audiences through innovative public humanities work, and develop new partnerships with organizations typically not considered cultural or humanities-focused.

**Programming Grants** will be awarded to public humanities programs and projects that include an event that is open to the public. Examples of programs and/or projects that would be supported by a Wyoming Crossroads Programming Grant include, but are not limited to:

- Discussions
- Lectures
- Reading/writing series
- Exhibitions
• Conference/symposiums

### 2022 Crossroads Grantee Highlight: Meeteetse Museum District
Communities Impacted: Big Horn County, Park County, Washakie County
Program Description: Funds will be used to support various programming for the Meeteetse area from Memorial Day to Labor Day 2022 titled Perspectives of the Past. Activities include a lecture series, a workshop series including genealogy and quilting workshops, and rancher-led ranch tours.

**Publication Grants** will be awarded for the creation and public distribution of humanities-focused written publications reflective of the themes and goals of the Wyoming Crossroads initiative. Examples of publications that would be supported by a Wyoming Crossroads Publication Grant include, but are not limited to:
- Print media: books/articles
- Online print media: blogs/articles/websites

Wyoming Humanities did not award any Crossroads Grants in the Publication category in 2022.

**Digital Media Grants** will be awarded for humanities-focused projects that utilize a digital media medium to present public humanities content. Projects should be reflective of the themes and goals of the Wyoming Crossroads initiative. Examples of projects that would be supported by a Wyoming Crossroads Digital Media Grant include, but are not limited to:
- Documentaries
- Short films
- Apps/Games
- Digital Series

### 2022 Crossroads Grantee Highlight: Queen’s Players Theatre Troupe
Communities Impacted: Statewide
Program Description: *Why Wyoming: Quest for the West*, that will feature interviews of one person from all 23 counties in Wyoming to explore our state’s small, unique population. The film will feature not only lifetime, multigenerational Wyomingites, but those that have just recently moved here.

**Preservation Grants** will be awarded for humanities projects that preserve historical narratives that will be displayed, presented, or readily available to the public. Projects should be reflective of the themes and goals of the Wyoming Crossroads initiative. Examples of projects that would be supported by a Wyoming Crossroads Preservation Grant include, but are not limited to:
- Oral histories
- Archival work
- Collections

2022 Crossroads Grantee Highlight: Moorcroft Historical Society
Communities Impacted: Crook County
Program Description: A collaboration between the Moorcroft Historical Society, history educators and students at Moorcroft High School, and regional historians. This project will engage students in the humanities, think critically, and develop an appreciation for local history and those that pioneered the West Texas Trail. The project culminates in a digital and permanent exhibit at the West Texas Trail Museum.