



LEHIGH VALLEY ENGAGED HUMANITIES CONSORTIUM

UNDERSTANDING TRANSFORMATIONS OF THE PAST HALF-CENTURY

[SITES.LAFAYETTE.EDU/LVEHC](http://sites.lafayette.edu/lvehc)

Call for Proposals: *Course Development / Enhancement*

Deadlines: Dec. 20th (for Fall courses)
May 20th (for Spring courses)

Amount: \$750 - \$1,500

The Lehigh Valley Engaged Humanities Consortium (LVEHC) seeks proposals that support the development of community-based learning coursework and activities, open to faculty at all higher education institutions across the Lehigh Valley (including community colleges). In general, we encourage proposals to include a planning semester and an execution semester, but we welcome well-developed proposals for the semester immediately to follow.

Introduction to the LVEHC:

Generously funded by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation through June 2021, the Lehigh Valley Engaged Humanities Consortium (LVEHC) (<http://sites.lafayette.edu/lvehc/>) fosters exploration of personal, historical, and community narratives that have emerged in the past half-century in the region using methods of the humanities and arts. The LVEHC is guided by a steering committee composed of representatives of a dozen Lehigh Valley academic and cultural institutions.

LVEHC Main Themes:

- The **diversity** of communities in the Lehigh Valley over the past 50 years.
- The changing nature of **work** in the Lehigh Valley over the past 50 years.
- The evolving **landscape**, environment, and sense of place in the Lehigh Valley over the past 50 years.

Underpinning all of these main themes is the value and process of story-making. We welcome proposals that center the themes above, highlighting community narratives and individual people's stories, from the celebratory to the critical.

Funding:

- Faculty members receive stipends of \$1,500 each for development of a new course; \$750 for enhancement of an existing course.
- Further funding is possible for expenses such as supplies, research fees, and collaboration fees. Additional funding is available up to \$2,000 per proposal, as necessary and subject to restrictions.
- Funds will be distributed in two even allotments: one upon notification of award, and one upon completion of the post-award responsibilities.
- Funding must be distributed to a sponsoring institution who will manage the funds in conjunction with the awardee. If the awardee's home or partner organization/institution is unable or unwilling to receive the grant funds, the awardee will be responsible for declaring the funds on their tax returns.
- Awardees will be responsible for retaining receipts related to grant expenditures.
- In addition to overhead, indirect costs, and capital costs (construction, renovation, equipment), the LVEHC Mellon Grant cannot fund food and catering expenses, venue rentals, projects in social sciences or STEM fields, endowment management fees, one-off conferences, and undergraduate travel, tuition, or financial aid.
- If you have any questions about the viability of a specific budget item, please contact the LVEHC Co-Directors or Coordinator for clarification.

Application Process:

- Submit a completed proposal to the Steering Committee co-directors via the [Proposal Submission Form](#) or by emailing LVEngagedHumanities@gmail.com.
- Applications will be reviewed by the LVEHC steering committee; responses can be expected approximately three weeks after proposal submission.
- Contact the grant co-Directors (contact info below) if you would like to submit a proposal for a summer course or an interim course.



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Proposals should contain:

- A 200-500 word proposal narrative, including a summary of the proposed course and its anticipated impacts on the students and community;
- An itemized budget outlining proposed expenses, using the [LVEHC Budget Proposal Form](#).
- List of any collaborating institutions/organizations (including a brief statement of support from participating librarians/archivists/other project partners);
- Statement of how the proposed course aligns with the LVEHC themes (see above)

Considerations:

- Special consideration will be given to projects that involve two or more institutions.
- Special consideration will be given to projects that enhance or connect with the activities of the Allentown Arts Museum, Easton Area Public Library, Karl Stirner Arts Trail, and/or Sigal Museum.
- Proposed courses that align with the LVEHC Themes (see above) will be prioritized for funding.
- Preference will be given to courses that will generate resources such as oral histories, image collections, or other digital assets, potentially to be made publicly available for research (subject to IRB and intellectual property policies).

Post-award Responsibilities:

A 250 word (one paragraph) reflective statement will be required within 30 days of the conclusion of the project. With the assistance of the grant coordinator, this statement will be developed into a blog post that will be posted on the LVEHC website and will also be used for grant reporting. The statement can be written in the first-person, should be accompanied by one or two photos of the author/s, and can be collaborative.

LVEHC Mellon Grant Steering Committee:

Andrea Smith (smithal@lafayette.edu), Grant Co-Director, Lafayette College
Charlotte Nunes (nunesc@lafayette.edu), Grant Co-Director, Lafayette College
Allentown Art Museum
Cedar Crest College
DeSales University
Easton Area Public Library
Karl Stirner Arts Trail
Lehigh University
Lehigh Valley Association of Independent Colleges (LVAIC)
Lehigh Valley Research Consortium (LVRC)
Moravian College
Muhlenberg College
Northampton County Historical and Genealogical Society / Sigal Museum
LVEHC Mellon Grant Coordinator: Kate Pitts (pittsk@lafayette.edu)

** Calls for Proposals are subject to change. Please consult the website (<http://sites.lafayette.edu/lvehc>) for up to date guidelines and restrictions.*