



# LEHIGH VALLEY ENGAGED HUMANITIES CONSORTIUM

UNDERSTANDING TRANSFORMATIONS OF THE PAST HALF-CENTURY

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

Call for Proposals:  
**Collaborations with Artists & Writers**

**Applications accepted by the 1st of each month.**

**Amount: \$350 - \$1,500**

*The Lehigh Valley Engaged Humanities Consortium (LVEHC) seeks proposals for collaborations with literary, performing and visual artists who have the Lehigh Valley and its peoples as their subject. Proposals are welcome from faculty members, local educators, and local cultural organizations to support the artistic collaboration of their choice. We especially welcome projects with a well-defined virtual/digital component. Unless otherwise discussed, proposed collaborations must occur in the fiscal year in which the proposal is submitted.*

*Any LVEHC-funded project work must comply with CDC and state guidelines as well as the relevant campus policies relating to COVID-19.*

## **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:**

- 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.
- 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.
- Unless otherwise agreed, 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. Funds will be distributed in two even allotments: one upon notification of award, and one upon completion of the post-award responsibilities. Awardees and/or their institution will be responsible for retaining receipts related to grant expenditures.
- Questions about the viability of budget items can be directed to the grant Co-Directors and/or grant Coordinator.

**\*\* Calls for Proposals are subject to change. Please consult <http://sites.lafayette.edu/lvehc> for up to date information.**



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## **Application Process:**

- Submit a completed proposal to the Steering Committee co-directors via the [Proposal Submission Form](#) or by emailing [LVEngagedHumanities@gmail.com](mailto:LVEngagedHumanities@gmail.com).
- Applications will be reviewed by the LVEHC steering committee on a monthly basis from the first of each month; responses can be expected by the first of the following month.

## **Proposals should contain:**

- A 200-500 word proposal narrative, including a description of the proposed collaboration.
- An itemized budget outlining proposed expenses, using the [LVEHC Budget Proposal Form](#).
- List of any collaborating organizations (including a letter of support from participating staff/faculty at collaborating organization);
- Anticipated impact on the proposed audience (students, community, etc.);
- Statement of how the proposed event aligns with the LVEHC themes (see above).

## **Considerations:**

- Proposed events that align with the LVEHC Themes (see above) will be prioritized for funding
- 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.
- If multiple proposals are received for an event on the same date, the steering committee may request that the date of event(s) be altered

## **Award Amounts and Deadlines:**

<b>Length of collaboration</b>	<b>Funding Available</b>
One-day	\$500
Week-long	\$1,500
Semester-long	\$5,000

## **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 include: a description of the project and process, reflections on successes/challenges, and/or thoughts on future research and/or teaching. These statements can be collaborative and offer perspectives from the different participating organizations.

## **LVEHC Mellon Grant Steering Committee:**

Andrea Smith ([smithal@lafayette.edu](mailto:smithal@lafayette.edu)), Grant Co-Director, Lafayette College  
Charlotte Nunes ([nunesc@lafayette.edu](mailto: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](mailto:pittsk@lafayette.edu))

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