



# 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**

**Applications accepted by the 1st of each month.**  
**Amount: \$350 - \$1,500**

The Lehigh Valley Engaged Humanities Consortium (LVEHC) seeks proposals that support Lehigh Valley coursework and activities with an emphasis on the LVEHC main themes (diversity of communities, sense of place, and the changing nature of work). This includes the development of community-focused content, and the enhancement of existing coursework using [LVEHC-sponsored digital content](#). Funding is available to educators at institutions across the Lehigh Valley (including community colleges and K-12 institutions). We encourage proposals that focus on collaboration, community-based projects, and digital content. Additionally, \$350 stipends are available for educators who wish to utilize and interact with LVEHC digital content in their coursework.

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:**

- Educators may receive stipends of \$1,500 each for development of a new course; \$750 for enhancement of an existing course.
- Educators who integrate LVEHC-sponsored digital content into their coursework are eligible for \$350 stipends. **This does not require a proposal submission.** Instead, individuals seeking the use of this content may fill out the [Request Access of LVEHC Digital Content form](#). Individuals receiving these stipends are required to submit a brief summary of how the content was used in order to receive the full stipend amount.
- If allowed by the employer, stipends for the use of LVEHC digital content may be distributed directly to the educator and not a sponsoring institution.
- 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.
- 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.

\*\* 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; responses can be expected approximately three weeks after proposal submission.
- If you are requesting access to LVEHC-sponsored digital content, you only need to [fill out this form](#) and not submit a proposal submission form.
- Contact the grant co-Directors (contact info below) if you would like to submit a proposal for a summer course or an interim course.

## **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 local community-based organizations, especially those which focus on the arts, humanities, social inequities and public health. .
- 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:**

*The following is only applicable to course enhancement or development projects and does not apply to the use of LVEHC-sponsored digital content in coursework.*

For course enhancement or development projects, 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](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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