About the Program

In 2005, the Center for the Humanities began supporting a select number of graduate student projects, convened outside the boundaries of academia. Each one features a collaboration with a community partner. The Public Humanities Exchange (HEX) goes beyond volunteerism and the pure research model, to offer graduate students and partners the chance to form mutually rewarding relationships with surprising outcomes. HEX integrates a number of programs into one: it is a dynamic outreach, community-based research, public humanities, service learning, and grant program. Each HEX project acts as an eclectic mini-nonprofit, building a partnership with a community group that reflects both the partner’s existing needs and graduate students’ research, interests, and expertise.

Since its inception, the Public Humanities Exchange has received generous support from campus partners, local grant making organizations, and national humanities programs:

- Americorps*VISTA
- The Anonymous Fund
- Dane County Youth Commission
- The Evjue Foundation
- Imagining America
- Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation
- Wisconsin Campus Compact
- Wisconsin Humanities Council
- UW-Madison Department of English
- UW-Madison Graduate School
- UW-Madison Morgridge Center
- UW-Madison Office of the Chancellor

The Center for the Humanities

The Center for the Humanities catalyzes innovative, interdisciplinary, and collaborative inquiry in core and emerging humanities fields at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and in the communities it serves. Founded in 1999, the Center for the Humanities advances the humanities on campus and beyond, by drawing faculty, staff, students, and the public into informed, thoughtful, and civil discourse on the political, literary, ethical, and aesthetic questions of the day.

People

Current and past HEX Scholars represent 27 humanities departments and related disciplines:

- Afro-American Studies
- Anthropology
- Art History
- Communication Arts
- Comparative Literature
- Composition and Rhetoric
- Computer Sciences
- Creative Writing
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Design Studies
- Educational Policy Studies
- English
- French and Italian
- Geography
- History
- History of Science
- Journalism
- Languages and Cultures of Asia
- Law
- Linguistics
- Music
- Musicology
- Scandinavian Studies
- Slavic Languages and Literature
- Sociology
- Spanish and Portuguese
- Zoology

Places

HEX has established relationships with nearly 60 community non-profits, arts organizations, and public schools:

- Access Community Health Center
- AIDS Network of Wisconsin
- Aphasia Self Help Group (UW)
- Bayview Community Center
- Brotherhood Youth Group
- Catholic Multicultural Center
- Centro Hispano
- Chazen Museum of Art
- Chippewa Valley Museum
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