AWARD HELPS THE CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES SUSTAIN INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS THAT EXEMPLARY
“BILL EVJUE’S WISCONSIN” AND THE WISCONSIN IDEA

MADISON, Wis. (June 6, 2019) – The Evjue Board has awarded a generous grant to the University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for the Humanities to develop and strengthen the Center’s public humanities programming in the 2019-20 season.

Funding from the Evjue Foundation will support the Public Humanities Exchange (HEX), a program that connects UW-Madison graduate students with community organizations. Each year, 8 to 10 graduate students in the humanities design projects that use their academic work to address social justice concerns within the community. Recent projects include support for a local outdoor wellness camp for veterans and first responders who have experienced trauma and a photographic exhibit to expand and deepen our understanding of the immigrant experience in Wisconsin.

In addition to HEX, the grant will also support the Center’s Great World Texts in Wisconsin program, which is entering its sixteenth year. Through this program, Wisconsin high school students, teachers, and world-renowned scholars engage in thoughtful conversation about a major piece of world literature. This year, over 2,500 students are expected to read Manuel Puig’s *Kiss of the Spider Woman* and create projects to present at the capstone student conference on March 9, 2020 in Madison. With support from the Evjue Foundation, Great World Texts builds bridges between Wisconsin high schools across the state and the vast academic resources at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

“The Evjue Foundation helps sustain important programs in the public humanities that set our Center apart both locally and nationally,” says Gregg Mitman, Interim Director of the Center for the Humanities. “The Public Humanities Exchange and Great World Texts help connect scholars at UW-Madison with high school teachers, students, and community organizations across the state. These programs are an innovative and impactful way for our Center and our campus to exemplify the Wisconsin Idea, a philosophy that William T. Evjue embraced as the epitome of how a university could serve the state.”

**About the Evjue Foundation**
As the charitable arm of the Madison news source *The Capital Times*, “The Evjue Foundation provides funds derived from the profits of *The Capital Times* to many educational, cultural, and charitable causes that add so much to the quality of life in Madison and Dane County.” William T. Evjue, the founder of *The Capital* Times, formed the Evjue Foundation shortly before his death in 1970. Since then, the foundation has donated more than $70 million to a variety of local nonprofits and University of Wisconsin-Madison projects that service the Madison area.