FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 04/16/2020
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CALLING FOR HUMANITIES RESPONDERS FOR COMMUNITY NEEDS

MADISON, Wis. (April 16, 2020) – As Wisconsin and the world navigates this pandemic, the UW-Madison Center for the Humanities affirms its commitment to public humanities partnerships as essential projects of hope that reflect the necessity of the humanities and the Wisconsin Idea in challenging times.

The Center calls for students to serve as “Humanities Responders” by creating remote projects that serve and bolster the current work of community organizations, non-profits, cultural institutions, and public agencies.

Interested students can apply to serve as Humanities Responders through the Center’s long-running Humanities Exchange programs, which will supply accepted applicants with projects funds of up to $2000 as well as project mentorship. We aim to reply to applications in less than one week. The work of past participating students has focused on the following areas, and Humanities Responders are encouraged to continue this support of the local organizations dedicated to these issues:

- Health Disparities
- Racial Inequality
- Youth Empowerment
- Housing Insecurity
- Art and Activism
- Latinx Self-Expression
- Veteran Community Building
- Preserving History and Places
- Environment and Land Use
- Wisconsin’s Diverse Voices

Interested students can browse the existing community needs listed on the HEX program web site under “Existing Community Needs.” If students recognize a community need that could be addressed by the humanities, please contact Aaron Fai (fai@wisc.edu) and we will do our utmost to match this need to a student or student group. Current listed organizations on the web site include:

- City of Wisconsin Rapids’ Hmong Chamber of Commerce
- Roots4Change / Centro Hispano
- UW-Madison’s Public History Project
- Wisconsin Humanities Council
- Clean Lakes Alliance
- Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra
- Oakhill Prison Humanities Project

Undergraduate students, please apply with our HEX-U program and set up an initial meeting with Program Coordinator Dipo Oyeleye (oyeleye@wisc.edu). Graduate students, please apply with our HEX program and set up an initial meeting with Aaron Fai, Assistant Director of Public Humanities (fai@wisc.edu).

For more information, please visit: https://humanities.wisc.edu/public-humanities/exchange-program